

Practicum in the Schools

- The clinical educator must be a speech-language pathologist who is certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.
- Attendance Expectation: During the **Fall Semester in a split internship placement**, the student should follow the school, not the university calendar. **During the Fall Semester**, students with a "2 days a week for a full semester" practicum placement should follow the university calendar, not the school calendar. During the **Spring Semester**, all communication disorders students should follow the school calendar, not the university calendar.
- Students are expected to be at school on the days that public schools are in session including teacher workdays. Students are expected to stay at school all day and do what the clinical educator does, including any optional school duties. The students should not leave early to attend a class unless prior arrangements have been made. If there are optional workdays for teachers, the student is expected to be present if the clinical educator is present.
- The student will need to come to an understanding with the clinical educator concerning the procedures to follow in case of inclement weather. Students are not to endanger their lives to get to a school, but the weather should not be used as an excuse for not fulfilling obligations. Students are to inform the Coordinator of the Communications if they miss a day of practicum. If there are make-up days during the school practicum, the student is expected to make up those days, even on a Saturday or a holiday.
- Communication disorders majors should assume the teaching load immediately. All communication disorders students who are placed in the schools have had at least two semesters of practicum and are more than ready to assume the full responsibility of the caseload.
- The communication disorders students may not substitute for the speech-language pathologist. It is against the speech-language pathology and audiology licensing act for the state of North Carolina and licensing laws for other states.
- Since communication disorders majors are completing practicum in the schools at the graduate level, they do not have technology portfolios.
- The baseline and final evaluations should be obtained using the forms furnished by the Communication Disorders Program. These forms are relevant for the students majoring in Communication Disorders. The forms should be completed by the supervising speech language pathologist.
- Communication disorders majors have a 60-hour major and are eligible for advanced licensure. Students should make sure that Form V is completed by appropriate personnel.