

# Payment Reductions Jeopardize Access to Care for Patients

An Audiologist's and SLP's ability to provide consistent access to care for their patients and maintain their business is threatened by payment reductions from all payer sources (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, Private Payers).



## ACTION NEEDED

Payment cuts are imposed across payers and take a variety of forms.

- 34%** experienced Medicare Reductions
- 34%** experienced Medicaid Reductions
- 37%** experienced Private Insurer Reductions
- 41%** experienced Prior Authorization Denial
- 26%** experienced Post-Payment Review Denial

Survey respondents shared that they **increased their fee schedule rates** to maintain viability, which has an increased **detrimental impact on uninsured patients** or those paying out of pocket.

**Resource:** American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (April 2025). ASHA Member Survey, *Insurance Reimbursement Reductions*.

**AUDIOLOGISTS** specialize in preventing and assessing hearing and balance disorders as well as providing audiology treatment, including hearing aids.

**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS (SLPs)** identify, assess, and treat speech, language, cognitive-communication, and swallowing disorders.

## The Impact on Audiologists and SLPs is Significant



26% reduced clinical staff



23% reduced clinical staff hours



28% took on additional employment

## About Us

**American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)** is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 241,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students.

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