

1. Advocacy Committee

- A. **Purpose:** The Advocacy Committee establishes the association's positions on state and federal legislation, regulatory and policy issues, subject to board review and approval as appropriate and necessary. Committee activities may include:
1. Adopting positions on bills and policy issues referred to the committee by staff.
 2. Providing technical assessment and policy advice to the board and staff.
 3. Articulating official CSHA positions to state and federal legislators and regulators and their staffs, and other entities and organizations as appropriate.
 4. Encouraging the understanding and involvement of CSHA membership in the legislative and policy processes.
 5. Seeking input from the chairs of the Professional Practices Advisory Committee and the Convention Program Advisory Committee via those committees' chairs.
 6. Seeking input and opinions of members on legislative, regulatory and policy issues.
 7. Assisting in the dissemination of legislative, regulatory and policy information to members and other organizations as appropriate.
 8. Collaborating in grassroots legislative, regulatory and policy activities via the Advocacy Network.
 9. Informing the development and ongoing updating of the CSHA Advocacy Policy Platform.
 10. Collaborating with other state-level speech language hearing associations, ASHA and other entities and organizations on state and federal legislative,
- B. **Leadership:** The committee is chaired by the CSHA board chair-elect.
- C. **Committee makeup and terms:** The committee is comprised of a chair, the State Education Advocacy Leader (SEAL), the State Advocate for Reimbursement (STAR), the State Advocate for Medicare Policy (StAMP), and two (2) additional members. One of these two additional members is appointed each year by the incoming CSHA board chair. Committee members serve a two-year term.

SEAL, STAR and StAMP

The SEAL, STAR and StAMP roles are part of ASHA's advocacy network that focus on priority issues. The SEAL and STAR positions are appointed by the incoming CSHA board chair in odd-numbered years, and the StAMP role is appointed by the incoming CSHA board chair in even-numbered years.

The roles are defined by ASHA as follows:

State Education Advocacy Leaders (SEALs)

The SEALs network is to enhance and perpetuate the advocacy, leadership and clinical management skills of school-based ASHA members at the state and local levels to influence administrative and public policy decisions that affect the delivery of speech-language pathology and audiology services in school settings.

State Advocates for Medicare Policy (StAMPs) Network

ASHA's State Advocates for Medicare Policy (StAMP) network enhances and perpetuates the advocacy, leadership and communication of ASHA members at the state level to influence administrative and public policy decisions that impact the Medicare coverage, reimbursement, and delivery of speech-language pathology services and audiology services.

State Advocates for Reimbursement (STARs)

The State Advocates for Reimbursement (STARs) are ASHA-member audiologists and speech-language pathologists who advocate locally with legislators, state insurance commissioners, health plans, unions, and employers on matters related to Medicaid and private health plan reimbursement.

- D. **Staff:** The committee is staffed by the CEO and/or their designee.
- E. **Meetings:** The committee meets several times per year during the legislative session as necessary via telecommunications. The committee may meet in person at the annual conference as needed.
- F. **Authority:** The committee may incur costs only as provided for the committee in the board-approved budget. The committee has no management authority except for that specifically delegated to it in the bylaws or board policies.