

GWAEA SLP Internships



GRANT WOOD
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY



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HELLO!

My name is *Vicki Girard* and I am a SLP and SLP Development Coach for GWAEA.

We'd love to share some basic information about GWAEA and SLP Internships here.

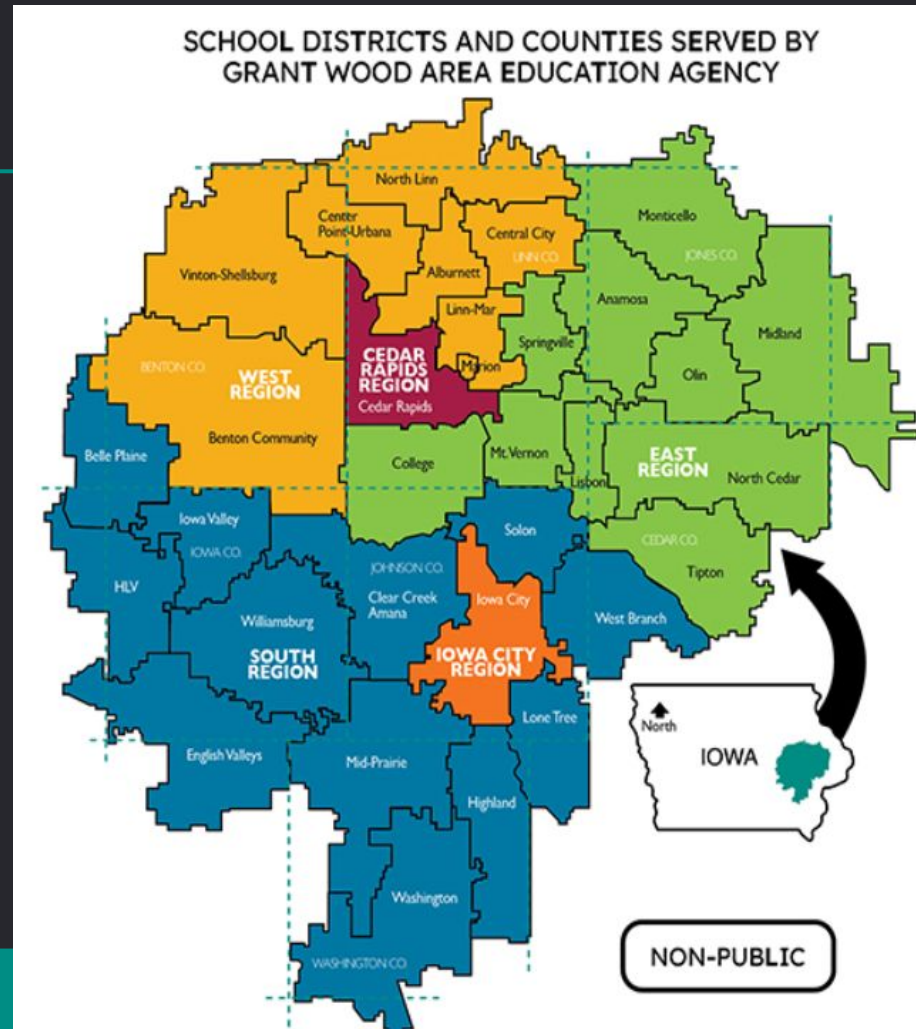


1. AREA



AREA

GWAEA covers 32 Districts and all Iowa Accredited Non-Public Schools across seven counties in Eastern Iowa.



AREA

GWAEA is part of the larger Iowa AEA system of nine agencies.



Area

Internships occur with SLPs assigned in both urban and rural areas.

We feel this provides a comprehensive view of our work.



Area

Internship assignments are made while keeping intern drive time in mind, but some interns may have a drive up to 45 mins away from their home.



Area

While a longer drive may not feel ideal, we believe the rich internship opportunities will make up for this and provide interns with a wider range of experience.



2. GWAEA SLP Group



GWAEA SLPs

As of October, 2025, GWAEA employs 101 SLPs and 6 SLP paras/assistants.

Most SLPs work full time on a 190 day contract. This contract is generally fulfilled from August to June, a typical school year calendar.

GWAEA SLPs as Intern Supervisors

SLP Intern Supervisors are volunteers who have a passion for supporting upcoming professionals take their classroom learning and apply it to educational speech-language services.

SLP Intern Supervisors meet ASHA criteria for supervision including maintenance of their Certification of Clinical Competence and professional learning in graduate student supervision.

3. Internship Types



We accept the following internships:

Part Time:

Days or Hours per week

Full Time:

Five days per week

8-12 Weeks (or as arranged)



4. Caseloads



Caseloads

Iowa Code does not establish a “Caseload Cap” in schools.

Caseloads vary across SLPs, but tend to fall into an average range of 50-60 students.

Caseloads

SLPs provide direct and indirect services to students who are found eligible for Special Education services in the state of Iowa.

The following services are highest on the caseloads - sound production, language, complex learners/AAC, and stuttering.

5. Timelines



Timelines

Internships should be requested early, as we are only able to support a certain number of interns per semester.

Paperwork must be submitted (see [Internships](#) on the GWAEA website) in order to be considered, accepted, and placed with a supervisor.

Timelines

Fall Semester

- Requests accepted approximately 1 year up to 4 months in advance.
- Acceptance and assignments are shared in April, the spring prior to the placement.

Timelines

Spring Semester

- Requests accepted approximately 1 year up to 3 months in advance.
- Acceptance and assignments are shared in October, the fall prior to the placement.

Timelines

We will implement a waitlist for internships, per our internal criteria. Waitlisted requests should still complete all paperwork to be considered.

Late requests can be made, but may not be accepted if an internship supervisor cannot be confirmed.

6. Receiving an Assignment



Next Steps



Next Steps

After receiving an internship assignment email, the SLP intern should reach out to their assigned internship supervisor within a reasonable amount of time.



Gather Information

Your assigned SLP supervisor will want to know:

- The dates of your internship.

- What clinical experiences you have already had.

- A little about you.

Gather Information

You will want to know:

The district and buildings you will be working in.

Hours you are expected to be at the internship.

Dress code and security needs.

What you should bring with you on your first day.

Our advice...

Be prepared to actively observe, participate, and ask questions.

Feel free to give your ideas and run student sessions that fits you best.

Diligently and consistently self reflect on your learning.

“



"Your career is a journey, not a destination. Enjoy every step along the way".

**We are excited for
you to join us at
GWAEA!**

ANY QUESTIONS?

Contact Francine Jackson at fjackson@gwaea.org

CREDITS

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- Presentation modified from template by SlidesCarnival
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