

What is CSDCAS?

CSDCAS is a centralized application service supported by the Council of Academic Programs In Communication Science and Disorders (CAPCSD) and Liaison. It simplifies both the application process for prospective students and the review and admissions process for programs. Programs can review and evaluate applicants online, in real-time. Programs can also effectively manage communications with applicants. CSDCAS allows for automated reports to be generated, based upon each program's and school's unique review criteria.

How does CSDCAS benefit students?

- CSDCAS streamlines the application process and reduces duplicative efforts by providing a standardized online interface that allows students to use a single application to apply to multiple programs.
- Program-specific admission requirements are tracked in one online location. Students no longer have to keep track of program-specific requirements on their own and can send in all materials electronically.
- Students receive dedicated customer service for all CSDCAS inquiries throughout the application process.
- Official transcripts are requested only once by students for programs participating in CSDCAS, saving students time and money.

How does CSDCAS benefit programs?

- Time and effort dedicated to administrative tasks (e.g., opening mail, collecting student evaluation forms, coordinating application reviews, etc.) is reduced by the single online interface offered by CSDCAS.
- Flexible and customizable analytic tools enable programs to compare data and rank applications on various self-determined criteria.
- Robust communication tools allow programs to send targeted communications to prospective applicants throughout the process.
- CSDCAS provides a user friendly and modern interface adaptable to programs' existing application review workflow.
- Faculty can review a complete student application and enter program evaluation information (e.g., ratings, comments) anywhere, anytime.
- Programs are included in a searchable CSDCAS directory so they can be considered by a broader range of applicants.

How much does it cost to participate?

Programs do not pay any fees to participate in CSDCAS. Students create an account and pay \$125 to receive one application designation and then pay \$50 for each additional application designation they choose to apply to.

How is this different from the process we have now?

Participating programs gain access to a suite of powerful analytics through CSDCAS. Reviewers and staff members are able to gain efficiencies, viewing an application once created by a prospective student. Throughout the application process, they can send emails to prospective students, invite selected applicants to interview, or send reminders to applicants who have not completed their application. Unlike traditional processes, transcripts, recommendation letters, and supplemental materials are all contained securely within the online platform. Customized settings ensure that only those individuals involved in the review process have access to the relevant information and at the appropriate phase in your workflow.

Can we keep our own review process?

Yes, the flexibility of CSDCAS allows individual programs to maintain their unique review process within the online platform. Every program can configure unique review feedback forms, email templates for outreach to applicants, permissions for users, and much more.

Is it possible for our program to accept applications outside of CSDCAS?

A department may elect to use CSDCAS for their graduate program in speech-language pathology or audiology or both. However, all applications to those programs must be submitted through CSDCAS.

Why is CAPCSD advocating for a centralized graduate study application process?

CSDCAS will span the breadth of graduation education across communication science and disorders. This permits CAPCSD and the professions to access data necessary to generate studies and analyses of the nascent disciplinary workforce and demographics of the graduate application pool. It also allows CAPCSD to capture changes in the areas of study that graduate level students pursue. In turn, these data will be useful to programs' and departments' strategic planning efforts, and benefit the discipline and professions with greater understanding of the workforce.

What programs are eligible to participate in CSDCAS?

CSDCAS is open to accredited and developing academic programs that are members of the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences & Disorders (CAPCSD).

Will I still be able to download complete applications from prospective students?

Yes. CSDCAS permits downloads of complete student applications in PDF format, which can be reviewed electronically, printed, and stored offline according to institutional data retention policies.

Does CSDCAS help staff and students with submitting recommendation letters?

CSDCAS participating departments will have the option to accept a common recommendation form for faculty to evaluate a prospective student's potential for graduate study. Students will only need to request that their evaluators complete the common recommendation form once and upload it to CSDCAS. The process is entirely online, streamlining the experience for evaluators.

How do data from CSDCAS integrate with my school's current student information system?

All ERP & SIS systems tailored for institutions of higher education have the ability to import external applicant data via one or more configurable tools native to each system. CSDCAS provides simple-to-configure exports of any subset of applicant data an ERP/SIS system needs, filtered by any criteria schools may choose to apply. These exports are available in numerous formats to simplify the import process for the school. The most common systems used by CAS schools include Banner, Datatel, PeopleSoft and Jenzabar, among others.