From January 1, 2014 through 2018, the Intercampus Program in Communicative Disorders (IPCD) at the University of Kansas has funding for student scholars pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Speech-Language Pathology (MA-SLP).

*Culturally Responsive Early Literacy Instruction (CRELI): American Indian/Alaska Native* is a 5-year personnel preparation grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education: Office of Special Education Programs. CRELI will address the personnel needs for speech-language pathologists with knowledge and experiences in early literacy instruction as well as culturally competent services for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people.

CRELI student scholars will receive a full-tuition scholarship, monthly stipend for books and supplies, and faculty and peer mentoring. CRELI student scholars will complete a curriculum that includes course instruction, clinical practicums, and a field experience that pairs scholars with an AI/AN family who has a child with a speech-language impairment.

CRELI relies on the collaboration of faculty and scholars in the IPCD at the University of Kansas and two nearby educational entities: Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Early Childhood Center, and Little Nations Academic Center at Haskell Indian Nations University. Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation is located approximately 50 miles from the University of Kansas-Lawrence campus, and the KU Lawrence campus shares the city with Haskell Indian Nations University, a 4-year university for students from federally recognized AI/AN tribes. The IPCD at The University of Kansas has a long history of personnel preparation grants, including grants supporting AI/AN scholars, and is annually ranked in the top 10 among graduate programs in speech-language pathology.

Both AI/AN and non-AI/AN scholars interested in working with AI/AN children and communities are encouraged to apply. Funding may also be available for scholars who do not have an undergraduate degree in communication sciences and disorders or its equivalent.

**KU graduate applications due: 1/15/17.**

To learn more, please contact Matthew Gillispie at wmg@ku.edu or Ann Klockau at aklockau@ku.edu.

**Funding Source:** U.S. Department of Education: Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), Early Intervention and Related Services: 84.325K
Additional Information

CRELI: AI/AN project 6 goals:
1. Recruit and retain highest quality scholars in a Master’s degree program for speech-language pathology (SLP) with a priority for AI/AN student scholars.
2. Student scholars will improve their confidence and knowledge of cultural considerations in the provision of language and literacy services.
3. Student scholars will improve their confidence and knowledge of their roles and responsibilities in early literacy intervention.
4. Student scholars will gain employment and provide SLP services to AI/AN children with language and literacy disorders.
5. Parents and educators who participate in CRELI will improve their confidence and knowledge in early literacy.
6. Preschool and early elementary school children who participate in CRELI will make significant gains in early literacy skills.

Service Obligation Requirement:
Department of Education: Office of Special Education Programs’ regulations require student scholars to enter into a service obligation agreement. Student scholars who participate in projects funded under Section 673 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are required to complete a service obligation by providing special education, related services, or early intervention services to children with disabilities. In other words, for each academic year that a CRELI student scholar receives assistance they must maintain 2 years of full-time employment, providing services to individuals eligible for IDEA services. If not, the student scholar must repay the Federal Government for the assistance they received that was not repaid through service. For more information, please go to: https://pdp.ed.gov/osep

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
How do I apply for CRELI and KU’s MA-SLP program? First, apply and get accepted to KU’s MA-SLP program. For admissions information, click the How To Apply link on the IPCD website:

If you are interested in the CRELI grant, communicate your interest on your application to the MA-SLP program (e.g., in your personal statement). After being accepted to the MA-SLP program, the IPCD will invite you to apply to CRELI.

Tell me more about the Intercampus Program in Communicative Disorders (IPCD). The IPCD provides graduate education and training in speech-language pathology and audiology. The program combines the faculty, research and clinical facilities of 2 departments: the Department of Hearing and Speech at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, KS and the Department of Speech-Language-Hearing: Sciences & Disorders at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS. The IPCD was established in 1955, and became the first accredited program by the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA). For more information on the IPCD, please visit http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/ipcd.html

Tell me more about CRELI student scholar experiences. CRELI student scholars participate in a rigorous, two-year, research-based curriculum that includes coursework, clinical practicums, and a field experience. CRELI coursework includes KU’s MA-SLP program requirements as well as 2 additional courses: Culturally Responsive Literacy Instruction and an elective from KU’s Indigenous Studies Program. Scholars complete at least 4 practicums, some of which include experiences in preschool and school-age language disorders, and reading disorders. The 2-year field experience pairs CRELI scholars with AI/AN families who have a child with speech-language impairment. This unique experiential and collaborative opportunity fosters a long-term relationship between the scholar and child, as well as the child’s family and educators. The scholar learns about the child’s culture and family dynamics, and the impact on service delivery. The 2-year field experience relies on a partnership between CRELI and 2 educational entities that serve AI/AN children.

How long is KU’s MA-SLP program? KU’s MA-SLP program is 5 semesters (4 regular semesters & 1 summer semester) or 2 years. In the rare occasion when a student scholar enters the MA-SLP program without an undergraduate degree in communication sciences and disorders or its equivalent, the scholar will participate in a 3-year program. In the 3-year program, student scholars complete one year of undergraduate coursework before transitioning into the 2-year graduate program.

What if I have a bachelor’s degree in a field that is NOT speech-language pathology or communication sciences and disorders? CRELI will support qualified students who have a degree in another discipline. Although rare, students may be accepted into KU’s MA-SLP program without a bachelor’s degree in communication sciences and disorders or its equivalent. In this situation, the length of the program is approximately 3 years. In the first year, the scholar completes coursework in the undergraduate major curriculum before transitioning into the 2-year graduate curriculum.