



“Demonstrating advanced competency in swallowing and swallowing disorders is a step toward quality control in healthcare and school settings in this rapidly growing area of specialization.”

JoAnne Robbins, PhD. CCC-SLP, BRS-S

“Specialty recognition gives the patient the ability to identify best trained clinicians in the area, and clinicians to distinguish themselves as having special expertise.”



Jeri Logemann, PhD. CCC-SLP, BRS-S



“BRS-S certification means you cared enough to take the effort to provide your clients with the best services you can give them.”

Barbara Sonies, PhD. CCC-SLP, BRS-S

“With the BRS-S in place, I will be able to refer my patient to another speech pathologist in whom I can place my trust - someone who has specialized knowledge in dysphagia.”



Susan E. Langmore, PhD. CCC-SLP, BRS-S



“BRS-S enables consumers to identify SLPs who have demonstrated advanced clinical expertise in swallowing and swallowing disorders for clients ranging from birth to senescence.”

Maureen A. Lefton-Greif, PhD, CCC-SLP, BRS-S

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**SPECIALTY BOARD
ON SWALLOWING AND
SWALLOWING DISORDERS**

Board Recognition for Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (BRS-S)



THE SPECIALTY BOARD ON
SWALLOWING AND SWALLOWING DISORDERS
is approved by
the Council for Clinical Specialty
Recognition of the American
Speech-Language-Hearing Association



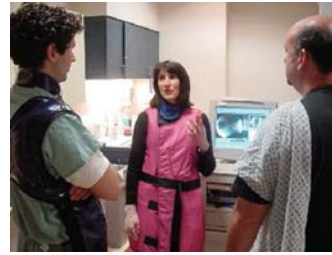
What is Specialty Recognition?

Specialty Recognition is a means by which speech-language pathologists with advanced knowledge, skills and experience beyond the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-SLP) can be recognized by consumers, colleagues, referral and payer sources and the general public. The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association initiated the Specialty Recognition Program in 1995.

What are the key components of ASHA's Specialty Recognition Program?

- Completely voluntary - the program is predicated on the expectation that the majority of ASHA members will continue to practice as generalists
- Non-exclusionary - holding specialty recognition in an area is not required in order to practice in that area.
- Member-driven - the establishment of Specialty Boards in areas of specialized clinical practice depends on the initiative of groups of ASHA members to submit petitions to ASHA's Council for Clinical Specialty Recognition (CCSR).

"This mechanism hopes to foster career direction toward advanced competency and provide structured continuing education opportunities for our ASHA members who practice in this challenging yet highly rewarding area of our field."



Bonnie Martin Harris, PhD., CCC-SLP, BRS-S

What is the goal of Specialty Recognition for Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders?

This initiative was begun in 1995 during Dr. Barbara Sonies' tenure as the first coordinator of ASHA's Special Interest Division 13: Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders. It has taken years of planning, committee work, and peer review by the leaders in the field of swallowing studies to complete a process that the board believes will be achievable by prepared clinicians and will add significant value to their career paths. The goal is not to create a higher education mechanism or another layer of bureaucracy, but rather to give speech-language pathologists the opportunity to demonstrate and publicize the achievement of advanced competency in the increasingly specialized area of swallowing and swallowing disorders.

What Skills/Experience do I need to become a Board Recognized Specialist?

- Minimum of 3 years of experience post certification (CCC-SLP)
- Minimum of 300 clock hours of evaluation and/or treatment of swallowing disorders for each of the two years prior to application
- 7.5 CEUs in post-certification dysphagia continuing education within 3 years prior to application
- Advanced clinical experience in past 2 years in one or more of the following categories:
 - Education/mentoring
 - Leadership
 - Scholarship

What is the Process for becoming a Board Recognized Specialist for Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders?

Submission of completed application (see website for application:

- www.swallowingdisorders.org)
- Board review of applications
 - Passing written examination
 - Renewal every 5 years