



MICHIGAN SPEECH LANGUAGE HEARING
ASSOCIATION

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Newsletter

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From the President

Dear Members,

For many of us, fall still feels a lot like summer, with temperatures that haven't quite gotten the memo about changing seasons. But whether you're still in shorts or already enjoying crisp mornings and warm drinks, this time of year always brings a sense of transition, and our association is no exception. We've had some wonderful momentum lately, and I'm excited to share a few highlights and updates:



- First, a huge thank you to all those who made the MSHA 2026 Virtual Healthcare Conference on September 25 a success! The event featured a truly forward-thinking presentation on AI in healthcare, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. A sincere thank you to our VP of Healthcare, Marissa Habeshy, and to our Healthcare Committee for planning such a meaningful and well-executed event.
- MSHA has now officially transitioned to a self-management model. This shift marks a strategic move to ensure financial efficiency and long-term sustainability. The transition went as smoothly as possible, thanks to the continued support of our members and unwavering dedication of our Board, who volunteer their time and energy to keep the organization moving forward.
- Looking ahead, we're excited to announce that the MSHA 2026 Conference will be held virtually on March 19–20, 2026. While we always value in-person connections, going virtual allows us to reach more members while keeping costs down and flexibility up. We're building a program we believe you'll find truly valuable. The call for papers is now open.
- We're also excited to announce the return of our MSHA School Conference, which will be held virtually on October 30, 2025. This relaunch has been a long time coming, and I want to give special thanks to the Public Schools Committee for making it happen. Your time, energy, and passion for supporting school-based professionals really shines through. Please note, registration is required, but it's completely free for MSHA members.

As always, we rely on the support of our members to keep these efforts going strong. If you're able, please consider making a donation to MSHA. Every contribution helps us continue offering valuable resources, events, and advocacy for our profession.

Wishing you a smooth transition into the season, whether it feels like fall or not. As always, thank you for being part of MSHA.

Warm Regards,

Ana Claudia Harten, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
MSHA President

Advocacy & Legislative Updates

Federal Updates:

Click the links for important information and resources from ASHA: [Executive Orders Impacting Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology](#) & [2025 ASHA Public Policy Agenda](#).

State of Michigan Updates:

[SB 230](#) calls for up to \$20,000,000 in 2025-2026 for LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) professional learning for educators in pre-K, kindergarten, grades 1-3, and additional elementary school educators and pre-K to grade 12 certificated special education personnel with endorsements in learning disabilities, emotional impairments, or speech and language impairments.

[SB 180](#) maintains unit rates in effect from FY2020 for medical consultants performing disability determination services, including SLPs.

[HB 4484](#) modifies coverage policies for SLPs.



Therapy Provider Liaison Meeting

The most recent Medicaid Therapy Provider Liaison meeting was held by MDHHS on July 15, 2025.

Therapy Provider Liaison meetings are an opportunity to review Medicaid policy updates and FFS procedural changes or provider concerns in an open forum.

Meeting minutes, Q&A, and PowerPoint slides from the meeting are available on the [MDHHS website](#).

The next meeting is anticipated for early 2026.



Coming Soon - Continuing Education Library!



MSHA is currently developing on-demand Webinars to keep you informed on the latest trends and help with your CE needs.

More information to come soon!



Save The Date!

MSHA 2026 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:

**LOOKING
TO THE FUTURE**
EMBRACING CHANGES FOR GROWTH

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

March 19-20, 2026

Call for Papers

MSHA 2026 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:

**LOOKING
TO THE FUTURE**
EMBRACING CHANGES FOR GROWTH

Share your work at the MSHA 2026 Virtual Conference! Connect with leading minds in the field of speech, language, and hearing sciences. Click below for the Call for Papers Submission Form.



Dr. Yaruss - Highest Honors Award



Congratulations to Dr. Yaruss, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF, F-ASHA, H-ASHA, professor at Michigan State University, on receiving the Honors of the Association from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, the highest honor ASHA awards.

This prestigious recognition reflects his exemplary contributions to the field of speech-language pathology and his enduring commitment to advancing research, education, clinical practice, and advocacy efforts. As fellow MSHA members, we're thrilled to celebrate one of our own earning this prestigious national honor.

Volunteer

MSHA is made possible by people like you! Volunteer today with the following MSHA committees to help us continue our work.

Professional Development & Education
Public Schools
Finance
Advocacy
Membership
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
Healthcare
Public Relations
Student & University Affairs



MICHIGAN SPEECH LANGUAGE HEARING FOUNDATION

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ABOUT US

MSHF is dedicated to supporting the next generation of speech-language pathologists and audiologists by providing scholarships to deserving graduate students. By contributing, you are investing not only in their future but also in the countless individuals and families who will benefit from their care.

BECOME A SAINT



Speech Language
Pathologists, Audiologists
and Friends Investing in
the Next Generation of
Therapists and Scholars

Please consider giving back to your profession. All donations are appreciated!

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

MICHIGAN SPEECH LANGUAGE HEARING FOUNDATION (MSHF) IS NOW PART OF THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

To enroll - if you have a Kroger Plus card -
Log into your Kroger account
Under the Menu or My Account Tab
Select Community Rewards
Search Organization Name or ID # UF880
Click Enroll

ONCE ENROLLED - MSHF WILL EARN REWARDS FROM EVERY PURCHASE MADE USING YOUR KROGER CARD

THANK YOU!



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Public Schools Committee Update



Public Schools Committee



WHAT DO WE DO?

We advocate for the professional roles, responsibilities & workloads of school SLPs in Michigan! The work of school SLPs is invaluable to the academic success and social emotional wellness of all students, especially students with IEPs who have communication, speech and language needs.

HOW DO WE DO IT?

We zoom monthly for an hour to tackle our agenda items. Virtual meetings alternate between lunchtime and after school timeframes.



WHAT WILL 2025-26 LOOK LIKE?

- Contributing to the creation of professional learning modules for the updated 2025 MSHA school guidelines
- Ensuring access to, marketing of and professional learning for the updated guidelines
- Advocating for issues that improve SLP workload and IEP student outcomes

Scan to learn more
and join:



Guidelines

for Speech & Language Evaluation,
Eligibility and Service Delivery in Schools



<https://bit.ly/MSHA2025GuidelinesSchools> or

MSHA Guidelines for School SLPs

What Michigan Administrators Need to Know!

The Michigan Speech Language Hearing Association's 2025 update to the *Guidelines for Speech & Language Evaluation, Eligibility and Service Delivery in Schools* aims to ensure clarity and consistency in the practice of school speech-language pathology in Michigan. The Guidelines are grounded in the use of evidence-based practice, the application of ASHA's Code of Ethics, and compliance with IDEA and MARSE (Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education). The guidelines are available to any Michigan school SLP. MSHA members will have access to professional learning modules for the guidelines.





PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

2025 Public Schools

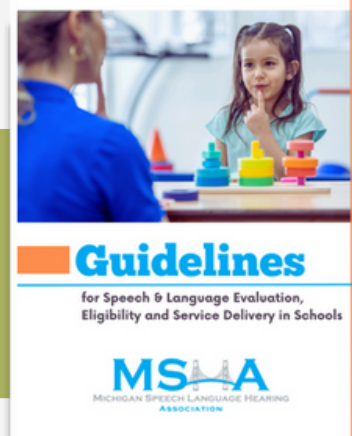


Virtual Conference



MSHA GUIDELINES FOR SPEECH & LANGUAGE EVALUATION, ELIGIBILITY, AND SERVICE DELIVERY IN SCHOOLS (2025)

- Access and interact with each section of the 2025 updated guidelines & forms
- Ensure compliance with federal and state regulations for Michigan school SLP practice
- Describe best practices in evaluation, eligibility and exit decision-making & specially designed instruction for SLI



OCTOBER 30, 2025

- 8:30–9:30am Overview
9:45–10:45am Foundation & Big Ideas
11:00–11:30am SLI– Articulation
12:30–1:00pm SLI– Language
1:15–1:45pm SLI– Fluency
2:00–2:30pm SLI – Voice

ATTEND ANY OR ALL SESSIONS



Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Introductory Level
0.4 ASHA CEUs

FREE for MSHA Members! \$60 Nonmembers



Support Our Mission

Your donation helps us connect, empower, and advance our community through meaningful programs, advocacy, and resources. Every gift makes a difference - thank you for supporting our work!

Check donations can be sent to:

MSHA
P.O. Box 45,
Buchanan, MI 49107-9998

To make a donation via credit card,
please scan the QR code or click [here](#).



The **Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHA)** is a tax-exempt 501(c)(6) organization, EIN 23-7179613. Contributions to MSHA are not tax-deductible. No goods or services will be provided in exchange for the contribution.



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Executive Board & Advisory Assembly

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