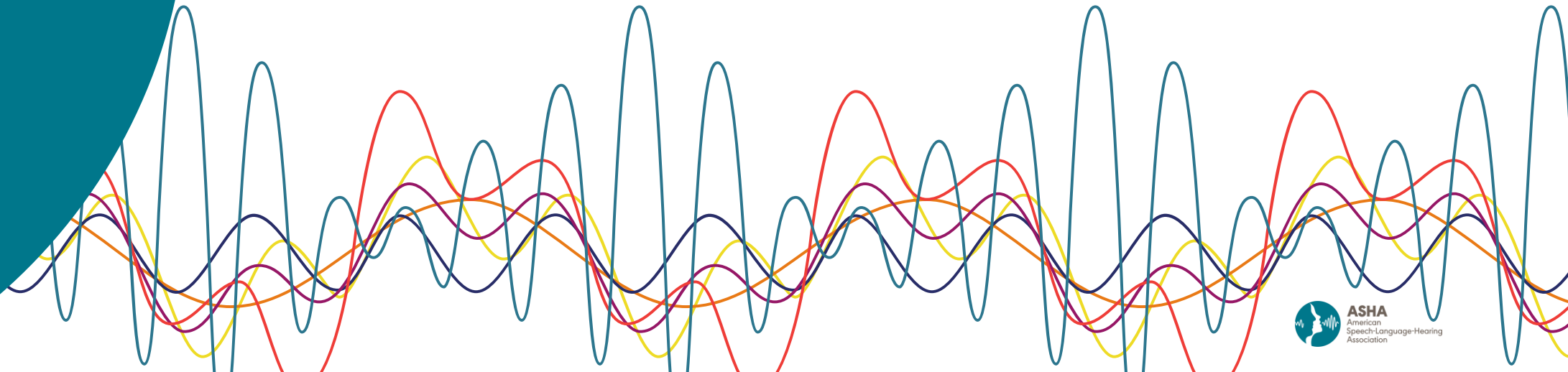


# Speech-Language Pathology: The Health Care Career For You?

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# What Does It Look Like?



# Working with Patients and Families



# Retraining Speech



# Training Staff for Safe Feeding



# Swallowing Studies— Collaborating with Radiologists



# Working on Speech and Language



# Working in Acute Care





# Why Would Speech-Language Pathology Interest Me?

- Working in health care
- Being part of a team
- Helping people regain crucial life functions
- Expanding knowledge of effective treatments
- Using technology
- Working with families

# What Skills Do I Need?

- Good oral and written communication
- Good observation of behavior
- Critical thinking and flexibility
  - Test hypotheses
- People skills
- Strong academic background

# Different Types of Disorders (Children and Adults)

- Anatomy and physiology of head and neck
  - Swallowing disorders, cleft palate, voice disorders
- Cognitive neuroscience
  - Aphasia from strokes
  - Cognitive communication disorders (brain injury, dementia)

# Different Career Paths for SLP Expertise in Health Care

- Clinician—senior clinician—clinical educator or supervisor
- Administrator
- Researcher
- Professor

# What Does It Take...

...To Become a Certified Speech-Language Pathologist?

- Master's degree from an accredited communication sciences and disorders program
- Passing score on a national exam
- 9 month clinical fellowship

# Types of Health Care Settings

- Hospitals
  - Acute care, rehabilitation, pediatric, long term acute care
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Home health
- Outpatient clinics
- Physician's offices
- Private practice

# What is the Job Market Like?

*Excellent!*

- Projected need is strong
  - Openings in all areas of health care as well as schools
  - Critical shortage of Ph.D.s in academic settings
- Factors influencing need
  - Retiring SLPs
  - Aging baby boomers will increase need for services
  - Babies with long term developmental needs

# Compensation

- Salary or hourly compensation
  - Opportunities for part time, flexible hours
- Early career (4-6 years)
  - \$60,000 (2009 median)
- Experienced
  - \$80,000 (2009 median)



# How Can I Get More Information?

- ASHA's Web site: [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)
  - Click Students or The Public on the left
  - List of graduate programs
  - Information about financial aid
  - Questions? 800-638-8255