

**Speech-Language Pathology Training Program**  
**1 Year Clinical Fellowships 2017-2018**  
**VA Portland Health Care System**  
**Portland, Oregon**

The training program is funded by VHA Office of Academic Affiliations. These fellowships are available only for US citizens.

Clinical Fellows complete the following four, 3 month, rotations with separate mentors (not necessarily in the order listed). Although there is some overlap in training, each of the first three rotations provides a primary area of emphasis. Students are provided with required readings on advanced topics and attend various colloquia, symposiums and seminars.

We provide training in a) fluoroscopic evaluation of swallowing and FEES, b) evaluation of voice with the use of the Kay voice analysis system, direct and fiberoptic laryngoscopy, and stroboscopy, c) evaluation and treatment for the use of trachea-esophageal speaking valves, d) evaluation of speech, language, and cognition, and e) evaluation and implementation of AAC devices and cognitive prosthetics.

We require each CFY to develop and present a presentation on a topic of their choice, either to our internal staff, or to one of the interdisciplinary teams. Observation, didactic teaching, and supervision are provided throughout each rotation with the goal of progressively weaning the student toward independence. In addition to daily ongoing feedback, each student meets with their mentor weekly to discuss the student's progress along with any other issues of concern.

- Rotation 1: ENT-including Head & Neck Surgery (SICU) and the Outpatient Voice Clinic; Outpatient Dysphagia Clinic 1; General Medicine Teams 1-5; Medical/Surgical Intensive Care Unit; Outpatient Speech-Language Clinic 1
  - Primary emphasis of training: Evaluation and treatment of voice, speech, and swallowing impairments, in particular for individuals with head and neck cancer.
- Rotation 2: General Medicine Teams 1-5; Neurology; Psychiatry; Surgical Intensive Care Unit-excluding Head and Neck Cancer; Aphasia Treatment; Outpatient Cognitive Rehabilitation, Outpatient Speech-Language Clinic 2 ; Outpatient Dysphagia Clinic 2
  - Primary emphasis of training: Evaluation and treatment of acute cognitive or linguistic impairment. Outpatient Cognitive Rehabilitation, including polytrauma.
- Rotation 3: Community Living Center, Vancouver Campus. This includes the Comprehensive Rehabilitation Unit, Skilled Nursing Care Unit, Long-term care, Hospice and Palliative care; Outpatient Cognitive Rehabilitation, including Polytrauma.
  - Primary emphasis of training: Evaluation and treatment of speech, linguistic, or cognitive impairment for both inpatient and outpatient clinics.
- Rotation 4: Each fellow will spend one month at each of the first three rotation sites.
  - Primary emphasis of training: This is a final rotation in which the clinical fellows are expected to function with minimal supervision.

The application deadline is November 18, 2016, and the start date is as early as July, 2017

If you would like clarification or further information regarding the clinical rotation, please contact Dr. Michael Sullivan, Trainee Coordinator, by email, [Michael.sullivan6@va.gov](mailto:Michael.sullivan6@va.gov), or phone 503-220-8262, Ext. 33497.

Any student interested in applying should send a brief email to Dr. Michael Sullivan, [Michael.sullivan6@va.gov](mailto:Michael.sullivan6@va.gov), stating his or her intent to apply.

Applicants should submit a cover letter stating interest and career goals, curriculum vitae, unofficial undergraduate and graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation. Please use the [VA Letter of Recommendation SLP Form](#) that is available on our website. At least one recommendation should be from an academic professor and one from a clinical instructor. An academic and clinical professor can speak to both areas, if applicable. Letters of recommendation can be emailed to Dr. Sullivan directly by the professor or can be included in the student's application. If emailed, "Letter of Recommendation for Name of Applicant" should be included in the subject line.

Please concatenate all documents into a single .pdf, and "Save as" as an Adobe Acrobat optimized file type to compress, or use an online .pdf compression program. If you would like to encrypt your application, please request a password to use from Dr. Sullivan by sending an email request. Note, the VA server may reject a large file size. As such, please also send a separate, brief email to Dr. Sullivan stating that the application was sent. Applications should be submitted to [michael.sullivan6@va.gov](mailto:michael.sullivan6@va.gov). (Note, the other VA forms listed on the website: Application for Assoc. Health Trainee, Form 306, and National Rules of Behavior will be required upon selection for an externship.).

Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Matt Hamilton-Sutherland, Acting Chief  
VA Portland Health Care System  
3710 SW US Veterans Hosp. Rd.  
Portland, Oregon 97239  
503-220-8262 Ext. 57253