



## Pearson OBL Speech Services

### LiveSpeech Program Overview

**Mission:** The mission of Pearson Online and Blended Learning (POBL) LiveSpeech program is to empower students through dynamic online speech services equipping each student with social, communication and language skills that they need to achieve their personal and educational goals.

The LiveSpeech program offers speech language services to Connections Academy students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) who need services for articulation, voice, fluency, receptive and expressive language, and/or pragmatics.

### Our Impact

Speech and language disorders can have a negative impact on a child's ability to communicate with families and peers, as well as make progress academically. The research on online speech therapy and other growing forms of telepractice is promising. Studies show general effectiveness in use of telepractice to treat articulation, fluency, and language in school-based children, and more research is underway. Our annual special education team and parent surveys that students make the same or better progress in teletherapy as when they received previous in-person services. Families consistently indicate that they love the convenience and personalization of the individual online speech therapy approach and their students experience concrete results from the pragmatic groups addressing communication-based social skills

Students work with our fully licensed, state-certified speech-language pathologists to work towards improving their communication. Our therapists interact and communicate with their students and families through LiveLesson rooms, WebMail and phone conversations.

#### **Areas We Address:**

- Articulation/Speech Sound Production
- Fluency
- Language (Comprehension and Expression)
- Cognition
- Written Language
- Pragmatics (Social Skills)
- Records reviews
- Consult services
- Year-round services, extended school year (ESY), and compensatory minutes over the summer

## Speech-Language Pathologist Credentials

Speech-language pathologists, as defined by ASHA, hold the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech- Language Pathology (CCC-SLP), which requires a master's, doctoral, or other recognized post baccalaureate degree. Demonstration of continued professional development is mandated for the maintenance of the CCC-SLP. In addition Pearson OBL requires all SLPs to obtain a state SLP license.

LiveSpeech follows ASHA (American Speech Language Hearing Association) guidelines in all aspects of our practice, including preferred practice patterns for providing speech therapy services, the ASHA Code of Ethics and Scope of Practice, and guidelines for providing services in an online setting.

## Benefits of Online Speech Therapy

### **The benefits of online speech therapy for students and families:**

- Convenience of participating in services in their own home, allows students to feel comfortable and offers improved opportunities for maintaining new skills due to involvement of care takers
- Flexible scheduling
- Use of fun and engaging technology and software programs
- Access to top quality SLPs-- especially in rural areas or areas with clinical resource shortages
- All documentation kept in one secure online location accessible to parents and approved school personnel at any time
- Financial benefit of free services through school rather than using an SLP in private practice

### **The benefits of online speech therapy for schools:**

- Access to highly qualified, state-certified clinicians who are trained to use Connexus and the secondary IEP system, trained to implement your school's specific special education protocols, and ready to engage with families on day one.
- Utilizing OBL SLPs for case management for students with speech as the primary disability allows schools to reduce the FTE used by their special ed teachers and reallocate students across the SPED team.
- SLPs provide individual and group therapy as well as consult services as required.
- SLP conduct thorough evaluations (both initial and re-evaluations) and provide a detailed, written report and attend the IEP meeting to review the results, revise any goals, and consult with the team.
- The LiveSpeech team collaborates weekly with the Special Education Manager to monitor compliance data using Power BI and ensure FAPE is met.
- Flexible scheduling for students.
- Access to top quality SLPs-- especially in rural areas with clinical resource shortages or few face to face options.
- All documentation kept in one secure online location accessible to parents and approved school personnel at any time.
- Each school is assigned an OBL Manager of Speech Services, who directly supervises the SLPs and acts as your single point of contact for any questions related to compliance data, progress reports, or other caseload questions. Managers:
  - Conduct monthly accountability audits on all SLP data
  - Conduct one LiveLesson observation per semester
  - Review all speech referrals and ensure documentation is complete
  - Provide support for have accurate data entered into school secondary IEP systems

## Speech Pathologist/Case Manager Role in the IEP Process

OBL LiveSpeech SLPs who are designated Case Managers will provide case management services to special education students on their caseload with **speech only IEPs**.

Speech Only IEP Defined As:	IEPs that are <b>not Speech Only Defined As:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IEP has Speech, Language, or Communication Impairment as the only and primary eligibility.</li> <li>• All goals and services are supported by a speech only eligibility.</li> <li>• Accommodations are supported by communication eligibility only.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IEP has related services such as O.T. or P.T.</li> <li>• IEP has accommodations and/or modifications that are unrelated to a speech/language eligibility.</li> <li>• IEP has accommodations that are related to a medical diagnosis such as autism.</li> </ul>

Roles and Responsibilities	Speech Language Pathologist serving as Case Manager
Parent Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Initial contact with parents to review IEP</li> <li>❖ Provide Procedural Safeguards</li> <li>❖ Discuss important dates (30 day move in, annual, re-evaluation)</li> <li>❖ Provide progress report</li> <li>❖ Student progress communication</li> <li>❖ Schedule meetings</li> <li>❖ Send meeting notice via webmail</li> <li>❖ Log all communication attempts</li> <li>❖ All IEP documents sent to parent via webmail</li> </ul>
Assessments: Screenings, Initials, and Reevaluations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Completion of screening - per school referral</li> <li>❖ Communication of screening results to School Director</li> <li>❖ Completion of evaluation consent if indicated.</li> <li>❖ Request evaluation referral from school director.</li> <li>❖ Conduct assessment</li> <li>❖ Input assessment result into school's secondary system</li> <li>❖ Draft eligibility document</li> </ul>
IEP Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Schedule all IEP/evaluation meetings</li> <li>❖ Obtain teacher input</li> <li>❖ Obtain parent input</li> <li>❖ Prepare draft IEP</li> <li>❖ Prepare all documents for IEP meeting</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Enter all data into the school's secondary system.</li> <li>❖ Finalize the IEP</li> </ul>
IEP Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Provide Services per IEP</li> <li>❖ Accommodations and modifications section is completed in student's special education data view</li> <li>❖ Dates are updated in a student's special education data view.</li> <li>❖ IEP documents uploaded to the student's special education data view</li> <li>❖ Monitor IEP timelines</li> </ul>

Speech Services	Product/Service Descriptions	Pricing
Initial Set-up Fee	(includes webcam and shipment)	\$60 Per Student, Per Year
LiveSpeech – Assessment (initial evaluation and re-evaluation)	Assessment services include evaluation, written report, suggested IEP goals and attendance at IEP meetings. Assessments are conducted in Adobe Connect using a webcam and headset. Speech language pathologist (SLP) evaluates or re-evaluates a student for speech/language concerns.	\$350 Per Student, Per Assessment
LiveSpeech – Case Management	Monthly supervision of paperwork and meetings for students who have speech/language as their primary disability.	\$80 Per Month, Per Student
LiveSpeech – Consulting Services	Consults may involve a records review, attending IEP meetings and/or providing tips for working with a student to teachers and/or caretakers. These are generally done in quarter to half hour increments.	\$95 Per Hour, Per Student

LiveSpeech –Group Speech Therapy	Speech therapy provided by an ASHA-certified, state-licensed SLP. Sessions generally are 15 minutes to an hour conducted via Adobe Connect using a webcam and a headset with microphone. Groups consist of no more than 3 students.	\$240 Per Month, Per Student
LiveSpeech – Individual Speech Therapy Only	Speech therapy provided by an ASHA-certified, state-licensed SLP. Sessions generally are 15 minutes to an hour conducted via Adobe Connect using a webcam and a headset with microphone.	\$290 Per Month, Per Student
LiveSpeech - Other services as needed	May include SLP’s time for a variety of possible services, including records review, participation in IEP meetings, working with advocates/attorneys, etc.	\$95 Per hour, Per Student
LiveSpeech – Progress Notes	Detailed documentation of students’ progress toward achieving their speech goals. Progress notes are specific to each school and/or state requirements for writing and delivering progress notes. Often involves using a school/state special education reporting program or a specific format for the progress notes themselves. Services generally occur 2 – 4 times per year, per student, based on state requirements.	\$24 Per occurrence

LiveSpeech – Screenings	A short phone conference between students and SLP. SLP determines if a student exhibits a speech/language issue that merits a complete evaluation. A brief written report is provided detailing the screening outcome and sent to the customer.	\$95 Per Screening, Per Student
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Extended School Year (ESY)	In some cases, the IEP team may decide that a student needs therapy services over the summer. Speech therapy provided by an ASHA-certified, state-licensed SLP. Sessions generally are in 30-minute increments conducted via Adobe Connect using a webcam and a headset with microphone. Groups consist of no more than 3 students.	\$95 Per Student, Per Hour
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