

Medicare Intermediary and Carrier State (MICS) Network

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the MICS Network is to enhance and perpetuate the:

- Advocacy

- Leadership

- 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.

The MICS Network representatives accomplish this by:

1. Serving as a conduit for information and strategy sharing with:
 - other MICS Network representatives
 - state Speech-Language-Hearing Association's leadership (e.g. executive board, government relations or economics committee chairs, lobbyist)
 - state and/or local health care coalitions/committees
 - American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
2. Establishing or enhancing, in collaboration with the state Speech-Language-Hearing Association, effective linkages with:
 - Medical directors, consultants, and key personnel with Medicare intermediaries and carriers
 - Federal agency officials
 - state health agencies
 - fellow Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists in the state
 - consumer groups
 - other related professionals
3. Serving as a resource to and promoting education for fellow audiologists and speech-language pathologists regarding:
 - local coverage determinations (LCDs)
 - identifying trends and anticipating future actions
 - compliance with federal and state payment and reimbursement requirements
 - appropriate strategies to influence health care economic policy decisions
 - key contacts for health care economics issues
4. Serving as a catalyst to mobilize speech-language pathologists and audiologists for effective advocacy at the local, state, and federal levels, using:
 - State Association listservs, newsletters, websites
 - State Association committees and leaders
 - other mechanisms for networking with audiologists and speech-language pathologists in the state
 - takeaction.asha.org