There are many options for getting help with hearing, speech, language, and swallowing.

- Use OSLA’s Find a Practitioner to find a private practitioner or service agency near you – at www.osla.on.ca.
  Please note that private services are not covered through OHIP. However, many private extended health insurance plans offer some coverage of speech therapy services. Furthermore, there are many charitable organizations that offer financial assistance to families.

- For pre-school services funded by the Ministry of Child and Youth Services, go to http://www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/topics/earlychildhood/speechlanguage/locations.aspx

- For the Ontario Infant Hearing Programme go to: http://www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/topics/earlychildhood/hearing/where.aspx


- There are many agencies in Ontario that provide SLP services such as The Speech and Stuttering Institute, Geneva Centre, the Aphasia Institute, Surrey Place to name just a few.

For additional information about Ontario’s speech-language pathologists or audiologists, contact:

**Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (OSLA)**

Tel: 416-920-3676
Toll free: 1-800-718-OSLA(6752)

or visit www.osla.on.ca
Public Funding

Public funding varies, depending on the patient/client’s condition, with access to publicly funded services inconsistent across the Province. Public funds can cover the following for residents of Ontario:

- Some hospital services
- *Ontario Preschool Speech and Language programs* and the *Infant Hearing Program*
- Some hearing tests through ear, nose, and throat specialists ENT (a family doctor can provide a referral)
- School Services or School Boards (contact your child’s principal)
- School Health Support Services (*Community Care Access Centres*)
- *Assistive Devices Program* (e.g. hearing aid coverage)
- *Assistance to Children with Severe Disabilities* (ACSD) – Ministry of Children and Youth Services
- *Ontario Disability Support Program* (ODSP)

Depending on the condition of the patient or client, services of Ontario’s speech-language pathologists and audiologists can be available in the following, but availability varies throughout Ontario:

- Hospitals
- Rehabilitation Facilities
- Long Term Care Facilities
- Family Health Teams
- Schools
- Community/Home Care Centres
- Children’s Treatment Centres
- Private SLP and Hearing Clinics
- Private Individual Practitioners

Depending on the condition of the patient or client, services of Ontario’s speech-language pathologists and audiologists can be available in the following, but availability varies throughout Ontario:

Private payment options exist through private practitioners. These services could be funded through extended health insurance plans, auto insurance claims, or by personal payment. *Many extended health care plans provide for speech-language pathology.* Patients/Clients have also accessed services through the support of community charities/agencies, some of which are listed below.

**President’s Choice Children’s Charity**

Qualifications:
- Child (18 and under) with a diagnosed physical or developmental disability
- Family income $70,000 or less
- Require help with mobility equipment, environmental modification or therapy

**Jennifer Ashleigh Children’s Charity**

Qualifications:
- Family income $60,000 or less
- More information can be found [www.jenash.org](http://www.jenash.org)

**March of Dimes**

Includes:
- Aphasia Services
- Stroke / Acquired Brain Injury Services
- Assistive Devices Program
- ... and many more! Go to [www.marchofdimes.ca](http://www.marchofdimes.ca)

**Royal Canadian Legion**

Its primary purpose is to provide access to computer technology and health information for the benefit of veterans and other clients. This will provide individuals with opportunities to maintain and improve their health and wellness. Go to [www.on.legion.ca](http://www.on.legion.ca)

**How Can I Find a Speech-Language Pathologist or Audiologist?**

- Ask your family doctor
- Call OSLA for the names of private practitioners in your area at 416-920-3676/1-800-718-6752
- Contact your local hospital, rehabilitation centre, or Community Care Access Centre’s rehabilitation departments to find out what services are in your area.

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