

Grand Valley State University Speech-Language Pathology Program Strategic Plan

Baseline data: 7/2024

Updated: 7/2026

MISSION STATEMENT

To prepare students to become inclusive speech-language pathologists in health care and educational settings, demonstrating excellence in clinical practice while utilizing evidence-based and science-forward practices. Students are provided a foundation in theoretical and applied aspects of speech-language pathology as well as collaborative and high-impact learning opportunities.

GOALS

STRATEGIC GOAL 1: Increase opportunities for students to engage in high-impact experiential learning across educational, health care, and private practice settings

Objective 1a: Align the number of off-campus clinical placements across educational, health care, and private practice settings from a baseline of 95% (120/126) placements to 100% for enrolled student needs.

Strategies: Work with administration to develop agreements with area hospitals to guarantee placements; communicate with alumni and previous preceptors; send quality assurance surveys to preceptors; develop opportunities for dual supervision using ASHA guidelines/guidance and educate preceptors

Progress as of 7/2025: 100% (156/156) high-impact placements were achieved for enrolled students during the 2024-2025 academic year; 29 new affiliation agreements were executed during the 2024-2025 academic year

Progress as of 7/2026: 100% (133/133) high-impact placements were achieved for enrolled students during the 2025-2026 academic year with approximately 16 new affiliation agreements; short-term summer camps were assigned as additional opportunities to supplement longer-term community-based placements

Objective 1b: Provide at least two high-impact case-based experiences per Fall I and Winter semesters across a variety of communication/swallowing challenges

Strategies: Discuss the use of the simulation center at meetings; Collaborate with other programs for interprofessional experience or intensive case study within a course; Develop a task force on the use of Simucase and Audiolab

***Progress as of 7/2025:** Task Force on Simucase/Audiolab was created; case-based experiences were identified for both semesters*

***Progress as of 7/2026:** Case-based experiences incorporating Artificial Intelligence within several courses were shared and documented*

STRATEGIC GOAL 2: Refine the use of evidence-based, science-based, and culturally sensitive practices across all courses

Objective 2a: Evaluate and update a curriculum map based on current academic courses with emphasis on opportunities for evidence- and science-based learning as aligned with CAA [and CFCC standards] annually

Strategies: Update a curriculum map based on current classes and syllabi; compare syllabi of record to KASA standards

***Progress as of 7/2025:** Curriculum map was developed based on course syllabi and CAA standards; courses addressing this objective [standard 3.5B] were identified*

***Progress as of 7/2026:** Course sequence was modified to move SLP 510: Applied Research in Speech-Language Pathology to earlier in the Track 1 program*

Objective 2b (updated): Evaluate and update a curriculum map based on current academic courses with an emphasis **on tenets of person-and family-centered care** as aligned with current CAA and CFCC standards annually

Strategies: Update a curriculum map based on current classes and syllabi; compare syllabi of record to CAA and CFCC standards

***Progress as of 7/2025:** Curriculum map was developed based on course syllabi and CAA standards; courses addressing this objective [standard 3.4B] were identified*

***Progress as of 7/2026:** Objective 2b and the curriculum map were updated to reflect CAA revisions to the standard 3.4B*

STRATEGIC GOAL 3: Increase opportunities for and recognition of faculty and students' scholarship and service accomplishments

Objective 3a: Enhance the research capabilities of faculty by identifying funding sources and advocating for appropriate workload releases

Strategies: Investigate existing internal resources and appropriate internal and external funding sources; Work with administration to develop an equitable plan of support (including advocating for workload release) for faculty members to engage in high-quality research and creative activities

Progress as of 7/2025: College administration approved a system for all T/TT faculty to request significant focus toward scholarship

Progress as of 7/2026: All tenure-stream faculty applied for significant focus toward scholarship, with two faculty receiving additional course buy-outs

Objective 3b: Increase the visibility and recognition of faculty accomplishments through strategic communication to highlight achievements, scholarly awards, and impactful contributions to the field with ongoing events

Strategies: Provide at least one professional development or community outreach opportunity per year; Presentations by faculty and/or students at local, state, and national venues; Participation in community events or popular press; Department newsletter and website to engage all stakeholders in scholarship, clinical news, and other events/accomplishments

Progress as of 7/2025: CSD Soundwaves was developed and disseminated on a regular basis during the academic year; ASHA CEU Provider status for the department was obtained

Progress of 7/2026: The college developed CHP Connect, which disseminates student and faculty achievements to GVSU and community partners on a regular basis throughout the academic year