ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

CLINICAL PRACTICUM

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, in offering clinical practicum to undergraduate and graduate students in the program, has certain and specific responsibilities to the welfare of the client, the education of the student, and the expectations of the public. It is thus important that persons participating in clinical practicum have certain inherent skills and attributes that are present when a student begins the program. Essential functions, as distinguished from academic standards, are those communicative, cognitive, sensory/observational and behavioral/social skills that are necessary to meet graduate and professional requirements as measured by state licensure and national certification and are thus necessary for satisfactory completion of clinical practicum requirements.

The following essential functions are consistent with the guidelines recommended by the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders (2007) and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

COMMUNICATION
A student must possess adequate communication skills, with reasonable accommodations, to:

- Communicate proficiently in both oral and written English language.
- Possess reading and writing skills sufficient to meet curricular and clinical demands.
- Perceive and demonstrate appropriate non-verbal communication for culture and context.
- Modify communication style effectively as needed in social and academic settings.

MOTOR
A student must possess adequate motor skills, with reasonable accommodations, to:

- Sustain necessary physical activity level in required classroom and clinical activities.
- Respond quickly to provide a safe environment for clients in emergency situations including fire, choking, etc.
- Access transportation to clinical and academic placements.
- Participate in classroom and clinical activities for the defined workday.

INTELLECTUAL/COGNITIVE
A student must possess adequate intellectual and cognitive skills, with reasonable accommodations, to:

- Comprehend, retain, integrate, synthesize, infer, evaluate and apply written and verbal information sufficient to meet curricular and clinical demands.
SENSORY/OBSERVATIONAL
A student must possess adequate sensory skills of vision, hearing, tactile, and smell, with reasonable accommodations, to:

- Visually and auditorily identify normal and disordered speech, hearing, language, communication, and swallowing appropriate to his or her level of training.

BEHAVIORAL/SOCIAL
A student must possess adequate behavioral and social attributes, with reasonable accommodations, to:

- Display mature empathetic and effective professional relationships by exhibiting compassion, integrity, and concern for others.
- Recognize and show respect for individuals with disabilities and for individuals of different ages, genders, race, religions, sexual orientation, and cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Conduct oneself in an ethical and legal manner, upholding the ASHA Code of Ethics and university and federal policies.
- Maintain general good physical and mental health and self care in order not to jeopardize the health and safety of self and others in the academic and clinical setting.