

Your path to Speech and Language Therapy

(July 2020)

You're studying for a degree but would like to study Speech & Language Therapy in 2020.

Currently, to work in Ireland as a Speech and Language Therapist you must be a member of the Irish Association of Speech & Language Therapists - [IASLT](#).

How do I become a Speech & Language Therapist?

Ireland:

[NUI](#), Galway Speech & Language Therapy

[Trinity College Dublin](#) BSc Clinical Speech & Language Studies

[University College Cork](#) BSc Speech & Language Therapy

It *may* be possible to apply to the above universities to do a second BSc. If you are applying for a second degree, you must apply through the CAO before February 1st.

UK and abroad:

Full listings of BSc degrees are available on the [UCAS](#) website and on the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists [\[RCSLT\] website](#)

Implications of studying abroad:

You are eligible to apply for professional validation and full membership of [IASLT](#) to practise in Ireland under the Agreement for the Mutual Recognition of Professional Association Credentials (MRA) 2008 if you are a certified member of [ASHA](#), [RCSLT](#) or [Speech Pathology Australia](#), a clinically certified member of [SAC-OAC](#) or a full member of [NZSTA](#). From; [Irish Association of Speech & Language Therapists](#).

Otherwise, you need to have your qualifications validated by the Department of Health. Contact details from [IASLT](#).

[Standing Liaison Committee of Speech and Language Therapists / Logopedists in the European Union](#). Gives an overview, by country, on entrance requirements for becoming a SLT throughout the EU. Although the [RCSLT](#) is the professional body in the UK, to work there you must also register with the Health & Care Professionals Council [\[HPC\]](#).

Do I have to do a second degree?

There are accelerated postgraduate courses in either Ireland or the UK – apply directly to the appropriate university. The following have 2-year programmes that are recognised by either IASLT or RCSLT/HPC (it is possible that there are other universities also running programmes):

[University of Limerick](#) - MSc in Speech and Language Therapy (Professional Qualification). Applicants must have obtained an award of with a minimum classification of 2.2 honours in an undergraduate degree equivalent to Level 8 (National Qualifications Authority of Ireland) or a postgraduate degree (Level 9 National Qualifications Authority of Ireland). The type of previous undergraduate degree is not a limiting factor in terms of eligibility. Applicants should note that the Spelling and Grammar Waiver for students registered with the Disability Office is not applicable to the MSc Speech and Language Therapy (Professional Qualification) programme. [Information](#) available on [UL site](#).

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[University of Essex](#) - MSc in Speech and Language Therapy (Pre registration). Our applicants should have: a relevant honours degree (minimum classification of lower second). Degree subjects such as psychology, language, linguistics, social science, biological science, medical science or equivalent are desirable. Applicants with degrees in other subjects may also be considered (please email pgadmit@essex.ac.uk for further information).

- successful performance at interview

You must also have: two satisfactory references (including an academic reference and a work based one), a satisfactory Occupational Health Check and enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS formerly known as CRB) – both of these are organised by the University.

[City University London](#) – PGDip/MSc in Speech and Language Therapy: To apply for this course, you will need: An upper second-class Bachelor's degree from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard

A minimum of five grade 4 (C) passes in GCSE or equivalent, including English and Mathematics.

As part of the selection process, if shortlisted you will be invited to a selection day where you will be required to demonstrate that your values match those of the NHS Constitution.

[Newcastle University](#) - MSc Language Pathology. A 2:1 honours degree, or international equivalent, in any of the following fields:

A **2:1 honours degree**, or international equivalent, in any of the following fields:

- psychology
- neuroscience
- linguistics
- English language and literature
- modern languages
- a medical discipline, such as biomedical science or medicine

We will also consider your application if you have a first degree in a different subject plus relevant industry experience.

Your degree must have been obtained by the time of application. You will need to upload the degree certificate using the [Applicant Portal](#).

You are required to have practical experience of working in or observing speech language therapy clinics, or closely related experience such as:

- working in a care or nursing home
- working with children with special needs or adults with disabilities
- working with individuals with learning disabilities

You need to be able to identify with [NHS values as stated in the NHS constitution](#).

You will be required to have a [Disclosure and Barring Service \(DBS\) disclosure](#) and an occupational health assessment.

[Queen Margaret University College](#) – **MSc Speech and Language Therapy**. Upper second class degree/masters level degree in relevant subject (biology, psychology or linguistics) is required. Experience of working with people with speech or communication impairments, for example through professional or voluntary work or shadowing a speech and language therapist, is desirable.

[University of Reading](#) - **MSc in Speech and Language Therapy**. You are normally required to have a good first or upper second class (2:1) honours degree (or equivalent from a university outside the UK) in a related field such

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as linguistics, psychology, medical sciences or education. The degree must have been completed and awarded by the application deadline. Evidence of recent study is normally required if the first degree was completed more than four years previously. A complete application, including at least one reference, must be received by the deadline in order to be considered for entry to the next intake.
Check website for deadline for applications.

[University of Sheffield](#) - MMedSci (Clinical Communication Studies). Minimum of a 2:1 in any subject.

You must have work experience relevant to speech and language therapy.

For detailed information about what we look for in applications, application deadlines and our shortlisting process, see the Department of Human Communication Sciences website. If you are shortlisted, we'll ask you to come to an interview.

DBS Disclosure and Health Screening

You must produce an enhanced DBS disclosure and complete a health screening before starting the course.

English language requirements

Overall IELTS grade of 8.0 with a minimum of 7.5 in each component, or equivalent.

Applying for the MMedSci is a two stage process. An online application through the University system prior to our Home/EU deadline which is available on our [website](#).

[University of Greenwich](#). BSc (Hons) Speech & Language Therapy. Applicants for this course are required to complete a suitability declaration, an enhanced disclosure and barring service (DBS) check, and an occupational health check.

Further information on this course is available on our website.

Where can I get help with the application form?

Each of the above universities mentions that having had some work experience with an SLT (either paid or voluntary) is essential to the course application. The personal statement is extremely important when applying – showing an interest and knowledge of the career will help your application immensely. Your career objectives are important in your application.

One of the [Careers](#) team can give you feedback on your application (TIP: photocopy/print your application form and fill out the copy first).

Useful Contacts

Irish Association of Speech & Language Therapy	https://www.iaslt.ie/
Central Applications Office	http://www.cao.ie/
Royal College of Speech & Language Therapy	https://www.rcslt.org/
UCAS	https://www.ucas.com/
NHS - information on funding and careers	https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/
Health & Care Professions Council	http://www.hpc-uk.org/
SLT in Europe	http://www.cplol.eu/

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