

Grow Your Own (GYO) Program for SLPs/SLPAs

Budget Planning Template

How To Use This Template?

This template is intended to be used as a budget planning and conversation tool, not as a finalized budget or cost estimate, when developing and maintaining a Grow Your Own (GYO) program for speech-language pathologists (SLPs) and speech-language pathology assistants (SLPAs). School districts are encouraged to adapt based on local context, program size, and partnership structure. Consider completing this template alongside human resources, finance, special education leadership, and university partners to ensure alignment and shared understanding of program costs.

When Completing The Template:

- Use the **Category** and **Description** columns to review common cost areas associated with GYO programs.
- Enter estimated expenses in the **Estimated Cost** column based on anticipated program scope and cohort size.
- Identify potential funding sources (e.g., district funds, university contributions, grants, state or federal funds) in the **Funding Source** column.
- Use the **Notes** column to document assumptions, eligibility criteria, service commitments, or additional context.

Costs may vary year to year as the program develops. School district and university partners should revisit and update this template regularly to reflect changes in cohort size, supervision capacity, and/or funding availability.

Category	Description	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Notes
Tuition Assistance	Includes full or partial funding to support SLP and/or SLPA candidates completing required coursework. Costs may vary based on number of candidates, tuition rates, partnership agreements, and required materials.	\$	District, university, and/or grants	
Graduate Student Stipends	Stipends for undergraduate and/or graduate students completing practica, internships, or residencies in district schools. Stipends are often used to strengthen recruitment, support working candidates, and increase placement feasibility.	\$	District, IDEA, and/or other	
Supervisor Stipends	Compensation for SLPs serving as supervisors or mentors. Costs depend on the number of supervisors, supervision load, and district or university compensation models.	\$	District	

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Category		Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Notes
Supervisor Release Time	Costs associated with providing SLP supervisor time for training, meetings, and student support. This may include substitute coverage or adjusted caseload expectations.	\$	District	
Training Costs	Expenses related to required supervision training, professional development, and university- or district-provided preparation.	\$	District and/or University	
Administrative Time	Staff time needed to manage the GYO program, coordinate with universities, track participant progress, manage contracts, and report outcomes.	\$	District	
Recruitment Pipeline Activities	Costs associated with outreach and SLP/SLPA pipeline development—such as career exploration activities, informational sessions, and partnership coordination.	\$	District	
Evaluation and Improvement	Resources for tracking completion, employment, retention, and program effectiveness. These resources may include surveys, data analysis, or reporting tools.	\$	District/and/or University	
Technology and Materials	Equipment, materials, or technology needed to support SLP/SLPA candidates and SLP supervisors—including therapy materials, laptops, or telepractice tools, where applicable.	\$	District	
Total Estimated Annual Budget		\$		

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