COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

Degree Requirements

Master of Science (M.S.)
Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/)

The master’s program of study provides course work and practicum for advanced and/or professional-level licensure.

The master’s degree requires a minimum of 50 credits at the 400, 500, 600, or 800 level (with at least 18 credits at the 500 and 600 level, combined) beyond admission standards. Students usually earn 55 to 65 credits to complete a degree, over four semesters and a summer of study. Students can choose to complete a thesis or a scholarly paper as the culminating experience for the degree. The non-thesis option for the Master of Science degree requires a scholarly paper and additional course credits in lieu of a thesis. Students choosing to complete a thesis must complete at least 6 credits in thesis research (CSD 600 or CSD 610). Students choosing to complete a scholarly paper must complete at least 18 credits in 500-level courses.

The thesis must be accepted by the advisers and/or committee members, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School, and the student must pass a thesis defense. The scholarly paper must be accepted by the student’s adviser and the head of the graduate program.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/)

The Doctor of Philosophy degree normally requires a master’s degree in communication sciences and disorders or a related field, plus a minimum of two years of advanced study, and presentation and oral defense of a research-based dissertation.

The Doctor of Philosophy degree normally requires a master’s degree in communication sciences and disorders or a related field, plus a minimum of two years of advanced study, and presentation and oral defense of a research-based dissertation (the final oral examination). The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

Two research exercises, one of which is used for doctoral qualifying examination early in the doctoral program, are required prior to the dissertation. A comprehensive written and oral examination in the areas of a student’s interest is required.

Details of a student’s doctoral program are determined by the Ph.D. committee.