

## Advocacy Resources

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### Advocacy Pages

- Visit ASHA's [Take Action page](#) to see the top issues we're working on right now. Help elevate our voices by contacting elected officials and decision makers about issues impacting the professions and the people you serve.
- See what legislation and regulations ASHA is tracking in your state using the [state policy tracker](#).
- Learn more about and discover a wide variety of resources on [payment and payment policy](#).
- Find links to a variety of advocacy topics on ASHA's [Advocacy landing page](#).
- See what letters and comments ASHA is submitting on [ASHA's letters and statements on public policy page](#).
- Learn about [ASHA-PAC](#) and how members can contribute.

### Public Policy Agenda

ASHA's *Public Policy Agenda* (PPA) identifies policy priorities designed to address the challenges that ASHA members have identified as critical to their ability to do their jobs efficiently and effectively. It's developed by volunteer members—using input collected from members—to provide direction for ASHA's advocacy efforts.

- View the 2025 PPA: [2025 Advocacy Priorities for Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists](#).
- Learn how [ASHA's advocacy priorities are determined](#).
- Learn about the [Government Affairs and Public Policy Board](#), which develops the PPA.

### Advocacy 101

ASHA's advocacy webpages offer a wealth of information to support your understanding of policy and advocacy. To help you get started, here are some key resources that cover the fundamentals:

- [Guide to Being an Advocate](#)
- [How a Need Becomes a Federal Law](#)
- [Capitol Hill Day Advocacy Overview](#) (video)

These resources are a great starting point as you prepare to engage in effective advocacy.

### Stay Informed

- Sign up for [ASHA Headlines](#) to receive the ASHA Advocate.
- Bookmark [Advocacy News](#) for the latest updates.

- Follow ASHA on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), and [X](#) (formerly Twitter).
- Learn the benefits of [getting involved with your state association](#).

### Past Webinars

- [Proposed Medicaid Funding Changes Ahead: What Audiologists and SLPs Need to Know](#) (March 4, 2025): Learn about Medicaid advocacy in the current political climate by getting a quick refresher on what Medicaid is, what ASHA is doing to help protect it, and how you can get involved.
- [Exploring the Education Policy Landscape: What School-based Audiologists and SLPs Need to Know](#) (May 6, 2025): ASHA Advocacy staff discuss executive orders and actions impacting the Department of Education, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and Medicaid, as well as the potential impact on educational audiologists and school-based SLPs.

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## Who Makes Up ASHA Advocacy?

ASHA's advocacy work is a true partnership among staff, volunteers, and members. When we say "ASHA Advocacy," we're often referring to the staff housed within the Government Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) cluster, which is made up of the following teams.

### **Federal and Political Affairs (FPA) Team**

The FPA team is made up of four congressional lobbyists and a director of political affairs who advocate for ASHA members at the federal level. They manage the ASHA Political Action Committee (ASHA-PAC) in partnership with the [ASHA-PAC Board](#). FPA leads key activities such as:

- Meeting with **members of Congress** and their staff
- Determining ASHA's position on **federal legislation** based on the PPA
- Developing **strategies to build support** for ASHA's public policy priorities
- Organizing [ASHA's Capitol Hill Day](#), [Student Advocacy Day](#), and other congressional advocacy engagements by ASHA members
- **Submitting comments** for congressional hearings and markups

Their work builds strong legislative relationships to advance ASHA's federal policy goals.

⇒ Need assistance from FPA? Email [federal@asha.org](mailto:federal@asha.org).

### **State Affairs Team**

The four-person State Affairs team monitors and responds to state-level legislation and regulations that impact ASHA members and the people they serve. The state team's key activities include:

- Providing **expert consultation** to members on licensure issues, practice requirements in the states, and preparation for meetings with key state decision-makers.
- Creating **resources** to help members navigate state laws and policies to provide services.
- Providing **support to state associations** on legislative priorities and state advocacy that impact the professions.
- **Submitting comments** on state legislation and regulations that impact the professions.
- Engaging members in **grassroots advocacy** through targeted emails alerts when urgent action is needed in their state.

ASHA's State Affairs Team has been instrumental in advancing the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC), which facilitates multistate practice for professionals, improving access to services across state lines. They work with the [Joint Committee on State-National Association Relationships](#) and the [State Education Advocacy Leaders \(SEALs\)](#).

⇒ Need assistance from the State Affairs team? [Contact them here](#).

### **Health Care and Education Policy (HCEP) Team**

HCEP is a team of eight experts in health care and education policy. Their focus areas include Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, coding and payment, value-based care, and education issues at all levels—from general to special and higher education. They work closely with the federal and state teams to shape laws and policies that impact you. HCEP plays an integral role in analyzing and commenting on federal and state regulations, as well as meeting with federal and state agencies. They work with ASHA's [Health Care Economics Committee](#) who represent audiologists and SLPs on coding and payment initiatives with the American Medical Association.

HCEP supports ASHA members by:

- Providing **expert consultation** on real-life issues like billing, insurance denials, coding, and school compliance.
- Sharing information through webinars, website resources, and alerts to **explain policy changes and how they affect your work**.
- Creating **resources** to help members understand complexities around issues like [Medicare vs Medicaid: A Guide for Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists](#) and [How a CPT Code Becomes a Code](#).

Their goal is to make sure ASHA members have the support, knowledge, and [tools](#) they need to keep up with changing rules and requirements. They also work closely with the [School](#)

[Finance Committee](#), [Medicaid Committee](#), [State Advocates for Medicare Policy \(StAMPs\)](#), and [State Advocates for Reimbursement \(STARs\)](#).

⇒ Need assistance from HCEP? Email [reimbursement@asha.org](mailto:reimbursement@asha.org).

### **Advocacy Communications and Administration Team**

ASHA's Advocacy Communications and Administration Team is a four-person team that supports the overall work of GAPP by leading strategic advocacy campaigns, coordinating messaging, and driving grassroots engagement. They collaborate across all GAPP teams to develop and implement advocacy initiatives, ensure ASHA's letters, testimony, and policy materials align with member priorities, and deliver timely updates on legislative and regulatory developments.

They serve as the main link between ASHA's advocacy work and its members—keeping you informed, engaged, and empowered.

The team lead serves as ex officio for the [Government Affairs and Public Policy Board](#).

⇒ Need assistance from Advocacy Communications? Email [grassroots@asha.org](mailto:grassroots@asha.org).

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### **We Want to Hear From You!**

Your feedback helps guide ASHA's advocacy work. Submit your input through the [Federal and State Policy Impact Member Feedback Form](#).