

**DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY  
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY  
JEFFERSON COLLEGE OF REHABILITATION SCIENCES  
SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC PLAN  
2020-2025**

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology at Thomas Jefferson University is to provide the academic and clinical preparation to ensure that graduates have the competencies with which to excel as independent clinicians and as members of interprofessional clinical teams, while also exemplifying the highest ethical standards. The program aspires to accomplish this through the integration of diverse academic and clinical learning and research experiences in the field of communication disorders and sciences within the context of the rehabilitation sciences. Supervised clinical experiences will prepare graduates to treat individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with a variety of communication and swallowing disorders across the lifespan.

**Vision**

The vision of the graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology is to be recognized, both regionally and nationally, for its outstanding medical speech-language pathology program with a strong clinical component, interprofessional and comprehensive curriculum, and service to the community. The program will prepare students to improve the lives of individuals with communication and swallowing disorders recognizing, in accordance with the American Speech-Language- Hearing Association, that effective communication and swallowing skills are human rights accessible and achievable for all.

**Strategic Plan**

The Department of Speech-Language Pathology is committed to excellence by developing, monitoring, and assessing the academic and clinical components of the graduate program on a continuing basis. The following goals and objectives have been developed in order to promote its strategic plan by establishing a program of the highest quality and providing a focus that is congruent with the stated mission and values of both the University and the Jefferson College of Rehabilitation Sciences. The Speech-Language Pathology Strategic Plan will be reviewed and updated on a yearly basis at its annual retreat. It will also be updated periodically to align with any modifications made to the Thomas Jefferson University or the College of Rehabilitation Sciences strategic plans.

**Goals of Strategic Plan**

**GOAL #1** – Create a dynamic Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology program that incorporates the unique experiences available through Thomas Jefferson University.

**GOAL #2** – Recruit academically driven students from diverse backgrounds for the Master of Speech-Language Pathology Program.

**GOAL #3** – Obtain full accreditation for the SLP Master of Science Degree program through the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA).

**GOAL #4** – Develop processes that ensure continuous program improvement.

**GOAL #5**- Commit to the principles of diversity, equity and social justice in order to improve access for individuals with communication, swallowing and feeding disorders.