

# Graduate Application Essay Instructions

## Overview

Applicants are required to submit their applications through two portals:

1. Communication Disorder Programs National Application Portal (CSDCAS)  
(<https://csdcas.cas.myliaison.com/applicant-ux/>)
2. Purdue Office of the Vice Provost for Graduates and Post-doctoral Students (OGSPS) Application Portal  
(<https://www.purdue.edu/academics/ogsps/>)

## CSDCAS Application

All applications & materials must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm on January 15. To be considered for admission, your application should be marked as “complete” or “verified” by CSDCAS before this time.

1. **Follow Prompts:** Follow the prompts provided by CSDCAS.
2. **Essay #1: Academic Statement of Purpose (required):** The following topics should be addressed in your Academic Statement of Purpose:
  - What are your professional plans and career goals? How will pursuing graduate studies assist you in reaching those goals?
  - Describe your clinical interests in your chosen program (Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology, PhD). What specific areas or populations are of particular interest to you? Reviewers understand that interest may evolve but try to be as specific as possible.
  - Discuss how your experiences, skills, and abilities have prepared you for graduate study. Relevant topics may include coursework, work, and clinical experience, include details on the setting, your role, key learnings, and outcomes.
  - Describe how your skills, preparation, and interests are a match for the program to which you are applying. Include any faculty members who share your interests.
3. **Essay #2: Personal History Statement (required):** The following topics should be addressed in your Personal History Statement:
  - Describe how your background and life experiences have contributed to your ability to be both persistent and resourceful in your graduate studies.
  - Discuss how your personal and professional experiences have prepared you to contribute to an academic community where individuals with diverse clinical interests, abilities, backgrounds, and experiences are supported, respected, and valued.

4. **Other Optional Essay (optional):** You may provide an additional option essay to address concerns that you may have that your academic record does not reflect your true capabilities. Use this to discuss mitigating factors that have affected your academic record. Reviewers will be interested in understanding your accomplishments relative to your opportunities.

*\*Please note: When writing your essays, do your best to not include a significant amount of duplicate information in the different essay types. Allow each essay to tell its own story as much as possible.*

## **Purdue Office of the Vice Provost for Graduates and Post-doctoral Students Application**

All applications & materials must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm on January 15.

1. **Essay #1: Academic Statement of Purpose (required)**

\*see information above for writing prompts\*

2. **Essay #2: Personal History Statement (required)**

\*see information above for writing prompts \*

3. **Other Optional Essay (optional)**

\*see information above for writing prompts \*

## **Summary**

***Please submit the same essays to both CSDCAS and Purdue University's OGSPS Application Portal.***

Each essay should:

- Have a file name that includes your name and indicate which essay the document includes. (i.e. *Smith, John - Academic Statement of Purpose, Smith, John - Personal History Statement, Smith, John - Optional Essay*)
- Include a Title/Heading that tells the reviewers what type of essay they are reading
- Include your first and last name
- Not exceed 2 pages in length