



**Human Lives. Human Connection.**  
**CSHA Leadership Academy 2025-2026**

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### **What is CSHA's Leadership Academy?**

- The Leadership Academy is a year-long program for California speech-language pathologists and audiologists with leadership potential. This program is offered in partnership with ASHA's Leadership Development Program. The program encourages you to develop your leadership skills and give back to the professions through volunteering—whether with CSHA, at your workplace, or for a related professional organization.

### **What are the objectives of the Leadership Academy?**

- To enhance self-awareness and assess overall emotional intelligence level
- To build skills needed to function in a volunteer or professional leadership role
- To increase self-confidence to apply for and succeed in a leadership position
- To increase the quantity and depth of peer support relationships

### **What are the components of the Program?**

If selected, you must commit to all program components:

- Participate in a full-day Leadership Academy face-to-face workshop in San Diego June 6-7
- Watch Leadership Academy webinar sessions
- Participate in scheduled monthly virtual meetings over the course of the next year on selected leadership topics.
- Develop and complete an individual leadership project.
- Actively participate on your learning team.
- Present on your project at CSHA 2026 in a poster session.





## **What is a Learning Team?**

- Participants are assigned to a learning team made up of other participants. Participants meet/work with their teams in-person at the workshop and virtually throughout the year. A learning team serves as a participant's project advisory board. Teams are meant to be independent and schedule their own virtual team meetings spread over the year. Additionally, they are to provide a venue for deeper interactions and exploration of the content provided by the Leadership Academy webinar sessions.

## **What are the Learning Topics?**

- Participants will be assigned modules developed in partnership with the ASHA Leadership Development Program. Each module will consist of a pre-recorded webinar followed by a virtual facilitated session moderated by CSHA leadership. Topics will be selected following the close of applications in order to curate the CSHA Leadership Academy experience to the interests of our participants. Topics may include High-Performing Teams, Coaching and Mentoring, Conflict Management, Strategic Visioning and Planning.

## **Leadership Projects**

- Individual learning projects are focused on the development of projects for the betterment of CSHA, an individual workplace, community, or other volunteer organization, with the elements involving leadership activities such as working with a team or gathering the support of stakeholders. Examples include (document below for more in-depth examples):
  - Working on a project for your state association.
  - Developing a support group or family training program.
  - Working with a team to implement a new clinical or educational program.
  - Working to advocate for reimbursement, legislation, or policy change.

Note: While CSHA encourages participants to use their leadership skills to collaborate with various stakeholders associated with their projects to accomplish project goals,





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participation in the Leadership Academy does not imply CSHA's endorsement or official support of participants' projects. Prior CSHA approval must be obtained before using CSHA's name on any communications associated with participation in the Leadership Academy.

### What are the dates for the 2025-2026 Leadership Academy?

The Leadership academy will kick off on June 6, in San Diego.

Date	Description
June 6 (6PM) and June 7 all day	Intro to LDP and Kick Off
July 16, 2025 (TBD)	Facilitated session: Topic 1
August 20, 2025	Facilitated session: Topic 2
September 17, 2025	Facilitated session: Topic 3
October 15, 2025	Facilitated session: Topic 4
December 10, 2025	Participant Updates, mini-presentations
January 21, 2025	Facilitated session: Topic 5
March 2025	Graduation Ceremony at the Convergence 2026 Celebration of Excellence in San Francisco (Attendance encouraged, but not required). Includes complimentary ticket to <i>Leadership Luncheon</i>

### What will the Kickoff Workshop entail?

Our in-person Kickoff Workshop on June 6-7, 2025 in San Diego, CA will introduce participants to the materials and structure of the CSHA Leadership Academy. Participants will review and reflect upon the results of their intake questionnaires. This in-person opportunity will allow participants to meet their Learning Teams, learn about models of leadership, and begin to collaborate on individual Leadership Projects. Evening hors d'oeuvres along with breakfast and lunch will be provided. The cost of one hotel night is included in your tuition fee.

### Is there a fee to participate?

Yes. If your application is accepted, there is a tuition fee of \$300 for CSHA members or \$650 for non-CSHA members. Your fee covers the face-to-face program (breakfast and lunch





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included), one hotel night stay for the face-to-face program, program materials, Leader Luncheon at Convergence 2026, and ASHA PMH (Professional Maintenance Hours) for their pre-recorded webinars. Additional fees will apply if you would like your PMHs directly reported to the ASHA Registry. CSHA is proud to offer a scholarship to allow for the reduced rate as a benefit to current members. In order to receive this reduced rate, all attendees must be active CSHA members at the time they accept their acceptance into the CSHA Leadership Academy. Attendees would be responsible for any additional costs (travel expenses, parking, travel to Convergence 2026). Please contact Brittany Connerly for more information about fees at [connerly@cscha.org](mailto:connerly@cscha.org).

### **Who can apply?**

- The Leadership Academy seeks energetic people who are motivated to influence professional issues in speech-language pathology or audiology. The Academy will accept up to 15 participants selected through a competitive application process. Individuals must be fully licensed (i.e., completed RPE/CF experience) upon the beginning of the program to participate.

### **Applicant requirements:**

- California resident
- Hold valid speech-language pathology/SLPA or audiology license. Individuals who are currently completing their RPE/CFs are not eligible to participate.
- No past, current, or incoming service on the CSHA Board of Directors.
- No prior participation in a previous ASHA Leadership Development Program cohort.
- Able to commit to participate in the year-long program and complete all program requirements. This includes traveling to the in-person meeting scheduled for June 6-7, 2025.





## **How do I apply?**

The application period is March 12 - April 12, 2025. [Apply now.](#)

## **Questions?**

Contact Marcella McCollum at [marcella.mccollum@gmail.com](mailto:marcella.mccollum@gmail.com)

