

**READ RECEIPT REQUESTED**

March 7, 2024

Dr. Anna V. Sosa  
Northern Arizona University  
College of Health and Human Services  
Communication Sciences and Disorders  
PO Box 15045  
Flagstaff, AZ 86011

CAA File #197

Master's program in speech-language pathology, residential and distance education

Dear Dr. Sosa,

I am pleased to inform you that during its meeting on February 7-9, 2024, the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) voted to continue accreditation for the graduate education program in speech-language pathology at Northern Arizona University for a period of 8 years beginning November 1, 2023, through October 31, 2031. This includes the distance education component. CAA publishes notice of its accreditation actions, including the basis for the decisions, for all final accreditation decisions resulting from a comprehensive review (applications for candidacy, initial accreditation, or re-accreditation) or that affect an accreditation status (e.g., accredited to accredited-on probation). Recent decisions can be accessed online at <http://caa.asha.org/programs/accreditation-decisions/>.

The issues related to standards compliance provided in the attached *Accreditation Action Report* must be addressed in the program's next CAA report. At the time of the next report, the program must address the 2017 Accreditation Standards that went into effect August 1, 2017. The CAA expects that the program will demonstrate full compliance with the standards cited by the time of the next CAA report, if any citations are noted. If there is not sufficient evidence of full compliance by that date, the program's accreditation may be in jeopardy with the CAA, in keeping with the U.S. Department of Education's Criteria for Recognition [§602.20 Enforcement of Standards](#).

The program's first annual report will be submitted on February 1, 2025, using the on-line reporting system. Four months prior to the due date of the program's next CAA report, the program director will be sent an email notification indicating the timeline for completing this report.

The CAA considers timely submission of all accreditation reports and fees a critical condition for continued accredited status. Thus, a program will be placed on administrative probation as described in the [Accreditation Handbook](#) (Chapter XI Expectations of Programs, D. Administrative Probation) when it has not met its reporting and/or financial expectations to the CAA. Administrative Probation is an action taken by the CAA as a result of failure, by established deadlines, to complete and file any accreditation report, including all special requests for information or to pay annual accreditation fees.

**Public Notice of Accreditation Status:**

2200 Research Boulevard, Mail Stop 310  
Rockville, MD 20850-3289

Effective January 1, 2017, a program must publish on its website the applicable accreditation statement in its entirety as articulated in the Public Notice of Accreditation Status policy; refer to the CAA [Accreditation Handbook](#) (Chapter XII Informing the Public) for the appropriate language to use in publicizing your program's accreditation status.

The CAA has clarified that both the degree title, degree designator (abbreviation), and modalities offered must be included in the program's accreditation status statements. For example, the lead in language for the accreditation status statement published by the program should begin, "The Master of Science (M.S.) education program {residential, distance education, satellite location, contractual arrangement}" or "The Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) education program {residential, distance education, satellite location, contractual arrangement}". Programs would use the title and designator affiliated with their program. Refer to the CAA [Accreditation Handbook](#) (Chapter XII Informing the Public) for the appropriate language to use in publicizing your program's accreditation status:

The [master's degree title (+ designator/abbreviation) education program in speech-language pathology {residential, distance education, satellite location, contractual arrangement} and/or the doctoral degree title (+ designator/abbreviation) education program in audiology {residential, distance education, satellite location, contractual arrangement}] at [name of parent institution of higher education] is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard, #310, Rockville, MD 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.

#### Notification of Changes:

When the CAA awards an accreditation status, it does so based on the expectation that the program will continue to comply with all accreditation standards over the term of accreditation. On occasion, changes occur prior to the next regularly scheduled CAA report and require immediate notification to the CAA. These include:

1. Changes in institutional accreditation status
2. Program director changes
3. Administrative structure changes
4. Program closure

Should any of these changes occur prior to your next CAA report, please refer to the detailed information about the CAA's policies and procedures, which are available in Chapter XI Expectations of Programs of the CAA [Accreditation Handbook](#).

Congratulations to you, the faculty, and staff in the program, as well as the administration, on this national distinction.

Sincerely,



Susan Gordon-Hickey, Chair  
Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

cc: Dr. José Luis Cruz Rivera, President - [president@nau.edu](mailto:president@nau.edu)  
Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology  
Program file