

Student Organizations

- I. National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA)
 - a. National membership provides benefits that help students stay current on advancements in the field, enhance their academic knowledge, find internships and employment, network with other students with similar interests, and save money on products and services.
 - b. Two consecutive years of NSSLHA membership will reduce the initial certification costs when joining ASHA. All students are encouraged to join the National NSSLHA organization <http://www.nsslha.org/join/>.
 - c. University of Memphis NSSLHA Chapter
 - i. All students who are enrolled in the School are members of the local NSSLHA chapter. The U of M chapter is an extremely busy and well-respected chapter nationally. The Chapter received special recognition from the Tennessee Association of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists in 1991, a Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition in 1995 from the American Speech- Language-Hearing Association, and NSSLHA Gold Chapter Honors in 1998, 2015, 2021 and 2023 from the National Student Speech- Language-Hearing Association. This chapter sponsors many worthwhile projects:
 - ii. The Annual Mid-South Conference on Communicative Disorders
 1. The highlight of each year's activities is the Annual Mid-South Conference on Communicative Disorders, held in the spring. The two-day conference is designed to provide audiologists and speech language pathologists with information regarding current research and new concepts and techniques that can be applied to their clinical practice. Organized in 1970, the Mid-South Conference features a variety of nationally recognized guest speakers in the field of communication disorders who offer workshops and short courses. It draws over 300 audiologists, speech language pathologists, educators, and professionals from allied fields from the U.S. and Canada. The conference is the major activity organized and conducted by the graduate students at the University of Memphis chapter of NSSLHA.
 - iii. Other NSSLHA Activities
 1. In addition to the Conference, NSSLHA assists students with professional development opportunities, travel expenses to professional conventions and conferences, when available.
 2. Other activities include short workshops of special interest, guest speakers from the community to speak at NSSLHA

meetings and walk/run teams to benefit various non-profit organizations in the Midsouth.

3. Each year the proceeds from the Silent Auction at the Mid - South Conference are donated to a charity of choice which has included the Client Assistance Program (CAP) at MSHC, Hope House of Memphis, Operation Smile, and the Stuttering Foundation.

II. Student Academy of Audiology (SAA)

- a. The Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) is the national student division of the American Academy of Audiology (AAA) that serves as a collective voice for students and advances the rights, interests, and welfare of students pursuing careers in audiology.
- b. The SAA introduces students to lifelong involvement in activities that promote and advance the profession of audiology and that provide services, information, education, representation and advocacy for the profession and for consumers of audiology services. The national SAA has over 1,500 members, consisting of students enrolled in AuD, PhD, or other accredited audiology doctoral programs for a first professional degree in audiology.
- c. University of Memphis Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) Chapter
 - i. All Doctor of Audiology (AuD) students who are enrolled in the School and who have paid local and national SAA dues are members of the local SAA chapter.
 - ii. National membership provides benefits that help students stay current on advancements in the field, enhance their academic knowledge, find internships and employment, network with other students with similar interests, and save money on products and services.
 - iii. The U of M chapter was established in 2012 and hopes to provide current and future audiology students with opportunities for advanced learning and professional development in the field of audiology using journal club, community outreach projects, and collaboration with the U of M NSSLHA chapter.

III. Tennessee Association of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists (TAASLP)

- a. Students are encouraged to become (student) members of TAASLP.
- b. This organization meets once each year for a two-day meeting which features outstanding speakers.
- c. Additional information about this organization may be obtained from the TAASLP website.

IV. National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing (NBASLH)

- a. The National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing is the premier professional and scientific association addressing the

communication interests and concerns of Black communication science and disorders professionals, students and consumers. The association is the model for other organizations addressing the concerns of diverse populations.

- b. Memphis NBASLH Area Affiliate Chapter
 - i. The Memphis Area Affiliate of the National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing was founded in 2021 by a group of CSD students, faculty, and alumni of the University of Memphis as well as CSD professionals in the Memphis area.
 - ii. All students who support the goals of NBASLH and the Memphis Affiliate Chapter may become members.
 - iii. Members of the Memphis Area Chapter are involved in interdisciplinary education efforts, philanthropy and building community partnerships toward achieving the goals of the NBASLH organization.

V. CSD Students to Raise Inclusivity, Diversity, and Equity (STRIDE)

- a. CSD STRIDE is to be a welcoming and inclusive group, providing support to all members of the Memphis CSD community with a focus on celebrating differences, expressing oneself with creativity, and inclusion of all persons regardless of race, creed, or culture.
- b. CSD STRIDE was founded in 2022 by a group of CSD students. This student group provides peer-level support to all students.
- c. Members of this student group are involved in various activities including hosting a presentation on Spanish English Bilingualism in honor of Hispanic Heritage month.