

December 17, 2025

Ms. Mengting Shieh
2021 Ygnacio Valley Road C202
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

RE: Teletherapy in Schools

Dear Ms. Shieh:

Thank you for contacting the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) regarding the equivalence of speech-language pathology services delivered via telepractice compared to those provided in person. This letter, which you may share with families and colleagues, summarizes key information from ASHA's Practice Portal and Evidence Maps demonstrating that telepractice is an effective and evidence-based service delivery model. Links to these resources, along with additional guidance for school-based SLPs, are included at the end of this letter.

ASHA is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 241,000 members, certificate holders, and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists (SLPs); speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology assistants; and students. Over 17,800 ASHA members reside in California and more than 56 percent of SLPs work in education settings there.¹

ASHA recognizes telepractice as a valid and evidence-based method for delivering services in schools. When provided by qualified and properly trained SLPs, telepractice meets the same professional standards as in-person services, including ASHA's Code of Ethics, Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology, and all applicable state and federal laws. Research consistently shows that children receiving therapy via telepractice achieve outcomes comparable to those receiving traditional in-person services. For example:

- Studies report no significant differences between video-based and face-to-face interventions for school-aged children with speech sound disorders.²
- Research also indicates similar levels of parental satisfaction for telepractice and in person interventions for children on the autism spectrum.³

Parents can be assured that telepractice maintains the same high standards as in-person therapy. Online assessments and group interventions are equally effective, and HIPAA compliant platforms safeguard privacy and confidentiality. Telepractice offers additional benefits, including greater convenience, reduced travel time, fewer missed sessions, and continuity of services during school closures or illness. It also improves access for students in rural or underserved areas.

For more information and resources to share with families, please review:

- [The Value of Telepractice in Speech-Language Pathology](#)⁴

- [Telepractice Checklist for School-Based Professionals](#)⁵
- [ASHA Practice Portal: Telepractice](#)⁶

Thank you again for contacting ASHA about this important topic. If you or your colleagues have any questions, please contact Eileen Crowe, ASHA's Director, State Education Affairs, at ecrowe@asha.org.

Sincerely,



Eileen K. Crowe
ASHA Director, State Education Affairs

¹ American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2023). *California* [Quick Facts].

<https://www.asha.org/siteassets/advocacy/state-flyers/california-state-flyer.pdf>

² Grogan-Johnson, S., Alvares, R., Rowan, L., & Hall, N. (2010). A pilot study comparing the effectiveness of speech language therapy provided by telepractice with traditional on-site therapy. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*, 16(3), 134–139.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1258/jtt.2009.090608>

³ American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2023) ASHA Evidence Maps. Using Telehealth to Provide Interventions for Children with ASD: Summary of the Systematic Review.

<https://apps.asha.org/EvidenceMaps/Articles/ArticleSummary/c8805b01-e8c4-ed11-8145-005056834e2b>⁴

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The Value of Telepractice in Speech-Language Pathology.

<https://www.asha.org/siteassets/ebp/dov/value-of-telepractice-in-speech-language-pathology.pdf>⁵

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. ASHA Telepractice Checklist for School-Based Professionals.

<https://www.asha.org/siteassets/uploadedfiles/ASHA-Telepractice-Checklist-for-School-Based-Professionals.pdf>⁶

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Telepractice.

https://www.asha.org/Practice-Portal/Professional-Issues/Telepractice/#collapse_2