

ASHA State-Based Advocacy Networks

Updated May, 2013

Network Name	State Education Advocacy Leaders (SEALs)	State Medicare Administrative Contractor (SMAC) Network	State Advocates for Reimbursement (STAR)
Charge	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.	Enhance and perpetuate the advocacy, leadership and communication of ASHA members at the state level to influence administrative and public policy decisions that impact the Medicare coverage and reimbursement of speech-language pathology services and audiology services. Review and provide input/comments to LCDs.	Lead advocacy efforts and create coverage and reimbursement strategies with state associations. STAR Network members link their states to ASHA in advocacy with legislators, state insurance commissioners, health insurance executives, unions, and employers on matters related to private health plan and Medicaid coverage and reimbursement.
Staff Coordinator	Eileen Crowe ecrowe@asha.org	Mark Kander mkander@asha.org	Laurie Alban Havens lalbanhavens@asha.org
Number of States	50, plus District of Columbia	39	46
Number of Participants	50 (Appointed by state associations)	43 (Appointed by state associations)	54 (Appointed by state associations)
Origin	1999	2000	2003
Budgeted Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASHA Community (online) • conference calls • funds for SEALs Champion (per the 2011 Strategic Pathway) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASHA Community (online) • monthly conference calls (funded by Strategic Pathway) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASHA Community (online) • monthly conference calls • face-to-face meeting in conjunction with Health Care/Business Institute • grants to state associations for reimbursement advocacy activities related to private health plan and Medicaid coverage
Websites	www.asha.org/advocacy/state/seals/	www.asha.org/Practice/reimbursement/medicare/SMAC/	www.asha.org/practice/reimbursement/private-plans/reimbursement_network/