

Preparation of SLPAs **Building an On-line Certification**

Susan M. Moore J.D. M.A. CCC-SLP and Lynea Pearson, M.A. CCC-SLP
University of Colorado, Boulder
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Abstract

This presentation traces the five-year genesis of an on-line certification program for SLPAs. The on-line professional certification program (BA+) at the University of Colorado, Boulder Department of Speech Language and hearing Sciences developed as a direct result of four-year Department of Education grant awarded to the Colorado Consortia for SLPA Personnel Preparation in conjunction with the Colorado Department of Education and local school districts. The on-line model provides access to urban and rural area of Colorado to alleviate personnel shortages.

Presentation Outline

Introduction

- ❖ Acknowledgements – Colorado SLPA Consortia
- ❖ Effective extension of services through SLPAs is a current controversy in the field

Rationale for the SLPA Online Program

- ❖ Career Ladder
- ❖ SLP Shortages
- ❖ Preparing rural candidates
- ❖ “Home grown” SLPAs

Description of Program (including video)

- ❖ The online program is made up of three courses that include nine modules, observations, internship with an SLP mentor and web discussion groups.

Outcomes

- ❖ Key stakeholder participation and collaboration as one potential solution to address shortages
- ❖ Increase in services to students in public schools
- ❖ Federal Grant (2002-2006) prepared over 100 SLPAs
- ❖ First on-line program 13 were awarded certificates and eligible for statewide authorization
- ❖ Over 50% are continuing on to complete graduate MA level programs

Future Plans