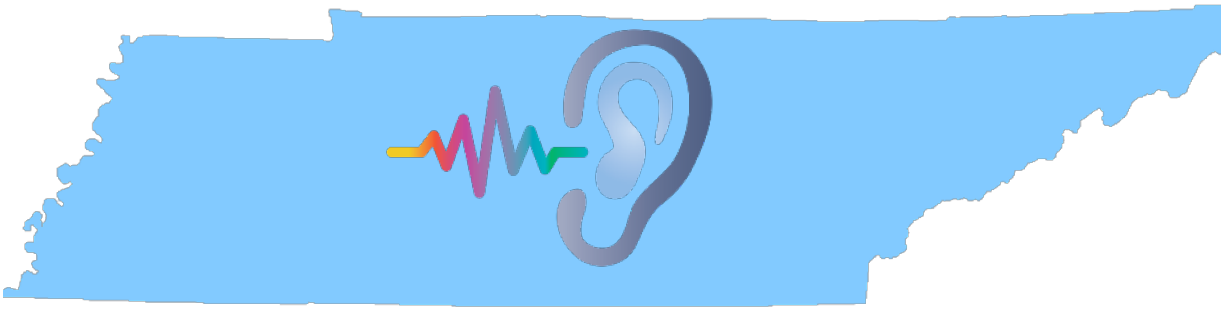

TENNESSEE SAA NEWSLETTER

Updates from the Student Academy of Audiology for the Au.D. students of the Volunteer State!

Advocacy Updates

In our last newsletter, we discussed some of the significant pay reductions that came into effect with the new year due to changes in Medicare Part B. However, the pay reductions for audiologists and speech-language pathologists have now been pushed back due to a provision in the stimulus package that was passed on December 22, 2020. These changes are now set to come into effect on March 31, 2021. Audiologists and speech-language pathologists are now lobbying for a long-term resolution to this problem. Visit the Academy's website to stay up to date!

Upcoming Events

AAA 2021 Virtual
April 14-16

SAA Conference 2021
Virtual, April 14

TAASLP Member Highlight

With the Tennessee Academy of Audiologists and Speech Pathologists (TAASLP) playing such a huge role in supporting and advocating for our profession, I thought it would be great to introduce you to a member of the leadership team! Jamie Seek, Vice President of Legislative Affairs, is a speech-language pathologist (SLP) who completed her MA at the University of Memphis. Since graduating, she has worked as a school SLP; she has a clear passion for providing care for children as she helps them access communication. She decided to get involved with TAASLP leadership after seeing the need for legislative advocacy. It became clear to her that she couldn't wait for others to take action, she had to step up for the profession she is so passionate about. One interesting topic of discussion from my talk with Jamie is the current advocacy push for the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact; this would allow the licenses for audiologists and SLPs to be valid in all states within the compact. Jamie shared that the best way to help affect change in our profession is to stay up to date and contact your representatives! Read more about the great work Jamie and the rest of TAASLP is doing.

A Note from your State Ambassador

I hope your new year is off to a great start, as I am sure everyone is ready to turn the page from 2020! The new year brings new opportunities and this year I hope to highlight some great things going on in our state. In the next newsletter, I will highlight different career paths for audiologists! If you have any ideas you would like to see in the upcoming year please reach out! I am here to serve and will do whatever it takes to serve you all best. Best of luck in the upcoming semester!