

**Communication Sciences & Disorders Program
Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania
Strategic Plan 2026-2031**

Mission

The Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) Program provides accessible, high-quality, student-centered education in audiology and speech-language pathology. Grounded in evidence-based practice, interprofessional collaboration, and clinical excellence, we prepare students to become competent professionals who serve individuals from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Vision

To be a premier regional leader in audiology and speech-language pathology education, empowering graduates to succeed in a global workforce and transform the lives of individuals with communication and swallowing disorders.

Values

Aligned with Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania, we are Student-Centered, Welcoming & Inclusive, Accessible, Innovative & Exceptional, Collaborative, and Resilient.

Programs Offered

- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Audiology/Speech-Language Pathology
- Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology (M.S.-SLP)
- Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS AND THE UNIVERSITY	MEASUREMENT METHODS/ EVALUATION CRITERIA
<p>1. Advance the program’s regional leadership in delivering accessible and affordable pathways to professional excellence in communication sciences and disorders.</p>	<p>A. Establish and sustain the accelerated 3+2 M.S.-SLP and 3+4 Au.D. pathways.</p> <p>B. Identify and promote diverse financial support streams, including graduate assistantships (GA) and scholarships, to offset the total cost of education.</p> <p>C. Expand student access to free or discounted course materials, including textbooks and clinical software.</p>	<p>A. Students will enter the workforce with a competitive advantage, having secured their credentials through a high-efficiency, cost-effective model that establishes the University as a regional leader.</p>	<p>A. Maintain a cohort retention and graduation rate of $\geq 85\%$ for students enrolled in the accelerated tracks.</p> <p>B. Track annual applicant data for the accelerated programs to demonstrate a sustained or increasing applicant pool as a primary indicator of the program's competitive regional positioning.</p> <p>C. Maintain consistent scholarship and GA funding to ensure no reduction in total student support.</p>
<p>2. Attract a strong, broad applicant pool through open, merit-based access.</p>	<p>A. Develop and distribute marketing materials to attract highly qualified applicants.</p> <p>B. Offer in-person and virtual recruitment events at high schools and universities.</p>	<p>A. Students will be drawn from a broad and high-caliber applicant pool, ensuring the University consistently enrolls well-prepared students through a transparent and equitable process.</p>	<p>A. Hold a minimum of 4 outreach events annually and demonstrate a sustained applicant pool with a 5% annual growth target.</p>

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3. Prepare high-quality clinicians to serve individuals from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.	<p>A. Increase the number and variety of clinical experiences with diverse populations.</p> <p>B. Develop and distribute clinic marketing materials to locations with diverse populations.</p> <p>C. Expand the variety of clinical placements and telepractice experiences.</p>	A. Students will evolve into visionary, evidence-based clinicians to deliver exceptional, evidence-based care to the diverse and changing needs of all populations.	A. Demonstrate program excellence through 100% student attainment of cultural and linguistic competencies, while maintaining a $\geq 90\%$ Praxis pass rate and ensuring all students achieve the 3.33/5.0 CALIPSO performance target.
4. Maintain full accreditation and a distinguished reputation for producing exceptional clinicians.	<p>A. Maintain continuous alignment of the curriculum and assessment protocols with current CAA and ASHA standards.</p> <p>B. Formalize a CSD Advisory Board of employers and alumni to provide ongoing feedback on graduate preparedness and industry trends.</p>	A. Students will graduate from a fully accredited program, becoming highly sought-after professionals who drive the future of the field through data-informed clinical excellence.	<p>A. Maintain 100% continuous CAA accreditation.</p> <p>B. Achieve a minimum of 90% satisfaction on student and employer surveys.</p> <p>C. Document at least two formal advisory board meetings annually.</p>
5. Foster active engagement in scholarly research and faculty professional development.	<p>A. Support faculty participation in state and national research conferences.</p> <p>B. Increase opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to collaborate on faculty-led research projects.</p> <p>C. Encourage faculty to pursue grant funding and peer-reviewed publication.</p>	A. Students will use hands-on research to become expert clinicians, building a strong and respected reputation for our program.	<p>A. Document scholarly or professional activity for $\geq 50\%$ of faculty each year.</p> <p>B. Facilitate at least two student-involved research presentations annually.</p>