

Communication Science and Disorders



Career Awareness Month

Student and Parent Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Q.** How did CSD Career Awareness Month begin?
- A.** CSD Career Awareness Month began as a collaborative effort among the National Student Speech-Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) and the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) to promote the professions of audiology, speech-language pathology, and speech-language and hearing sciences.
- Q.** What is the purpose of CSD Career Awareness Month?
- A.** CSD Career Awareness Month is an opportunity to introduce the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology as viable healthcare career options for students. Students will meet other students preparing for a career in CSD as well as professionals working in the field. Students will observe what happens in a speech and hearing clinic and will learn the skills and academic coursework needed for a career in CSD.
- Q.** What are the benefits of CSD Career Awareness Month?
- A.** CSD Career Awareness Month gives students an up-close look at a day in the life of students and professionals. Students will tour a speech and hearing clinic and attend workshops to learn about the professions, academic requirements, and financial aid options. Students will have a hearing screening to help relate the importance of the profession to their everyday lives. There is a wide assortment of activities during CSD Career Awareness Month that will pique students' interest and encourage them to learn more about the profession.
- Q.** When is CSD Career Awareness Month?
- A.** October is the month designated for CSD Career Awareness and we are encouraging CSD programs across the nation to host activities in that month.

Q. What types of activities are planned for CSD Career Awareness Month?

A. This will depend on the CSD program. Programs are given flexibility in designing the activities to fit their own situation. The typical day will begin with an orientation session where students will be introduced to invited guests and view a video presentation about the profession. Then students will break into small groups to participate in one or more activities, such as touring a speech and hearing clinic or attending a CSD 101 workshop intended to provide information about the professions, academic requirements, and funding opportunities in a little more detail. Students will also have their hearing screened.

Q. What does it cost to attend a CSD Career Awareness activity?

A. Your participation at a CSD Career Awareness activity should be at no costs but you may have to check with the program. The program may charge a fee for parking or lunch when they host students.

Q. I don't know anything about CSD. Where can I get more information?

A. Information about the profession of CSD is available at <http://www.asha.org/students/> to provide students and parents easy access to information about communication sciences and disorders.

Q. Is the CSD program arranging transportation to this event?

A. Student participation at CSD Career Awareness activities in your area is strictly up to the individual. Some schools may arrange transportation and that information is available from the CSD Career Awareness Coordinator at that site.

Q. What students are being targeted for CSD Career Awareness Month?

A. Any student with an interest in health science careers, engineering, education, and medicine should attend a CSD Career Awareness Month activity.

Q. I'm interested in attending (or having my child attend) a CSD Career Awareness activity. How do we register?

A. Students interested in attending CSD Career Awareness Month activities should visit the CSD Career Awareness Month Web site at <http://www.nsslha.org/NSSLHA/students/CSDDAY.htm>. The Web site will have links to sites in your area that will host activities during CSD Career Awareness Month.

Once you have identified an event in your area, simply download and complete the Student Participation Form and, if appropriate, the Parent Consent Form (for students under the age of 18) and forward to the Career Awareness coordinator at the host site.

Q. What is the *Communication Science Student Survival Guide*?

A. The NSSLHA Communication Sciences Student Survival Guide is a must-have resource for individuals considering a career in the disciplines of audiology, speech-language pathology, or speech, language, and hearing sciences. This comprehensive guide includes advice for students throughout their education: from the time they are in high school until they graduate with master's or doctoral degrees or begin a post-doctoral position.

More information about the Guide and how to purchase a copy are available at <http://www.nsslha.org/NSSLHA/students/CSDGuide.htm>.

Q. What type of follow-up activities will be available to the students?

A. Students who attend CSD Career Awareness Month activities will receive a certificate of participation from the national office and a complimentary one-year subscription to NSSLHA's newsletter, *NSSLHA Now!*

Q. Who should I contact in the National Office for more information?

A. Dawn Dickerson, NSSLHA's Director of Operations, is the primary contact for this activity. You may e-mail Dawn at ddickerson@asha.org or call her at 301-897-5700, ext. 4145.