ASHA Vision
Making effective communication, a human right, accessible and achievable for all.

ASHA Mission
Empowering and supporting speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists by:
- Advocating on behalf of persons with communication and related disorders
- Advancing communication science
- Promoting effective communication

What is a speech-language pathologist?

Working with the full range of human communication and its disorders, speech-language pathologists are professionals who:
- Treat speech, language, and swallowing disorders in individuals of all ages, from infants to the elderly.
- Evaluate and diagnose speech, language, and swallowing disorders.

In addition, speech-language pathologists may:
- Train future professionals in colleges and universities.
- Manage agencies, clinics, or private practices.
- Engage in research to enhance knowledge about human communication processes.
- Develop new methods and equipment to evaluate problems.
- Establish more effective treatments.
- Investigate behavioral patterns associated with communication disorders.

For more information or to find a speech-language pathologist who can make a difference in your life, contact:

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
2200 Research Boulevard • Rockville, MD 20850-3289
800-638-8255 • www.asha.org/proserv/ • actioncenter@asha.org
Professional Credibility

ASHA certification verifies that the speech-language pathologist with a CCC-SLP has met rigorous standards:

- A master’s or doctoral degree from an accredited academic program
- A clinical experience supervised by an ASHA-certified professional
- A passing score on the national examination.
- ASHA certification is voluntary. Employers, regulatory bodies, third-party payers, clients, and peers know that the professional has gone beyond the minimum requirement of state licensure.