

**ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT
Annual Report Review**

The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology has reviewed the program's accreditation annual report and took the accreditation action indicated below.

Name of Program: CUNY, Hunter College

File #: 90

Professional Area:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Audiology |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Speech-Language Pathology |

Modality:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Residential |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Distance Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Satellite Campus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Contractual Arrangement |

Degree Designator(s): MS

Current Accreditation Cycle: 11/1/2018 – 10/31/2026

Action Taken: Continue Probation

Effective Date: July 8, 2022

Probation Date: July 24, 2021

**Next Review: Annual Report due February 1, 2023
End of Probation Report due June 8, 2023**

Notices: The program is advised to adhere to the following notices that are appended to this report.

- PROGRAM COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS
- PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DECISION AND ACCREDITATION STATUS

In the context of the institutional and program mission statements and in consideration of the credentials for which the program is preparing students, the CAA conducted its comprehensive review and found the program to be in compliance with the Standards for Accreditation of Graduate Education Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, except as noted below.

AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE – Cause for Continued Probation

The CAA found the program to be not in compliance with the following Standards for Accreditation. Non-compliance means that the program does not have in place the essential elements necessary to meet the standard. The program must demonstrate its compliance with these standards when responding to prior concerns in the next annual report or reaccreditation application or by the time line specified below. The CAA will indicate in its review of that report whether the program has addressed these areas sufficiently to achieve compliance. **Failure to demonstrate compliance with the standards may jeopardize the program's accreditation status or require the CAA to place the program on probation. A program will be placed on probation or accreditation withdrawn after the review of a second consecutive report reveals that issues continue for the same standard(s) and the program remains not in full compliance with all standards (effective January 1, 2021- see [CAA Accreditation Handbook, Chapter XVII](#)).**

Standard 2.3 All faculty members (full-time, part-time, adjuncts), including all individuals providing clinical education, are qualified and competent by virtue of their education, experience, and professional credentials to provide academic and clinical education as assigned by the program leadership.

This is the third consecutive report that the program has been cited for Standard 2.3 as an area of non-compliance.

Requirement for Review:

The program must demonstrate that the majority of academic content is taught by doctoral faculty who hold the appropriate terminal academic degree (PhD, EdD).

Evidence of Non-Compliance:

The CAA requires programs to demonstrate that the majority of academic content is taught by doctoral faculty who hold the appropriate terminal academic degree (PhD, EdD). The program was cited as being out of compliance in the last two reports with this standard and was placed on probation in July 2021. In the program's End of Probation report, it was noted that a faculty search was successful and resulted in the selection of two faculty members who will begin their positions in late August for the fall 2022 semester. However, the program reported that one of the newly hired faculty members will not defend their dissertation until the end of the summer, and the doctoral degree will not be conferred until the fall. Once the doctoral degree is conferred and the two new faculty members begin teaching, the program reported that they should be able to demonstrate compliance with the standard.

Steps to Be Taken:

At the time of the End of Probation Report, the program must submit evidence that all degrees have been conferred for the appropriate faculty members and provide evidence that the majority of academic content is taught by doctoral faculty who hold the appropriate terminal academic degree (PhD, EdD).

AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE

Standard 3.1B An effective entry-level professional speech-language pathology program allows each student to acquire knowledge and skills in sufficient breadth and depth to function as an effective, well-educated, and competent clinical speech-language pathologist (i.e., one who can practice within the full scope of practice of speech-language pathology). The education program is designed to afford each student with opportunities to meet the expectations of the program that are consistent with the program's mission and goals and that prepare each student for professional practice in speech-language pathology.

Requirement for Review:

The master's program in speech-language pathology must perform the following functions:

- Establish a clear set of program goals and objectives that must be met for students to acquire the knowledge and skills needed for entry into professional practice.

Evidence of Non-Compliance:

The CAA requires programs to establish a clear set of program goals and objectives that must be met for students to acquire the knowledge and skills needed for entry into professional practice. In the 2021 Accreditation Action Report, the CAA requested the program to clarify the number and types of required courses. However, the program reported inconsistent information in the most recent report as the list of courses provided in the annual report in Section 3.0 includes 70 credit hours of required graduate coursework (20 academic, 36 clinical, 6 practicum, 8 research) but, the total number of credits listed in the same report in Section 3.1 has 68 credit hours (60 academic, 4 practicum/clinical, 4 research).

Steps to Be Taken:

At the time of the next Annual Report, provide documentation that clarifies the number and types of required courses, and that the courses are consistently outlined in all pertinent areas.

AREAS OF FOLLOW-UP (clarification/verification)

The CAA did not find the program to be out of compliance with the following Standards for Accreditation at this time. However, the program must provide additional information or an update in the program's next annual report or reaccreditation application for clarification or verification of these issues, in order to monitor the program's continued compliance in the stated areas.

- **There were no areas for follow-up with the standards of accreditation.**

PERFORMANCE WITH RESPECT TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The CAA has evaluated this program regarding its performance with respect to student achievement and provides the following report, required as an accrediting agency recognized by the US Secretary of Education [[34 CFR 602.17\(f\)](#)].

Comments/Observations:

<i>The CAA assessed the program's performance with respect to student achievement and found the program to meet or exceed the established CAA expectations (as described in accreditation standard 5.0-Assessment) in the following checked areas. Details regarding any of these areas found to be <u>not</u> in compliance are described earlier in this report in the context of the relevant standard.</i>	
X	Program Completion Rates
X	Employment Rates
X	Praxis Examination Rates

PROGRAM COMPLIANCE EXPECTATIONS

As an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, the CAA must comply with Criterion §602.20 [[34 CFR 602.20](#)]. This criterion requires that if an accrediting agency's review of a program indicates that the program is not in compliance with any standard, the CAA must provide a written timeline to the program to come into compliance that is reasonable, as determined by the CAA, based on the nature of the finding, the stated mission, and educational objectives of the program. The timeline may include intermediate checkpoints on the way to full compliance and must not exceed three years for programs, regardless of professional area. If the review of a second consecutive report reveals that issues continue for the same standard(s), regardless of which requirements for review were identified, and the program remains not in full compliance with all standards, the CAA may act to place the program on probation or withdraw its accreditation status in accordance with the policy and procedures outlined in the [Accreditation Handbook](#). The CAA may place a program on probation or withdraw accreditation from a program prior to this time when there is clear evidence of circumstances that jeopardize the capability of the program to provide acceptable educational experiences for the students.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THIS DECISION AND ACCREDITATION STATUS

The CAA publishes a notice of final accreditation actions on its website after comprehensive reviews are completed in accordance with its published policies. In the event an adverse action is taken and becomes final (i.e., withdrawal or withholding of an accreditation status), the CAA is required to publish a brief statement summarizing the reasons for withholding or withdrawing the accreditation status of a program, together with the comments, if any, that the affected program may wish to make.

The Criteria for Recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education requires all recognized accrediting agencies to provide for the public correction of incorrect or misleading information an accredited or preaccredited program releases about accreditation or preaccreditation status, contents of site visit reports, and accrediting or preaccrediting actions with respect to the program. [[34 CFR 602.23\(d\)](#) and [602.23\(e\)](#)] The program must make accurate public disclosure of the accreditation or preaccreditation status awarded to the program, using the language provided in the [Accreditation Handbook](#) (see Chapter XII Informing the Public) on the academic accreditation website. If the program chooses to disclose any additional information within the scope of the ED rule, such disclosure also must be accurate. Any public disclosure of information within the scope of the rule must include the CAA's name, address, and telephone number as described in the [Accreditation Handbook](#). If an institution or program misrepresents or distorts any action by the CAA with respect to any aspect of the accreditation process, its accreditation status, the contents of the site visit report, or final CAA accreditation actions or decisions, the CAA will inform the chief executive officer of the institution and the program director that corrective action must be taken. If corrective action is not taken, the CAA will release a public statement that provides correct information and may invoke other sanctions as may be appropriate.