# Rubric for Evaluating Colorado's Specialized Service Professionals: Speech-Language Pathologists

### Definition of an Effective Speech-Language Pathologist

Effective speech-language pathologists are vital members of the education team. They are properly credentialed and demonstrate knowledge of current research on effective, specialized speech-language instruction to meet the developmental, communicative and academic needs of students. Effective speech-language pathologists strive to support growth and development in the least restrictive environment, close achievement gaps and prepare diverse student populations for postsecondary and workforce success. Effective speech-language pathologists evaluate students and design instruction that is aligned to the Colorado academic standards, advances students' concept and content knowledge and skills and help to support student growth. Speech-language pathologists have a deep understanding of the interconnectedness of the home, school and community and collaborate with all members of the educational team to establish safe, inclusive and respectful learning environments. Through reflection, advocacy and leadership, they enhance the academic achievement, communicative and social development of their students.

Basic	ogists demonstrate master Partially Proficient	Proficient (Meets State Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary
<b>ELEMENT A:</b> Speech-language pathologists demonstrate knowledge of current developmental science, the ways in which learning takes place and the appropriate levels of intellectual, social and emotional development of their students.				
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:	and THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:	and THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:	and STUDENTS:  ☐ Engage with materials and	and STUDENTS:  Can answer questions at their
Has knowledge of developmental science as it relates to speech and language pathology.	<ul> <li>□ Provides instruction that is developmentally appropriate for students.</li> <li>□ Builds on the interrelatedness of students' intellectual, social and emotional development.</li> </ul>	□ Applies knowledge of current developmental research to adapt lessons that address student needs. □ Collaborates with colleagues with experience in developmental research to improve the quality of lessons.	resources appropriate for their personal approach to learning and their ability level.	ability level regarding ways to adapt lessons to make them more engaging, challenging and relevant.

QUALITY STANDARD Speech-language patholo		ry of and expertise in the d	lomain for which they are	responsible.		
Basic	Partially Proficient	Proficient (Meets State Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary		
	<b>ELEMENT B:</b> Speech-language pathologists demonstrate knowledge of effective services and/or specially designed instruction that reduce barriers to and support learning in literacy, math and other content areas.					
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Has knowledge of services that reduce barriers to learning	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Teaches students how to apply literacy skills in all content areas.  Focuses lessons on strengthening the students' oral expression and listening to support academic content areas.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Provides specially designed instruction that enhances information literacy and students' connections to learning, using real-world experiences.  Uses instructional strategies that require students to apply and transfer knowledge across content areas.	STUDENTS:  □ Apply literacy skills across academic content areas to new/unfamiliar material.	and STUDENTS: □ Exceed expectations for their ability level in speaking, listening, reading and writing.		
and/or specially designed		ate evidence-based practi	ces and research findings	into their services		
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Uses instructional materials that are accurate and appropriate for the lesson being taught.	and THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Studies emerging research to expand personal knowledge of evidence based practices.	and THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Engages students in a variety of explanations and multiple representations of concepts and ideas.  Uses a variety of evidence-based inquiry methods to explore new ideas and theories.	and STUDENTS:  Use a variety of evidence-based inquiry tools and strategies to learn content and understand central concepts relative to their ability levels.	and STUDENTS:  Apply newly learned content skills to novel situations.  Discuss intellectually challenging ideas and content relative to their ability levels.		

QUALITY STANDARD I
Speech-language pathologists demonstrate mastery of and expertise in the domain for which they are responsible.

Basic	Partially Proficient	Proficient (Meets State Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary
<b>ELEMENT D:</b> Speech-lange community influences on		nstrate knowledge of the	interconnectedness of hon	ne, school and
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Understands the interconnectedness of home, school and community influences on student achievement.	and THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Establishes an environment and uses instructional strategies that recognize the influence of family and community on learning.	and THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Provides instruction that bridges students' classroom, home and community experiences.	and STUDENTS:  Make connections between non-school and school experiences and the current lesson.	and STUDENTS:  Use home and community experiences to enhance their learning.
<b>ELEMENT E:</b> Speech-language pathologists demonstrate knowledge of and expertise in their professions.				
THE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Is knowledgeable about the principles and intervention for communication disorders.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Exemplifies the profession's role and responsibilities regarding students with disabilities.  Collaborates with other professionals on reducing the impact of communication disorders on student progress towards academic standards.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Provides school staff members with information about how to apply current research findings in speech/language development.	STUDENTS:  Participate willingly in the school speech - language pathologist's services.	STUDENTS:  ☐ Achieve individual goals by actively engaging in services and instruction provided by the speechlanguage pathologist.
Evaluator Comments: Please indicate the elemen not for the standard as a w		_	<b>Person Being Evaluated:</b> e the element for which the co s a whole):	omment applies if not for

QUALITY STANDARD II
Speech-language pathologists support and/or establish safe, inclusive and respectful learning environments for a diverse population of students.

Basic	Partially Proficient	Proficient (Meets State Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary
	nguage pathologists foster onship with caring adults		ng environments in which	each student has a
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Establishes a nurturing and caring relationship with students.	and THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Creates a learning environment that is conducive for all students to learn.	and THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Reinforces a learning environment that features mutual respect and positive relationships between and among students.	and STUDENTS:  Respect other students and the school speech-language pathologist.	and STUDENTS:  Actively and respectfully engage in activities with each other and school staff members.
<b>ELEMENT B:</b> Speech-lar communities.	nguage pathologists demo	nstrate respect for diversi	ty within the home, school	l and local and global
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Creates a learning environment in which diversity is respected.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Uses instructional approaches and materials that reflect students' backgrounds.  Is sensitive to diverse family structures.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Establishes instructional strategies that respect differences in students' backgrounds.	and STUDENTS: ☐ Respect the backgrounds of fellow students.	and STUDENTS: ☐ Actively listen to a variety of perspectives.
<b>ELEMENT C:</b> School spe strengths and needs.	ech-language pathologists	engage students as uniqu	e individuals with diverse	backgrounds, interests,
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Understands the importance of recognizing students' unique strengths, needs and interests.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Encourages students to share their interests.  Challenges each student to expand and enhance their learning.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Ensures that all students participate with a high level of frequency.  Asks students appropriately challenging questions that draw upon their individual strengths.	and  STUDENTS:  □ Actively participate in learning activities.	and  STUDENTS:  □ Appreciate fellow students' unique contributions to classroom learning.

QUALITY STANDARD II Speech-language patholo population of students.	ogists support and/or esta			espectful learning environ	ments for a diverse
Basic	Partially Proficient		oficient ate Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary
	nguage pathologists engag lents, families and other si				on and work
	and	and	Y	and	and
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Establishes a learning environment that is inviting to families and significant adults.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Maintains appropriate and respectful relationships with students, their families and/or significant adults.  Uses a variety of methods to initiate communication with families and significant adults.	famili signif help s educa  Share from signif with c who p	<b>GE</b>	STUDENTS:  Freely and openly communicate at their ability level with each other, the school speechlanguage pathologist and other significant adults.	STUDENTS, FAMILIES and SIGNIFICANT ADULTS:  Discuss student needs with the school speech- language pathologist and seek assistance to find resources and services to support student needs.
	ech-language pathologists ble student behavior, effic				
7 1	and	and	11	and	and
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Provides rules to guide student behavior in the learning environment.  Maintains a safe and orderly environment.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Holds students accountable for adherence to school and/or class rules.  Puts procedures in place to enable students to abide by school and class rules.	enviro maxir appro behav enhan	OGE OGIST: Orts a learning Onment that mizes priate iors and ces ctional time.	STUDENTS:  Stay on task during instructional time with the school speech-language pathologist.	STUDENTS:  Model appropriate student behaviors within the learning environment.
Evaluator Comments: Please indicate the eleme not for the standard as a	nt for which the comment o whole.	applies if	-	<b>Person Being Evaluated:</b> If the element for which the contains a whole):	comment applies if not for

## QUALITY STANDARD III

Speech-language pathologists plan, deliver and/or monitor services and/or specially designed instruction and/or create environments that facilitate learning for their students.

Proficient **Partially Proficient** Accomplished Exemplary Basic (Meets State Standard) **ELEMENT A:** Speech-language pathologists provide services and/or specially designed instruction aligned with state and federal laws, regulations and procedures, academic standards, their districts' organized plans of instruction and the individual needs of their students. ... and ... and ... and ...and THE SPEECH-STUDENTS AND/OR THE SPEECH-THE SPEECH-STUDENTS AND/OR LANGUAGE **LANGUAGE** LANGUAGE **FAMILIES: FAMILIES: PATHOLOGIST: PATHOLOGIST: PATHOLOGIST:** □ Understand that ☐ Participate in ☐ Is knowledgeable ☐ Collaborates with ☐ Aligns specialized their educational developing and about federal and instruction with addressing teachers and other services and state laws and local school staff student learning instruction are individual goals to policies and/or objectives, district guided by federal meet their needs members to procedures. support adherence plan for instruction laws, state aligned with extant to federal and state and Colorado standards and local federal laws, state laws and local Academic standards and local policies. policies. Standards. policies. Communicates Ensures that recommendations federal, state and and actions support district policies and federal and state regulations for laws and district colleagues and policies and assists in ensuring regulations. practice is compliant. **ELEMENT B**: Speech-language pathologists utilize multiple sources of data, which include valid informal and/or formal assessments, to inform services and/or specially designed instruction. ... and ...and ... and . . . and THE SPEECH-THE SPEECH-STUDENTS: THE SPEECH-**STUDENTS:** LANGUAGE LANGUAGE LANGUAGE □ Participate ☐ Confer with the **PATHOLOGIST: PATHOLOGIST: PATHOLOGIST:** willingly in formal speech language and informal pathologist to □ Uses assessment Aligns specially ☐ Analyzes student data and informal designed data and interprets assessment to review progress feedback to guide instruction with results in inform their toward the learning instruction. individualized developing IEPs. targets. instruction. education program (IEP) goals, ☐ Assists colleagues academic standards in reviewing data from multiple and student sources and assessment results. making Monitors adjustments to instruction against instruction based student on data. performance and makes real-time adjustments. **QUALITY STANDARD III** Speech-language pathologists plan, deliver and/or monitor services and/or specially designed instruction and/or create environments that facilitate learning for their students. **Proficient** Partially Proficient Accomplished Exemplary (Meets State Standard)

**ELEMENT C:** Speech-language pathologists plan and consistently deliver services and/or specially designed instruction that integrate multiple sources of data to inform practices related to student needs, learning and progress toward achieving academic standards and individualized student goals.

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	and	and	and	and
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Uses multiple sources of data to plan lessons.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Makes connections between student data and research-based practices.  Individualizes instructional approaches based on multiple data sources to meet the unique needs of	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Monitors student progress toward achieving academic standards and uses data to focus student's learning experiences.	STUDENTS:  Monitor their level of engagement and progress toward achieving goals.	STUDENTS:  Initiate activities to address their learning strengths and next steps.
	each student.			
FLEMENT D: Speech-la		ort and integrate annrons	riate available technology	in their services and for
	action to maximize studer		late available technology	in their services and or
	and	and	and	and
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
THE SPEECH-	THE SPEECH-	THE SPEECH-	STUDENTS:	STUDENTS:
LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  ☐ Uses available technology or assistive technology to facilitate specially designed instruction.	LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  ☐ Monitors and evaluates the use of technology or assistive technology in the learning environment.	LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  □ Teaches strategies and procedures to ensure that students have access to appropriate available technology, including assistive technology.	Engage in virtual or face-to-face learning activities enhanced by appropriate use of available technology or assistive technology.	Use available technology or assistive technology to accelerate their learning.

QUALITY STANDARD III
Speech-language pathologists plan, deliver and/or monitor services and/or specially designed instruction and/or create environments that facilitate learning for their students.

Basic	Partially Proficient	Proficient (Meets State Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary		
	<b>ELEMENT E:</b> Speech-language pathologists establish and communicate high expectations for their students that support the development of critical-thinking, self-advocacy, leadership and problem solving skills.					
	and	and	and	and		
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Holds high expectations for all students.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Communicates high expectations to students and challenges them to learn to their greatest ability.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Systematically and explicitly teaches higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills.  Provides encouragement for students to advocate for themselves.	STUDENTS:  Participate in setting learning objectives and monitor their progress toward achieving them.	STUDENTS:  Apply higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills at their ability level to address challenging issues.		
	and	and	and	and		
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Understands the importance of communicating effectively with students.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Models effective communication skills.  Encourages students to communicate effectively.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Teaches effective skills in listening, presenting ideas and leading discussions.  Provides opportunities for students to practice communication skills.	STUDENTS:  Apply effective communication skills in their work.	STUDENTS:  Use appropriate communication in a variety of situations or environments.		

QUALITY STANDARD III
Speech-language pathologists plan, deliver and/or monitor services and/or specially designed instruction and/or create environments that facilitate learning for their students.

Basic	Partially Proficient	(Meets Stat	icient e Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary
•	inguage pathologists deve	lop and/or ir	nplement ser	vices and/or specially de	signed instruction
unique to their professi	1	T			
	and	and		and	and
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THE SPEECH-	THE SPEECH-	THE SPEE		STUDENTS:	STUDENTS:
LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:	LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:	LANGUA( PATHOLO		☐ Participate	☐ Understand and
☐ Understands the			s a variety	willingly in instruction at their	mediate the impact of their disability
principles and	Determines the presence of speech		ence-based	ability level.	on their education
methods of	or language	tools in		ability icvei.	at their ability
evaluation of	impairments		ntion and		level.
communication	through the use of	remedia			10 (01.
disorders.	a body of evidence,		nication		
	including both	disorde			
	formal and		ng AAC and		
	informal methods	AT.			
	of assessments.				
			assistance to		
		colleag			
		address			
		linguist			
		metalin foundat			
		learning			
<b>Evaluator Comments:</b>		learning		Person Being Evaluated:	
	ent for which the comment	annlies if	_		comment applies if not for
not for the standard as a		applies ij	the standard		comment applies if not joi
noi joi inc sianaara as a	whole.		the standard t	is a whole).	

QUALITY STANDARD IV				
	ogists reflect on their prac			
Basic	Partially Proficient	Proficient (Meets State Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary
<b>ELEMENT A:</b> Speech-lar apply what they learn to	nguage pathologists demoi improve their practice.	nstrate that they analyze s	student learning, developn	nent and growth and
	and	and	and	and
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Collects and analyzes student data to inform instruction.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Collects multiple examples of student work to determine student progress over time and make adjustments to instruction.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Applies knowledge of student learning, development and growth to the development of lesson plans and specially designed instructional strategies.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Develops IEPs and lesson plans based on a body of evidence such as information gathered from students, families, or significant adults or colleagues.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Offers assistance to colleagues in analyzing student behavioral changes and determining best practice for individual students.
<b>ELEMENT B</b> : Speech-lar	nguage pathologists link p			
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Uses performance feedback from supervisor and/or colleagues to improve practice.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Applies knowledge and skills learned through professional development to instructional decisions.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Selects professional development activities based on professional goals related to a positive impact on student learning.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Regularly tries new and different ways of teaching new skills.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Develops and follows a long-term professional growth plan.
<b>ELEMENT C</b> : Speech-lan	nguage pathologists respo			T ,
THE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Understands the complexity and dynamic nature of the learning environment.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Maintains a positive, productive and respectful relationship with colleagues.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST initiates and leads collaborative activities with colleagues to:  Analyze student data and interpret results.  Apply findings to improve teaching practice.  Support struggling and/or advanced/above grade level students.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Serves a critical role for colleagues, in staying attentive to new ideas and practices and analyzing their application to the current learning environment.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Strengthens the response to environmental challenges by adapting practices collaboratively with colleagues.
	ogists reflect on their prac	tice. Proficient		
Basic	Partially Proficient	(Meets State Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary

Evaluator Comments:  Please indicate the element for which the comment applies if not for the standard as a whole.		applies if (Please indic	of Person Being Evaluated: ate the element for which the of as a whole):	comment applies if not for
QUALITY STANDARI	<b>) V</b> ogists demonstrate collabo	oration advocacy and le	adarshin	
Basic	Partially Proficient	Proficient (Meets State Standard	Aggampliched	Exemplary
ELEMENT A: Speech-la	ı nguage pathologists collab		external stakeholders to me	eet the needs of students.
	and	and	and	and
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Shares information about speech language practices with other school personnel.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Communicates with school and/or non- school service providers regarding students' educational services.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Works collaboratively wit internal and/or external stakeholders to enhance student outcomes.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Proactively identifies student needs and engages others in responding to them.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Provides in-services or trainings with and /or for internal or external stakeholders about speech or language impairments.
<b>ELEMENT B:</b> Speech-la	nguage pathologists advoc			
THE SPEECH-	and THE SPEECH-	and THE SPEECH-	and THE SPEECH-	and STUDENTS:
LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Understands the need to advocate for students.	LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Contributes to school, district and/or administrative unit task forces and committees to advocate for students	LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  □ Proposes potential revisions to policie and/or procedures to administrators in order to better address student and family needs.	LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Partners with hard- to-reach parents to advocate for their students.	☐ Know they have an advocate in the speech-language pathologist.

QUALITY STANDARD V Speech-language pathologists demonstrate collaboration, advocacy and leadership.				
Basic	Partially Proficient	Proficient (Meets State Standard)	Accomplished	Exemplary
<b>ELEMENT C:</b> School spe	ech-language pathologists	,	in their educational setting	g(s).
	and	and	and	and
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Participates in school activities beyond those expected.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Contributes to school/district committees and teams and accepts assignments to support them.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Provides leadership to team members in order to enhance the skills and knowledge of colleagues.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Confers with administrators to improve the school speech-language pathologist's work and student learning conditions.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Initiates and leads collaborative activities with colleagues to contribute to school, district goals and support students with disabilities.
<b>ELEMENT D:</b> Speech-lan			to educational practices a	
THE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Supports the work of colleagues by providing expertise relevant to their needs.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Contributes knowledge and skills to support student growth and development and contribute to school and/or district goals.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Provides input to administrators in school and/or district decision-making processes to improve policies and/or procedures that affect school climate and student learning.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Provides professional growth and development activities based on their expertise.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Provides district, regional, state and or national level leadership that enhances skills and knowledge of colleagues.
ELEMENT E: Speech-lan	nguage pathologists demon	nstrate high ethical standa	and	and
THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Maintains confidentiality of student and professional interactions as well as student and	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Demonstrates ethical behavior, including honesty, integrity, fair treatment and respect for others.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Adheres to highest standards of ethical professional practice.	THE SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:  Requires ethical behavior on the part of students.  Encourages colleagues to	STUDENTS:  Demonstrate knowledge of ethical behavior.
personal data as required by law.			demonstrate ethical behavior.	

QUALITY STANDARD V	
Speech-language pathologists demonstrate collaboration, adv	vocacy and leadership.
<b>Evaluator Comments:</b>	Comments of Person Being Evaluated:
Please indicate the element for which the comment applies if	(Please indicate the element for which the comment applies if not for
not for the standard as a whole.	the standard as a whole):

