

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Strategic Plan Progress Report

Master of Science in Medical Speech-Language Pathology (MS MedSLP)

Calendar Year 2026 • Status as of June 2026

Overview

As of mid-2026, the MS MedSLP program is positioned strongly for its eight-year CAA reaccreditation review while advancing an ambitious competency-based education (CBE) agenda. Core student-success metrics—PRAXIS pass rate and program completion—continue to exceed targets, and faculty have made measurable progress operationalizing program outcomes, entrustment-based assessment, and simulation-based learning. Areas requiring sustained attention include the exit-survey promoter score, a dedicated research budget line, and full implementation of international service and technology-visibility initiatives.

Progress at a Glance

Strategic Domain	Status as of June 2026
Accreditation & Assessment	On track — site visit confirmed Sept 21–22, 2026; reaccreditation application submitted with no focus areas flagged.
Teaching & Curriculum	Advancing — eight Program Outcomes set; KSAR allocation and performance-based syllabus conversion underway.
Student Outcomes	Strengthening — competency/entrustment assessment system piloted; PRAXIS and completion targets met.
Research & Scholarship	Mixed — national and interuniversity engagement met; dedicated research budget line not yet met.
Community & Service	Building — literacy program launched; international service foundational steps complete, implementation pending.
Innovation & Technology	In progress — endoscopy and VR simulation expanding; several technology items awaiting results.

1 Accreditation & Program Assessment

- **Reaccreditation on track.** The CAA site visit is confirmed for September 21–22, 2026, with a draft schedule submitted and no focus areas identified in the preliminary review. The eight-year application has been completed, reviewed, signed, and submitted; documentation resources, the public open forum, and 2026–2027 manual revisions are in process.
- **PRAXIS pass rate. (Met)** Three-year average of 90% (82%, 91%, 96%), with 96% for academic year 2024/2025.
- **Completion rate. (Met)** 92% for August 2025; three-year average of 89%, exceeding the 80% target.
- **Peer review of clinical education. (Met)** Faculty reached consensus in 2025 and 2026 that current resources and collaboration are sufficient; a formal peer-review system is not warranted at this time.

- **Exit-survey promoter score. (Not met)** Score remained below the >11.00 target (prior 10.53). Three improvement areas were identified: perceived preparation in motor speech disorders, timeliness of course feedback, and preparation in screening and prevention.

2 Teaching & Curriculum

- **Program outcomes & KSAR.** Eight Program Outcomes are established; KSAR allocation and measurement are underway ahead of the fall 2026 outcome review. KSAR alignment was modeled in two courses in March 2026, prompting a structured syllabus-review process disseminated in June 2026.
- **Performance-based syllabi.** Approximately one-third of core syllabi have been converted and minimum-competency assignments now appear in roughly 60% of the core curriculum; the fall 2026 syllabi are the next conversion target toward the 80% goal.
- **Faculty structure. (Met)** Clinical and didactic job descriptions are unified, a promotion pathway for clinical faculty without a terminal degree is established, workloads have been realigned across three semesters, and expertise spans the ASHA Scope of Practice.
- **IPE & simulation. (Met)** A co-developed PT–SLP acute care simulation was deployed in fall 2025 and is being refined; program simulation events were reviewed against the IPEC 2023 standards.
- **Scholarship & dissemination.** Faculty presented at INACSL (June 2026, competency-based assessment workgroup) and IMSH 2026 (CN/OME VR module), with psychological-safety work presented at the University of Guelph (May 2026) and endoscopy validation accepted for DRS 2026.

3 Student Outcomes

- **Competency & entrustment assessment.** A semester-2 mini-competency oral exam was piloted in March 2026; a six-point CBE entrustment scale was developed, and faculty calibration sessions were held June 15 and June 29, 2026. Semester-3 oral comprehensive exam questions have been drafted.
- **Clinical entrustment reviews.** Preceptor-led entrustment reviews are planned for fall 2026 (Cohort 10) across three target assessment and treatment areas, using six entrustment-level ratings as artifacts for the competency committee.
- **Acute care rounds. (Met)** All students completed at least one acute care rounds experience before externship; 60% completed two or more.
- **Portfolio review.** Final-semester portfolio reviews are ongoing in preparation for August 2026 graduation.

4 Research & Scholarship

- **National involvement. (Met)** Faculty are engaged in CAPCSD and ASHA CBE initiatives, manuscript review, and the GAMER project.
- **Interuniversity research. (Met)** A Parkinson's research project with BYU Engineering, Noorda, and RMU began data collection in fall 2025.
- **Research budget line. (Not met)** Partially addressed: the 2026 budget added three student assistantships (10 hrs/week) usable for research support. A dedicated line-item proposal is targeted for 2027.

5 Community Integration & Service

- **Literacy program.** A new clinical-education program launched in June 2026—a mock trial camp featuring a sitting judge—to provide language and literacy support to school-age children; outcomes will be assessed at the close of the summer semester.

- **VFSS access.** A special-project funding request was submitted to the university foundation in June 2026 to expand dysphagia services for rural populations, skilled-nursing residents, and school-age children.
- **International underserved service. (Not met)** Foundational steps for the World of Difference telepractice initiative are complete (partners, service needs, and delivery mechanism identified); implementation and scheduling remain pending.

6 Innovation, Facilities & Technology

- **Endoscopy training.** An introductory boot camp (January 2026) and a FEES/MBS integration seminar (June 2026) were completed; a VFSS boot camp and a shift of the endoscopy boot camp to winter are planned to expand guided practice.
 - **VR simulation.** The CN/OME VR training module was integrated and presented at IMSH 2026; validation results are expected after the August 2026 round.
 - **Emerging items.** AI clinical-support tools have been introduced on campus but are not yet program-wide; pharyngeal manometry, PAS validation, and EHRgo results are pending, and the website technology-visibility item has stalled despite repeated requests.
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Priorities Through Year-End 2026

- Complete site-visit preparation and host the public open forum ahead of the September 21–22 review.
- Finalize KSAR allocation and convert fall syllabi toward the 80% performance-measure target.
- Deploy and calibrate preceptor entrustment reviews with Cohort 10.
- Act on the three exit-survey improvement areas and advance the 2027 research budget-line proposal.