STATE ISSUE BRIEF

SALARY SUPPLEMENTS IN THE STATES





ACTION REQUESTED

Support salary supplements, which can assist in addressing areas experiencing shortages of qualified audiologists and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) by helping to recruit and retain these professionals whose services may bring significant Medicaid funding into the school district.



Help pass legislation to allow ASHA certified audiologists and SLPs to receive salary supplements.





ISSUE:

ASHA certified audiologists and SLPs should receive salary supplements

- ASHA certified audiologists and SLPs are highly skilled professionals who, at minimum, hold a master's degree in communication disorders from an accredited program recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. They complete a challenging education and training program, a supervised clinical fellowship or a final year externship, and must pass a nationally standardized examination.
- The CCC-A and the CCC-SLP are among the most widely recognized symbols of competency for the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. To maintain their CCCs, practitioners must accumulate 30 professional development hours every three years. Individuals holding the CCC are also expected to abide by ASHA's Code of Ethics.
- Audiologists specialize in preventing and assessing hearing and balance disorders as well as providing audiologic treatment, including hearing aids.
- SLPs identify, assess, and treat speech, language, swallowing, and cognitive-communication.