

Listening and Spoken Language: Graduate student training to maximize outcomes in children who are deaf or hard of hearing

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Listening and Spoken Language

Through early identification and intervention, children who are deaf or hard of hearing have a greater opportunity to develop listening and spoken language (LSL). In order to maximize the development of listening and spoken language, it is essential that qualified professionals assist and guide these families on their journey.



LSL Trained Professionals

Parents often experience challenges accessing specialized services due to a shortage of professionals with expertise. To address this shortage, Utah State University (USU) offers an emphasis in Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) for graduate students in audiology, speech language pathology, and deaf education.

USU LSL Emphasis

The USU LSL program is an interdisciplinary training program that provides graduate students with collaboration and in-field application opportunities. This helps to prepare them to work with young children who are deaf or hard of hearing, and are learning to communicate using listening and spoken language.

Shortage of LSL Trained Professionals



LSL Graduate Student Training

Students take additional courses and participate in extensive practicum experiences, that include practicum in the onsite pediatric and cochlear implant clinic and Sound Beginnings program. They also learn to work with the families of the children and help to develop parent education materials.

Interdisciplinary Training

Courses
Practica
Grand Rounds

Each student gets a letter endorsement of what their professional skills and how it fits into a transdisciplinary model.

Collaboration

Problem solving
Goal development
Progress monitoring

Students observe and complete practicum sessions in other disciplines, learning how to effectively collaborate with other professionals.

Sound Beginnings

Early intervention
Early education
Pediatric audiology

Students are trained by Sound Beginnings faculty and learn specialized skills for working with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Courses

LSL Strategies
Pediatric Audiology
Audiology Learning Services
Family Centered Practices
Language & Emergent Literacy in Children with HL
Multiple Disabilities
Practical Curriculum Intro to CI

Practica

Self group therapy sessions
Pediatric audiology clinic
Cochlear implant clinic
Classroom oral language group
Early intervention home visit
Respite service
Teacher group

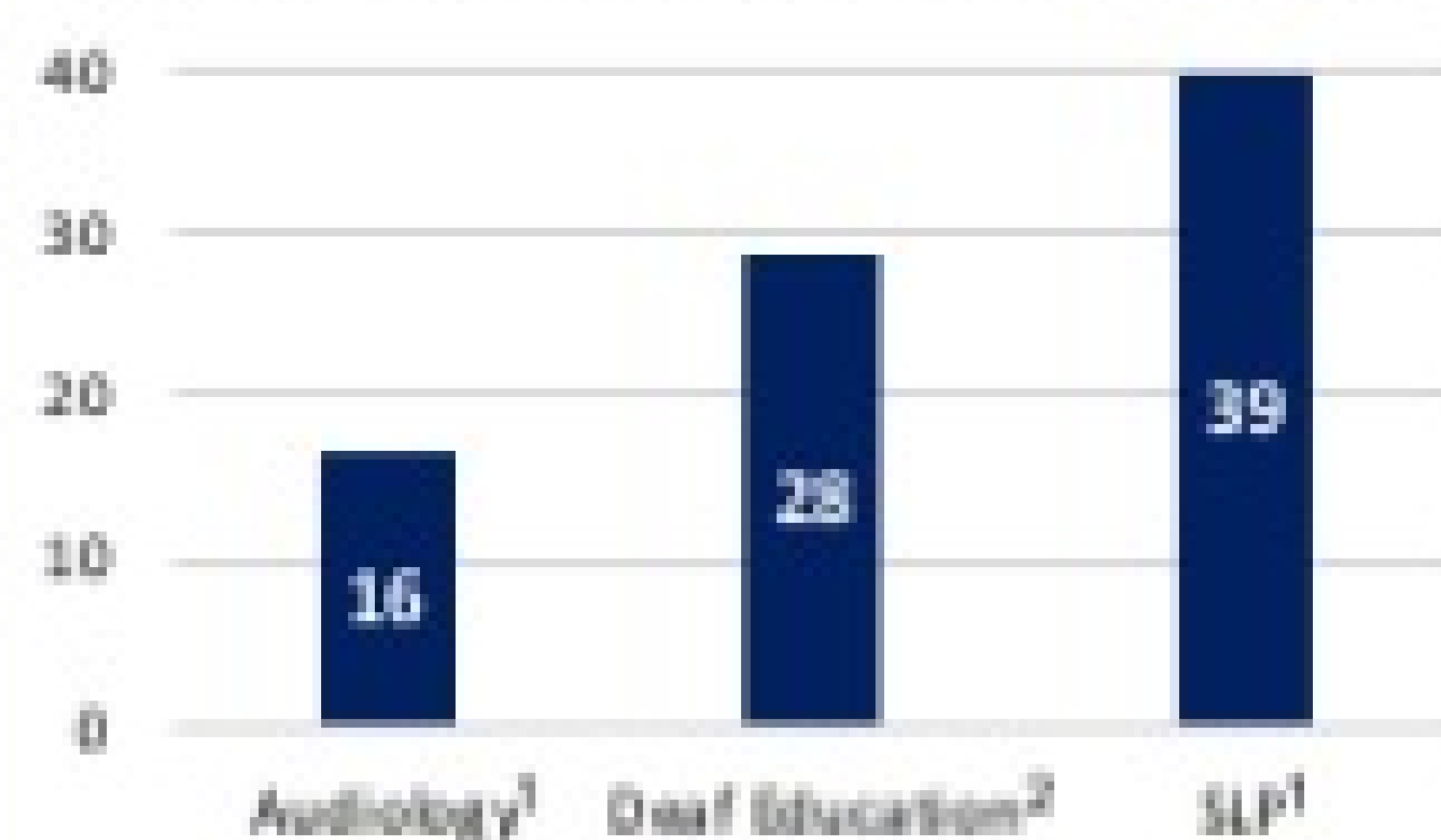
Parent Education

Family Education Support Group
How to Learn website development
Creation of parent materials
Creation of language materials
Webinars

LSL Emphasis Program Benefits: Filling the Gap

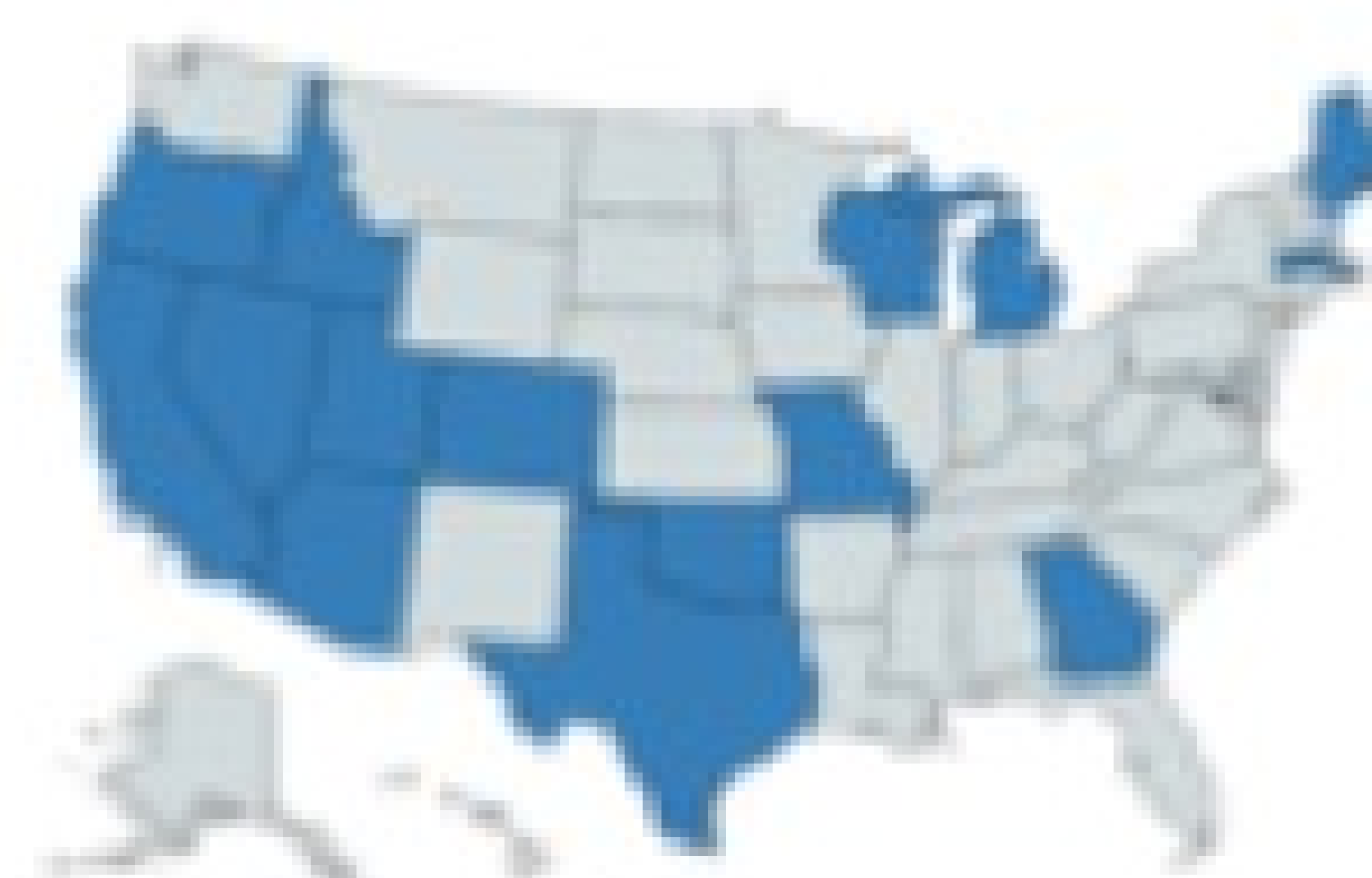
USU Graduate programs are helping address the shortage of LSL trained professionals.

USU LSL Program Graduates



¹ Graduates from 2007 - 2018
² Graduates from 2011 - 2018

Areas Served by Graduates



Sound Beginnings Children Served: Birth to 6 years

