

Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology
STRATEGIC PLAN: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MSLP PROGRAM MISSION

The speech-language pathology program's mission at Universidad Ana G. Mendez (UAGM) is to prepare well trained professionals in the Speech-Language Pathology field who can deliver excellent person-centered care to a variety of pediatric and adult populations with communication and swallowing disorders.

Our program is committed to fostering research, academic and clinical skills with the highest ethical and professional evidence-based practice standards in our students. Our program also aims to graduate well-rounded, competent speech-language pathologists ready to provide professional services to all populations in need.

MSLP PROGRAM VISION

To be the first academic choice for students wanting to become Speech Language Pathologists who can provide communication and swallowing services to a variety of populations across the lifespan, by providing a flexible academically strong program emphasizing the integration of clinical application and evidence-based knowledge.

FOCUS AREAS OF THE STRATEGIC

The MSLP program's 2025-2030 strategic plan is centered around six focus areas which are: students (admissions, current students, alumni), faculty (development, recruitment), research (research, external funding), clinical component (internships, externships, service delivery), community impact (community service), and program administration (governance, accreditation).

PROGRAM STRATEGIC GOALS

Focus Area 1: Students (admissions, current students, alumni)

Strategic goal 1: The MSLP program will ensure a climate of trust, excellence and professionalism that will enrich students' academic life and their academic and clinical performance.



Objective 1.1: The Program admission process will be conducted at the Department of Health Sciences following the academic norms and regulations established by UAGM.

Objective 1.2: Students will actively participate in academic mentoring activities and will value the program's faculty as their career development mentors.

Objective 1.3: MSLP Program graduates will increase their passing rates in local and national board examinations up to 80%.

Focus Area 2: Faculty (development, recruitment)

Strategic goal 2: The MSLP Program faculty at UAGM Gurabo, will pursue the highest competencies on their specialty areas.

Objective 2.1: The MSLP Program will have a total of six (6) ASHA Certified doctoral level faculty members with full time appointments.

Objective 2.2: The faculty will maintain current memberships to professional organizations related to the profession and will keep updated through continuing education in the various speech-language pathology areas: fluency, cognitive rehab, voice and swallowing, literacy, school-based issues, telepractice, multicultural, among others.

Focus Area 3: Research (research, external funding)

Strategic goal 3: The MSLP program through its faculty and students, will contribute to the body of research in Speech Language pathology in particular as it related to the population of Puerto Rico and monolingual and bilingual Spanish speakers.

Objective 3.1: Faculty and student-initiated research will be accepted for publication in peer review Journals, presentations, and on-line publications

Focus Area 4: Clinical Component (internships, externships, service delivery)

Strategic goal 4: The MSLP program will continue to grow the clinical practicum component to ensure that students have the experiences needed to acquire the clinical competencies required in the field of speech and language pathology.

Objective 4.1: To increase the amount of external clinical practice sites that serve the population from children to adults, which offer varied clinical experiences for our students.

Focus Area 5: Community Impact (community service)

Strategic goal 5: Our MSLP Program will lead initiatives geared towards the prevention and identification of speech, language, swallowing, and hearing disorders in the community.

Objective 5.1: Students and faculty will provide screening, orientation and consultation services to the community (ages: birth to geriatric population).

Focus Area 6: Program Administration (governance, accreditation)

Strategic goal 6: The MSLP program's administration efficiency in operations and governance will facilitate successfully meeting stakeholders' expectations.

Objective 6.1: The MSLP program will attain and maintain accreditation from ASHA's Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA).