FAQs for Speech and Language Pathology

What do I major in?
Whatever you want. The prerequisite courses you need (called “Leveling Courses” at the programs’ websites) cannot be taken at TAMU. They have to be taken at a university that has an SLP program. So, that leaves you free to major in whatever you choose.

What majors look best to the SLP programs?
They don’t care what you major in so pick one you will enjoy.

What do they look for in a candidate?
1. A good solid GPR, 3.3ish and above, a good GRE score, if it is required.
2. Experience within the field, which is verification to them that you know what a SLP does on a daily basis and what different types of venues SLPs are able to work in.

What are some things I can do to be the best applicant possible?
1. Have an early application. Be completely done with the application process as soon after the application becomes available as you can. EARLY APPLICATION is key. The application process usually starts the summer of your junior year.
2. Have good solid reference letters, one should be from someone within the field (an SLP) and one from a professor.
3. Be able to list some community service you have done or leadership positions you have held on your application.

How do I get experience within the SLP field?
Most school districts employ SLPs, as do most rehabilitation centers or nursing homes. Some hospitals employ SLPs also.

What kind of degree will I have as an SLP?
SLP programs are master’s level programs.

Some notes:
There are two different ways that SLP programs admit students.

1. You garner your undergraduate degree from any four year institution, majoring in whatever you choose.
   Move to a school with an SLP program and take the “leveling courses” then apply to their SLP program as you are finishing those leveling courses. You should also be applying to other SLP programs at the same time as they will accept the leveling courses you have taken. Attend the program you are accepted to... hopefully the one you moved to!
   OR

2. You garner your undergraduate degree from any four year institution, majoring in whatever you choose. As you are finishing your undergraduate degree you start to apply to SLP programs that work this way:
   They accept you into their program, you move there and take the leveling courses and when you are finished with those you begin the master’s level of the SLP program. One program known to work this way is the University of Texas at Dallas. Some helpful websites are http://www.txsha.org and http://www.asha.org

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