

# Checklist for Graduate School

## Freshman and Sophomore Year

- Maintain a strong GPA
- Involve yourself in selected college activities
- Become a volunteer
- Increase editing skills
- Look at liberal arts and science courses as means to:
  - increase your cultural literacy
  - increase your vocabulary bank
  - improve your comprehension of linguistically complex materials
  - begin preparing for the GREs <http://www.gre.org>
- Begin major courses
- Get to know Professors
- Take ASHA non major requirements
- Join NSSHLA (Buffalo State Chapter and National)-sophomore year

## Junior Year

- Strengthen GPA
  - check college retake policy
- Take Statistics course
- Complete some observation hours
  - contact professionals, consider shadowing
- Get to know professors/supervisors/advisors
- Join NSSHLA (Buffalo State Chapter and National)
- Add to volunteer/work experiences, esp. speech-language pathology related
- Assume a leadership role (e.g. in college organizations)
- Begin to check information on graduate programs
  - <http://www.asha.org/edfind>
  - Career Services Placement Office
- Identify programs that interest you
- Consider additional courses
- Read!- Texts, professional journals and for enjoyment
- Prepare for GRE

## Checklist for Graduate School

- Review books
- Computer software
- Study groups
- Course

### Senior Year

- Visit campuses if possible
- Talk with students
- Apply for graduation from BSC
- Continue preparing for GRE
  - review books
  - computer software
  - study groups
  - course
- Decide what you want, programs that specialize/ emphasize
  - Early Intervention (0-2)
  - Augmentative
  - Multicultural/Bilingual
  - Urban Initiatives
  - Varied Hospital experience
- Urban vs. Rural
- Large university vs. small college
- Private vs. State
- Geographical area (try to be flexible)
- Begin file at college placement office
- Write for or go online for applications
- Request letters of reference with ample time and provide biographical information
- Check application dates for various graduate programs
  - Summer
  - Fall
  - Spring
- SUNY Buffalo State Graduate School <http://www.buffalostate.edu/graduateschool>
- Write letter of intent

## Checklist for Graduate School

- Rewrite and PROOF, with multiple drafts
- Get feedback
- Possible points to include:
  - Trend of GPA
  - Changes, with major change
  - Bilingual
  - Minority status
  - Work/ Volunteer experience
  - Extenuating circumstances
  - Veteran
  - Awards and achievements