

## History

The Delaware Speech-Language-Hearing Association (DSHA) was organized in 1950 by “individuals interested in speech therapy”. The Constitution was amended in 1952 to establish DSHA’s affiliation with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). In July 1973, Delaware became one of the early states to pass a licensure bill.

DSHA has grown from a group of fifteen individuals to a membership of approximately two hundred and fifty professionals who provide diagnostic and intervention services to communicatively challenged children and adults.

## Purposes

- To facilitate professional interaction and exchange of information among speech-language pathologists and audiologists.
- To promote a high level of professional standards and services.
- To encourage the study of the processes of human communication.
- To provide continuing education opportunities.
- To encourage the use of a multi-disciplinary approach in the management of communication disorders.
- To disseminate information about communication disorders and available resources to related professionals and the public.
- To represent the profession on legislative, regulatory, and other public issues.



Full Member: A Full member shall hold a graduate

## Membership

degree with a major emphasis in speech-language pathology, audiology, or speech, language or hearing science or a graduate degree and present evidence of active research, interest, and performance in the field of human communication.

Associate Member: An Associate Member shall hold a BS or BA in the field of speech-language pathology, audiology, or speech, language or hearing science or in those related fields who are not eligible for full membership.

Student Member: A Student Member shall be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program with a speech language pathology, audiology or speech and hearing science concentration. Dues shall be waived for Student Members.

Life Member: Life Member status may be granted to an Association member, Full or Associate, who has reached the age of sixty-five (65), has retired from professional practice, and has been a member in good standing for eight (8) consecutive years prior to retirement. Dues shall be waived for Life Members.

**To apply for DSHA membership, please send your completed application and \$35 dues to:**

DSHA  
Kelly Sanderson  
2 Carsdale Ct  
Wilmington, DE 19808

Additional application forms can be downloaded at  
[www.dsha.org](http://www.dsha.org)

## Services & Benefits

- Evening meetings, free of charge, which focus on current professional issues.
- Periodic newsletter publications including announcements of upcoming events and job opportunities.
- Annual membership directory.
- Reduced registration rates at continuing education workshops and presentations\* offering opportunities to update professional skills and knowledge.
- Special committees to address concerns and disseminate information regarding issues such as third party payment, services in school settings, licensure, etc.
- Public relations activities including news releases and promotion of the profession to the general public and other professionals.

\*DSHA is approved by ASHA to offer Continuing Education Units.

## Licensure

Speech, language, and hearing professionals employed in Delaware are required to be licensed by the State of Delaware. To obtain information and a licensure application, contact:

Delaware Board of Professional Regulation  
Cannon Building, Suite 203  
861 Silver Lake Blvd.  
Dover, DE 19904  
302/744-4500  
[www.dpr.delaware.gov](http://www.dpr.delaware.gov)