

# FOCUS ON

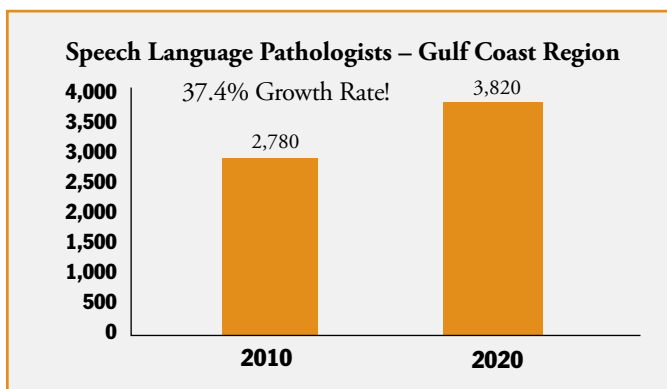
## SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

Houston Gulf Coast Region\*

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### A GREAT CHOICE FOR THOSE WANTING TO HELP CHANGE THE LIVES OF OTHERS WHILE EARNING GOOD WAGES

Speech-language pathologists, or speech therapists as they are often called, diagnose and treat individuals with problems related to speech and language that are a result of a variety of causes such as brain injury, stroke, developmental delays or disorders, learning disabilities, and many other things. Good communications skills and patience is a must to be successful! With an aging population and population growth that more than doubles that of the nation demand should remain strong for many years to come! The outlook for a speech-language pathologist career is very good and with a rapidly increasing Hispanic population in the Gulf Coast Region those that are bilingual in English and Spanish will find prospects even better.



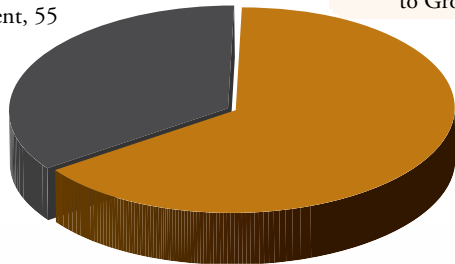
\*Includes the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton.

**The ten-year rate of job growth for Speech-Language Pathologists at 37.4% is much faster than the 22.7% average for all occupations in the Gulf Coast Region!**

### Annual Job Openings – Gulf Coast Region

Openings Due to Replacement, 55

Openings Due to Growth, 105



**More than 150 new speech-language pathologists are needed every year in the Gulf Coast Region!**

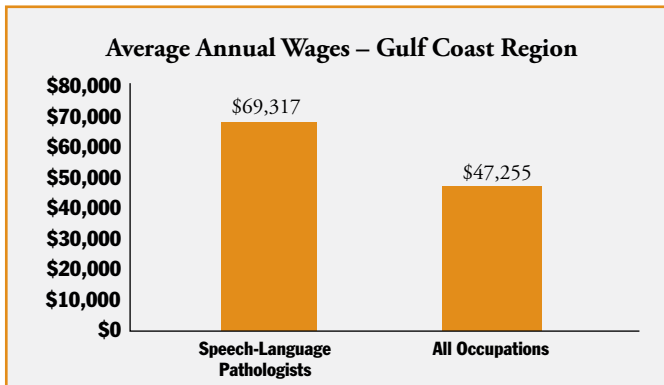
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Latest data available as of June 2013.

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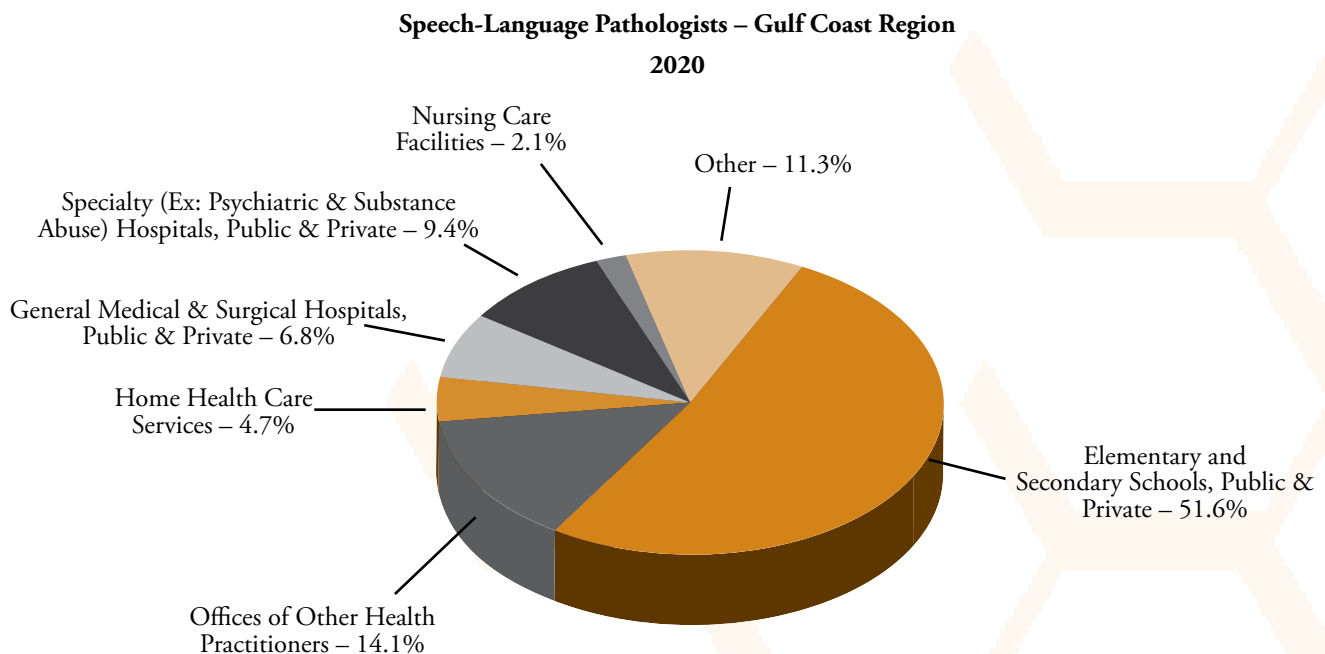
## SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

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**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS EARN EXCELLENT WAGES, AVERAGING NEARLY \$70,000 PER YEAR.**



**HALF OF ALL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS WORK AT SCHOOLS WITH THE REST WORKING AT CLINICAL INSTITUTIONS.**



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## SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

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### **PATHWAY TO BECOMING A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST**

Speech-language pathologists are regulated and licensed by the state in a way similar to that of registered nurses and doctors. So, how does a person become a licensed speech-language pathologist in Texas?

- Earn a bachelor's degree in communication sciences and disorders (4 yrs)
- Gain acceptance into and complete a master's degree program in speech language pathology (2 to 3 yrs) which includes a minimum of 375 hours of clinical experience
- Obtain an intern license from the Texas Department of State Health Services
- Take and pass the national Praxis exam coordinated by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) scoring a 600 or better
- Apply for official license at the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

### **LICENSING AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
1100 West 49th Street  
Austin, Texas 78756  
(512) 834-6627  
[www.dshs.state.tx.us](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us)

Educational Testing Service (ETS) The Praxis Series  
P.O. Box 6051  
Princeton, NJ 08541-6051  
1-800-772-9476  
[www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis)

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association  
2200 Research Blvd  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
(301) 296-5700  
[www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)

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## SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

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### PREPARING FOR A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST CAREER\*

9th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English I	World Geography	<b>Career-Related Electives:</b> Principles of Health Science
	Algebra I	Languages other than English I	
	Biology	Physical Education	
10th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English II	World History	<b>Career-Related Electives:</b> Medical Terminology or Speech Communication
	Geometry	Languages other than English II	
	Chemistry		
11th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English III	United States History	<b>Career-Related Electives:</b> Health Science, Anatomy and Physiology, Languages other than English III, Counseling and Mental Health, Psychology
	Algebra II	Professional Communications	
	Physics		
12th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English IV	Government/Economics	<b>Career-Related Electives:</b> Practicum in Health Science or Medical Microbiology or Pathophysiology, Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness, Problems and Solutions, Languages other than English
	AP Statistics	Fine Arts	
	Scientific Research and Design		

\*Source: AchieveTexas.org

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## SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

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### START EARLY AND BE PREPARED!

Students should strive for the highest GPA possible in undergrad to provide them with the edge needed for acceptance into graduate schools where seating is limited and many students are turned away (minimum GPA of 3.5 for some).

High school students interested in a career as a speech-language pathologist should take courses in biology, physics, chemistry, geometry, algebra, English, health occupations/medical professions education, sociology, psychology, computer skills, social studies, and speech.

### GULF COAST REGION SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST PROGRAMS

#### Universities

- Texas Woman's University
- University of Houston

### WHERE TO FIND EMPLOYMENT IN THE GULF COAST REGION

- Clinics
- Elementary and secondary schools
- Home Health Agencies
- Hospitals
- Rehabilitation Centers

Workforce Solutions is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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