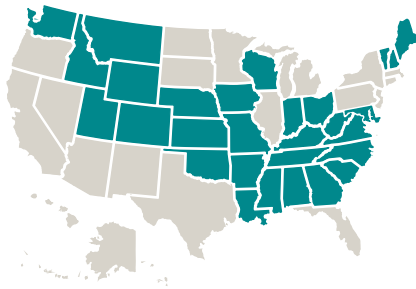


2023

ASHA Advocacy Successes



INTERSTATE COMPACT (ASLP-IC)



7 STATES ADDED
Increasing the total to 30 states

Arkansas, Maine, Montana, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin

TELEPRACTICE

Retained Medicare coverage for telehealth services through Dec. 31, 2024; same payment rates as in-person services

Maintained coverage for Medicare Part B (outpatient) telehealth services provided by facilities



CLIENT, PATIENT, AND STUDENT

- Delayed new packaging requirements that could have restricted consumer access to hearing aid batteries
- Developed a state-by-state tracker for hearing aid laws



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION



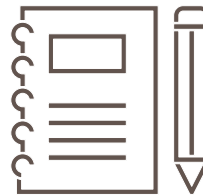
- Developed resources on gender affirming care laws and regulations that may impact audiologists and SLPs
- Created resources on the impact of social determinants of health screening and referral on payment and compliance
- Successfully opposed policy proposals that would 1) restrict SLPs from providing gender affirming voice therapy and 2) eliminate federal diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES AND WORKFORCE

- Collected practicable data from members on the impact of telehealth coverage and payment reductions
- Developed resources on non-compete agreements to help employers and employees

SCHOOLS

- Secured language in education research legislation ensuring educational audiologists and school-based SLPs can help inform needs assessments and data collection
- Shaped U.S. Department of Education grant guidance to support efforts by educational audiologists and school-based SLPs to meet student needs
- Persuaded the U.S. Department of Education to reaffirm that students identified with a developmental language disorder are eligible to receive services in the schools



SERVICES AND PAYMENT

- Helped secure most ever Senate cosponsors (10) on Medicare Audiology Access Improvement Act and obtained commitment for passage by key committee leaders
- Developed and valued new procedure codes for auditory osseointegrated device services and caregiver training under a therapy plan of care

ASHA-PAC

- Raised \$228,811 from 7,141 donors
- Contributed more than \$160,000 to over 65 federal candidates and committees



OUTREACH

- 104 advocacy letters sent to federal and state policymakers
- 73 ASHA members from 41 states and territories participated over 130 congressional in-person meetings on Capitol Hill Day
- Total of 14,979 messages were sent to Congress
- 4,782 messages were sent by over 1,600 CSD students on Virtual Student Advocacy Day, resulting in 15 new cosponsors for the IDEA Full Funding Act
- 37 members from special interest groups, committees, boards, and councils participated in 28 meetings with congressional staff
- 24 reps from insurance payers, utilization management companies, and state Medicaid programs attended ASHA's largest Payer Summit to explore coverage, coding, and policy challenges and solutions



ASHA
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association