

# MEMORANDUM

Date: 23 November, 2020

To: Dr. Joe Schaffer, President

From: Dr. Kari Brown-Herbst, Interim Vice President, Academic Affairs *kb-h*

CC: Members, President's Cabinet  
Starla Mason, Dean, School of Health Science & Wellness  
Sue Torney, Program Director, Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

Re: Speech Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) Post-Baccalaureate Bridge Credit Diploma



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As a result of our Guided Pathways initiative the College has committed to offering academic programs that are clear and intentional in design to meet students' goals in employment or further education. It is with respect for these tenets that I seek approval for a new Credit Diploma, the Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Post-Baccalaureate Bridge.

## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW:**

The SLPA Post-Baccalaureate Bridge credential is designed to provide an experience-based path to employment as SLPAs for bachelor's degree holders. Students holding a bachelor's degree in communication disorders are unable to obtain direct employment following graduation due to additional training requirements mandated by the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) and the Wyoming State Board of Examiners for Speech Language Pathology and Audiology. This 2-semester credit diploma bridges the gap between academic preparation and field experience and further serves as one of three paths to eligibility for the national SLPA certification exam.

The 15-credit credential represents a new packaging of classes that are already required in the Speech-Language Pathology Assistant AAS. These classes will continue to be foundational requirements in the SLPA degree while simultaneously serving students pursuing the new credential. The Bridge credential fills a gap that we currently have in our state for SLPA candidates who have their bachelor's degree. ASHA does offer online training modules for undergraduates, but getting the other requirement of 100 hours of direct supervision treatment hours is still difficult for students to accomplish. We believe the structured credential approach will address their difficulties and lead to successful certification.

## **PROGRAM OUTCOMES:**

The program has completed the required development and review process and has received approval of the Academic Standards Committee. The Credit Diploma is comprised of 15 credits.

Upon successful completion of the Credit Diploma, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical thinking relevant to speech-language pathology

2. Distinguish the differences between normal and disordered speech-language communication and hearing
3. Comply with professional/ethical standards related to the field of speech-language pathology.
4. Demonstrate effective communication skills across various work settings.

Students will have the opportunity to meet these outcomes through the following program sequence:

SLPA Post-Baccalaureate Bridge   Program Sequence			
1st Semester			
	SLPA 1500	Introduction to Speech Language Pathology Assistant	3
	SLPA 2502	Field Observation II	2
Semester Total:			5
2nd Semester			
	SLPA 2602	Internship Management & Procedures	4
	SLPA 2970	SLPA Internship	6
Semester Total:			10

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

Current faculty are qualified to teach all courses in the program and have capacity for the instructional responsibilities.

**BUDGET IMPACT:**

No new or outside funding is required to implement the SLPA Post-Baccalaureate Bridge credential. Without the need for a new position or increases in courses or faculty workload, we expect the budgetary impact for implementation of this credential to be minimal.



## PROGRAM ACTION FORM

<b>College</b>	Laramie County Community College					
<b>Date</b>	11/19/2020					
<b>Program Request for</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Program		<input type="checkbox"/> Modified Existing Program		<input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue an Existing Program	
<b>Program Title</b>	Credit Diploma, SLPA Post-Baccalaureate Bridge					
<b>Type of Credential</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> AA	<input type="checkbox"/> AS	<input type="checkbox"/> AFA	<input type="checkbox"/> AAS	<input type="checkbox"/> Cert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Credit Diploma
<b>Total Credit Hours:</b>	15					
<b>CIP Code and Title</b>	CIP Code (6 digits): <b>51.0816</b>			Speech-Language Pathology/Pathologist		
(Classification of Instructional Programs/CIP obtained from the National Center for Educational Statistics at <a href="https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/browse.aspx?y=55">https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/browse.aspx?y=55</a> double check your recommendation with the records office)						

<b>Rationale for request</b> <i>(New, modified or discontinued)</i>	
<b>Type of Program</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Transfer preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Short term workforce placement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-year workforce placement <input type="checkbox"/> Special need endorsement
<b>Certificate Questions</b> <i>More than one may apply</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> local or state employer or industry specific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> nationally recognized <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> examination or licensure preparation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> practicum <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> stackable  <u>Title IV</u> Financial Aid Eligible <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <i>(minimum of 16 semester hrs)</i> <i>(Stafford Loans, Perkins Grants, Pell Grants and Federal Campus-based Grants)</i>
<b>New program start</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> NA    OR    identify the semester the program will start: <b>Fall 2021</b>
<b>Taught by non-accredited vendors?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (see below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>WCCC or State Priority</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (see below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <i>(See the <a href="#">WCCC website</a>, there are several programs which have a state priority, such as the Governor's Economically Needed Diversity Options for Wyoming/<a href="#">ENDOW</a>)</i>

Program Curriculum					
<i>Program Description</i>	<p>This program is designed for students who hold a bachelor's degree in communication disorders from a regionally accredited institution and are seeking to become a certified Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) through the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) or the Wyoming State Board of Examiners of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. This credit diploma can be completed in two semesters and is based upon the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA)'s certification and Wyoming State Board educational and field work experience requirements by providing 100 hours of clinical field work. The program will assist students in providing placement at qualified externship sites to ensure that each student receives a minimum of the required 80 hours of direct treatment time and 20 hours of indirect treatment under the supervision of an ASHA-certified Speech Language Pathologist.</p> <p>Prospective students interested in the credit diploma should contact the SLPA Program Director for details about the admission and application process. Applications are accepted annually, and applicants must have at least a 2.5 GPA on their baccalaureate transcripts. Additional information is also available on the program website at: <a href="http://www.lccc.wy.edu/programs/speechLanguagePathology/index.aspx">http://www.lccc.wy.edu/programs/speechLanguagePathology/index.aspx</a></p>				
<i>Recommended Change</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA    OR    Type the proposed change to the description below				
<i>New Curriculum</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (see below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO				
<i>List the new courses alphabetically. Include prefix, course number, course title, credit hours (add more rows to the table if needed). Check the <a href="#">Wyoming Transfer Catalog</a> for possible courses and numbers then contact your registrar regarding the suggested numbers.</i>					
<b>Considerations</b>	<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>LOI</b>
Includes New courses?	N/A				
Introduces a new number?					
Introduces a new prefix?					
Introduces a new title?					
Did you coordinate w/CCs?	<p>No new courses were needed for the development of this certificate diploma. Only existing courses in the current SLPA curriculum offered at LCCC are being used for this new SLPA certificate diploma designed specifically for students who already hold a bachelor's degree in Communication Disorders. The LCCC Course Coordinator confirmed the availability of the prefix and number sequences indicated above when the SLPA program was first developed in 2017.</p>				
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>					

(WCCC has a statewide common course numbering system, ensure that you have met with the records office prior to your submission to identify appropriate new course numbers for your program. This process may take up to a week to receive confirmation of the numbers)

Similar programs in Wyoming? (See WCCC Program List)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (list below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		
Discussions with other Community Colleges	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (see below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO (see rationale below)		
Additional Resources (faculty, support services, equipment or supplies)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES (see below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO  <b>STAFFING IMPACT:</b> <b>BUDGET IMPACT:</b>		
Primary Student Audience	Post Baccalaureate students		
Anticipated three year unduplicated headcount	Year one:	Year two:	Year three:
<b>Projected Demand in Wyoming and Nationally</b> (Labor market anticipated demand upon completion of the program and wages for this career field)			

Suggested data sources for Occupational Outlook and Wages:

Career One Stop- [US Department of Labor](https://www.dol.gov)

Bureau of Labor Statistics (occupational outlook handbook) <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

Wyoming Labor Market Information (WLMi) <http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/>

1. **Projected demand in Wyoming and Nation** (copy and paste the table below)

United States	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings
	Year 2019__	+10 years		
	96,900	103,600	7%	11,300
Wyoming	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings
	Year 2018__	+10 years		
	150	160	7%	20

2. **State and National Wages**

Location	Pay Period	Year 2020				
		10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	Hourly	\$16.33		\$23.77		\$34.29
	Yearly					
Wyoming	Hourly					
	Yearly	\$32,820	\$38,150	\$45,480	\$56,240	\$72,790

**APPENDIX A- PROGRAM TERM BY TERM PLAN**

Attach a copy of the program's term by term plan below

**WCCD PROPOSED PROGRAM OF STUDY** \_\_\_\_\_ *Specific Degree or Certificate*

<b>RECOMMENDED CURRICULUM SEQUENCE:</b>		
Fall Semester 1 <sup>st</sup> Year		
SLPA 1500	Introduction to Speech Language Pathology Assistant	3 credits
SLPA 2502	Field Observation II	2 credits
<i>TOTAL FALL SEMESTER</i>		<b>5 credits</b>
Spring Semester 1 <sup>st</sup> Year		
SLPA 2602	Internship Management and Procedures	4 credits
SLPA 2970	SLPA Internship	6 credits
<i>TOTAL SPRING SEMESTER</i>		<b>10 credits</b>
<b>TOTAL PROPOSED PROGRAM CREDITS</b>		<b>15 credits</b>