

## ListServ Discussion: Membership List of Benefits

Date Originated: June 2012

Originator: Becky Cermak, M.A., CCC-SLP, *South Dakota Speech-Language Hearing Assoc*

### Original Message:

During our Strategic Planning Meeting we were discussing creating a document that listed the benefits of being a member of our association. I would appreciate seeing any documents that you use for your association, that we could use as a guide to create our own.

### Responses:

#### A. Texas Member Benefits - Melinda Daise

**1. TSHA CE Registry** - View your continuing education credits online through the TSHA website. When you attend a TSHA approved course, the hours you earn will be posted on a special page made available to you to print and send to the State Board of Examiners. **This benefit is available ONLY to TSHA members!**

**2. Publications** - The TSHA offers informative publications to its membership each year! As a TSHA member you will receive all of these publications at no charge.

- The TSHA's newsletter, the *Communicologist* is published 6 times annually and includes current professional news, legislative updates, member news, continuing Education calendars and events, and much more!
- **Matt Learns to Read**, TSHA members are entitled to 25 copies for their personal use. Available in English and Spanish. Must submit the registration form available on the TSHA website, [www.txsha.org](http://www.txsha.org) in order to receive books.

**3. Continuing Education** - TSHA's Continuing Education and Convention Committees work throughout the year to provide you with a challenging variety of seminars and workshops to help you maintain your Texas state license and your ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC). ASHA will accept your TSHA registry as proof of your CEUs! **Remember that conference registration fees are considerable reduced for TSHA members.**

**4. Speech Impairment Eligibility Guidelines** – All of the SI Eligibility Guideline trainings are available as recorded webcasts online, along with the manuals and training handouts. SLPs can request 2 hours of TSHA continuing education credit for each of these trainings. **The cost is free for TSHA members.**

**5. Online Ethics Course** - This course presents the ethical issues information covered by the Code of Ethics from the Texas State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. Available on the TSHA website, [www.txsha.org](http://www.txsha.org). Member price: \$40.00; Non-member price: \$75.00

**6. Legislative Advocacy** - The TSHA monitors administrative and legislative issues that affect you and your job. Issues such as reimbursement, quality of service delivery, and licensure.

**7. Career Awareness Information** - TSHA acknowledges that there is a shortage of speech-language pathologists and audiologists in Texas. To encourage students to pursue careers in the professions TSHA has developed a packet complete with brochures, pamphlets, bookmarks, and a career awareness DVD.

**8. Public Information Exhibit** - TSHA has a large and small PIE Exhibit available to members at no cost. Shipping cost for the PIE exhibits will be paid by TSHA. Registration Forms are available on the TSHA website, [www.txsha.org](http://www.txsha.org).

**9. Online Membership Directory** – Ability to search for members by name, city, professional setting, and/or employer. Search results include name, city, email, professional setting, employer, and phone numbers.

**Life Members:** Receive all the above benefits at no cost.

**Students:** In addition the above benefits, students receive special student-only membership benefits! Student membership is only \$25 per year, and student member Convention registration is only \$50! Potential members in or during their Clinical Fellowship Year (CFY) who were not student members of TSHA will receive a 25% active membership discount on their dues with documentation from the CF Supervisor stating that they are supervising the CFY. Students who have been members of the Association for 1 year will receive a 50% discount on their first year active or associate member dues. Students who have been members for 2 years will receive a 100% discount on their first year active or associate member dues.

## **B. Oklahoma**

**Oklahoma has the following benefits posted on the Membership page of our website**

### Membership Benefits

- Quarterly Newsletter (newsletters are now published electronically)
- Membership Directory
- Web Forum
- Discounted Conference Registrations
- Reciprocity With Surrounding States
- Access to "Members Only" information on Website
- E-mail Messaging
- Low Cost Independent Study for CEUs
- Special Interest Caucuses
- Professional Networking and Peer Support

### **C. Iowa**

We created an orientation document for incoming board members this year. It has the list of member benefits we include in our quarterly newsletter, otherwise, we don't tend to have a specific document per se. Angie Burda

#### **Member Benefits**

- Continuing Education Opportunities:
  - Annual Fall Convention in which can earn ASHA, AAA CEUs and State Licensure CEUs: SLP, A, HAD
- Lobbyist to Monitor Legislation
- Membership Directory
- The Lingua, ISHA's Quarterly Newsletter
- Direct Communication Link with ASHA
- Advertising and Networking Opportunities
- Professional leadership, support and recognition opportunities
- Discounts at partner companies that sell SLP & Audiology products: Turning Point Therapy & Technology, Specialty Instruments, Midwest Special Instruments Corp, Advanced Multimedia Devices, TheraSimplicity
  - Many web resources are linked on the ISHA website including: University Programs, AEs, and Iowa Legislature

### **D. Tennessee**

I copied this right off our web site. We also provide this as a single page handout whenever we have a membership drive. We did not make a glossy brochure. I hope this helps.

Paulette Gentry, TAASLP/Tennessee

The Tennessee Speech Hearing Association was founded in 1953 and became the Tennessee Association of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists in 1974.

#### **TAASLP Mission Statement:**

To meet the needs of persons with hearing, communication, and swallowing disorders and to enhance the professional development of audiologists and speech-language pathologists.

## **Why TAASLP?**

1) Professionalism – TAASLP is the only organization in Tennessee that represents the interests of audiologists and speech-language pathologists and their clients. Its sole mission is “to meet the needs of persons with hearing, communication, and swallowing disorders and to enhance the professional development of audiologists and speech-language pathologists.” Whether you are in private practice, a medical/hospital setting, public schools, or academia, it is essential that you stay abreast of developments in your profession and prepare for the future in today’s increasingly competitive world. That is why hundreds across the state are members of TAASLP. They feel the involvement is critical to their careers, and they are given an opportunity to “give something back” to their profession by participating in TAASLP activities.

2) Advocacy – TAASLP continually monitors legislation and regulations affecting the practice of audiology and speech-language pathology at the state and national levels. By staying in touch with legislators, testifying at committee hearings, or participating in letter writing campaigns, members have a tremendous impact on governmental issues. In 1999, TAASLP played a leading role in influencing Congress to place a two-year moratorium on the arbitrary \$1500 therapy cap and to provide new funding for newborn-infant hearing screening grants. In 2000, efforts were undertaken to extend the moratorium, reduce the caseload cap size, and repeal or reduce the annual professional practice tax in Tennessee. In addition to members’ efforts, TAASLP employs a professional lobbyist to monitor legislation.

3) Education – TAASLP provides its members with many opportunities for continuing education to help them keep up with advancements in diagnostics and treatment methods. Every year TAASLP offers an annual convention, and there are usually four other opportunities year-round. With the exception of convention, all continuing education activities are available to TAASLP members at no cost or at significantly reduced rates.

4) Networking – When you attend a TAASLP meeting, serve on a committee, or participate in other activities, you have an excellent opportunity to interact with your colleagues one on one, share common interests and concerns, and network for employment and professional activities.

5) Information – TAASLP publishes a newsletter, membership directory, and other materials to keep members informed on issues and developments affecting the practice of audiology and speech-language pathology. However, the most timely and accessible source of TAASLP information is its web center. The center provides members with updates on legislative and regulatory issues, job listings, publications, a calendar of events, message forum, leadership contacts, and valuable links to other professional websites