



# SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY: FRESHMAN DIRECT ADMISSION TO GRAD SCHOOL PROGRAM

*for high achieving high school applicants*

## QUALIFICATIONS

1. Interest in the Speech Therapy (Speech-Language Pathology) profession
2. High school senior who is admitted to Eastern Illinois University (EIU) with a declared major in Communication Disorders and Sciences (CDS)
3. Meets Academic Achievement standards (a. OR b.)
  - a. High school cumulative GPA of 3.75 (on a 4.0 scale)
  - b. SAT 1230+ or ACT composite 26+, with a high school cumulative GPA of 3.5 to 3.74 or upper 10% of high school graduating class

## HOW DOES THE DIRECT ADMIT PROGRAM WORK?

- Based on a competitive admission process, a limited number of first semester freshman students will be accepted into the Master's of Science Speech–Language Therapy program through the Freshman Direct Admit Process. (See application information on back.)
- Direct Admit students maintain their GUARANTEED SPOT in the EIU grad program if they 1) keep a 3.5 or above major and cumulative university GPA in their undergraduate courses and 2) meet the requirements for Essential Professional Functions in undergraduate coursework.
- Students automatically begin graduate coursework when they have completed undergraduate pre-requisites
- For students with some dual credit or AP classes, an **accelerated option** is available. Students who enroll in at least four 2000-level CDS courses in their first year, may complete
  - all undergraduate requirements within 3 years,
  - all on-campus graduate coursework and practicum within 4 years,
  - full-time medical and school internships throughout Illinois or out-of-state and graduate with a master's degree within 5 years

To learn more about the Speech Therapy Freshman Direct Admit process, contact Dr. Rebecca Throneburg ([rmthroneburg@eiu.edu](mailto:rmthroneburg@eiu.edu)). Department phone 217-581-2712.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EIU PROGRAM

- ⇒ Clinical shadowing and clinical practicum as an undergraduate student
- ⇒ Faculty-led therapy abroad and study abroad opportunities
- ⇒ University and/or Department Honors
- ⇒ Extra-curricular opportunities such as mentor in the STEP College Autism program, social and extra learning opportunities with the NSSHLA student group, bilingual journal club or ASL club
- ⇒ Flexible study plans that keep options open or allow for focused study such as “pre-therapy”, “pre-med”, business administration, bilingual skills, and more.
- ⇒ Faculty work closely with students with a focus on applied case-based teaching
- ⇒ High certification test scores and choices for employment





# APPLICATION PROCESS FOR FRESHMAN DIRECT ADMISSION TO GRAD SCHOOL PROGRAM IN SPEECH THERAPY

## Application Process

### ⇒ Fall Early Decision Application

- Apply and be accepted to EIU by Nov 1
- Send email stating intention to be considered for Direct Admit program with resume attached to Dr. Rebecca Throneburg at [rmthroneburg@eiu.edu](mailto:rmthroneburg@eiu.edu) by Nov 1
- Schedule in-person Q&A meeting about Direct Admit with Dr. Throneburg or Dr. Anthony during an on-campus EIU visit or schedule a zoom meeting with them. Meeting can be completed any time in the fall prior to Nov 15. Contact Dr. Throneburg to schedule the meeting.
- Early Decision applicants will be notified of acceptance by Dec 15.

### ⇒ Spring Decision Application

- Apply and be accepted to EIU by Feb 1
- Send email stating intention to be considered for Direct Admit program with resume attached to Dr. Rebecca Throneburg at [rmthroneburg@eiu.edu](mailto:rmthroneburg@eiu.edu) by Feb 1
- Schedule in-person Q&A meeting about Direct Admit with Dr. Throneburg or Dr. Anthony during an on-campus EIU visit or schedule a zoom meeting with them. Meeting can be completed any time prior to Feb 21. Contact Dr. Throneburg to schedule the meeting.
- Spring applicants will be notified of acceptance by Mar 15.

### ⇒ Waitlist

- Admission is competitive. Interested students are encouraged to apply as early as possible
- A waitlist of eligible students will be formed and admission will be offered to waitlist candidates if seats in the program become available. The program also has an Early Admission process junior year and spots for traditional graduate school application.

Contact Dr. Rebecca Throneburg with questions  
([rmthroneburg@eiu.edu](mailto:rmthroneburg@eiu.edu); 217-581-2712 or 7447)



## Student Decision & Enrollment Process for Admitted Students

- Students who are offered admission to the Direct Admit program may notify the program of their acceptance of the offer any time prior to April 1. This is done by emailing Dr. Throneburg ([rmthroneburg@eiu.edu](mailto:rmthroneburg@eiu.edu)) stating that you accept admission to the Direct Admit Program. If you have not accepted by April 1st or indicated you need more time but are seriously considering EIU, your spot will be given to another eligible student after April 1. The deadline for a decision with an EIU enrollment deposit is May 1.
- If the student chooses to attend another university before April 1, please email Dr. Throneburg that you are declining the admission offer so that another student may receive the opportunity.
- When students accept admission, they can also schedule a Direct Admit advising appointment with Dr. Anthony (in person or online) ([abanthony@eiu.edu](mailto:abanthony@eiu.edu)).