Want to give back to your community? Want a great career?

Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) is about working with people to improve their speech, language, hearing, and other communication abilities. CSD professionals help people communicate effectively. There are two professions in the discipline.

- **Audiology**
  Help people who have hearing and balance disorders.

- **Speech-Language Pathology**
  Help people who have speech and language communication problems.
Everything You Need to Build a Career You’ll Love.

As an audiologist or speech-language pathologist, you can:

Help people of all ages to overcome various communication disorders, such as hearing and speech-related problems like balance, tinnitus, stuttering, speaking difficulties, or having trouble swallowing.

Have great flexibility and many choices. You can work in all kinds of settings such as hospitals, schools, universities, private practice, and research labs; and focus on different skills, disorders, technologies, and goals. Domestic and global opportunities are available.

Have a stable job with great pay. Employment prospects are strong and growing for CSD professionals — with excellent salaries and benefits to match.

How do I know if a CSD career is a good fit for me?

☐ I have a mix of talents. I like science, and I really like interacting with and helping people too.

☐ I’m a great communicator.

☐ I’m a problem solver.

☐ Working with cutting-edge technology excites me.

☐ I want to give back to my community.

If you check most of the boxes above, talk to your counselor about schools that offer communication sciences programs or visit on.asha.org/CSDprofession to learn more.

“I love how audiologists utilize technology to help patients and their families. To be an audiologist, you have to be a lifelong learner to keep up with all of the advances in technology. You have to be flexible and think on your feet. You have to be a critical thinker and problem solver. Each patient you see is different, and the challenge is to piece together the information you learn from diagnostic testing to develop a treatment plan that will benefit your patient the most. Most importantly, you have to respect your patients and inform your patients that you want to help them to the best of your ability.”

– Shaum P. Bhagat, PhD, CCC-A
“I grew up watching my paternal uncle suffer from bilateral severe acquired hearing loss and witnessed his difficulty in verbalizing his wants and needs. The fact that he wasn’t rehabilitated during his childhood due to limited access to speech and hearing services in rural India had a deep impact on me. I strongly felt that, had he been provided with early intervention to address his speech, language, and hearing impairments, his quality of life would have been much better. This inspired me to enter the field of speech and hearing as an undergraduate student.

If you are thinking about a career in a STEM field through which you can make a difference in the lives of others, you should consider the professions of speech-language pathology or audiology. Either is a great career choice from an educational as well as an allied health professional perspective. Your service would enable others to receive the gift of communication, cognition, and swallowing.”
Use your cultural knowledge and linguistic skills.

Do not underestimate the value you bring because of your unique culture, background, and linguistic skills. 21.6% of the nation’s population age 5 and over speak a language other than English at home*. If that’s you, as an audiologist or speech-language pathologist, you will be in high demand!

* LanguageLine Solutions. (September 20, 2017)

It’s not too early to begin thinking about your career.

You can make a real impact in your community and beyond as an audiologist or speech-language pathologist.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has resources to help you, as a student, along your journey.

To learn more, visit on.asha.org/CSDprofession and speak with your guidance counselor.

Multicultural Constituency Groups
There are multicultural groups that offer opportunities once you become a CSD student to present research, gain leadership skills, and acquire mentoring opportunities.

Visit on.asha.org/AIC to learn more about the Asian Indian Caucus (AIC).