

Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences
Norma S. and Ray R. Rees Speech, Language, Hearing Clinic
California State University East Bay

Policy Statement

CLINICAL GRADES AND ASSESSMENT

Clinical practicum is a progressive activity. It is expected that a clinician will continue to develop new insights and skills. Therefore, the repetition of the same quality work in subsequent semesters will not ensure the same grade. In accordance with ASHA standards, growth is essential. The CALIPSO evaluation standards are structured to reflect this progress.

Each clinician is given two clinical assignments per semester, each of which is graded separately and then averaged. General grading guidelines are described below:

A or A- grade: denotes that there is evidence that required skills are developed and consistent, and the clinician is being recommended for continuation in the graduate program.

B+ or B grade: denotes that there is evidence that required skills are present or adequate, and the clinician is being recommended for continuation in the graduate program.

B- grade: denotes that there is evidence that the required skill is emerging, but is inconsistent or inadequate. The clinician will be placed on probation as an “at risk” clinician.

C+, C or C- grade: denotes that the clinician’s skill is below the minimum requirement required by the graduate program. Clock hours will not be counted, the term’s work must be redone, and the clinician is placed on probation as an “at risk” clinician.

D or F grade: denotes that the required skill is not evident. The clinician will be immediately declassified from the program.

Probationary Status

Any clinician achieving a B- or lower in any one clinical assignment within a semester will receive a Support Plan for the subsequent practicum, designed by the Clinic Director with faculty advisor consultation. The support plan will be designed collaboratively with the student, clinical supervisor, and academic advisor. Each support plan includes specific clinical skills that need improvement, the modifications and supports that will be provided by supervisor/advisor/department to support student success, and indicators of progress. Students will be informed of how the support plan relates to specific competencies in CALIPSO.

The probationary clinician will be supervised by a different clinical supervisor and/or a permanent department member when the action plan is put into place. The probationary clinician will be allowed one term of clinical practicum while on an Support Plan. If the clinician does not demonstrate satisfactory progress, defined as a “B” grade or better performance for each clinical assignment in all subsequent terms, the clinician will be referred to the faculty advisor to initiate the declassification process.