

Executive Summary: Department of Communication Disorders (CDIS)

The Department of Communication Disorders at Texas State University continues to advance its mission by aligning its strategic priorities with the university's five strategic pillars: (1) elevating student success; (2) achieving R1 research status; (3) increasing recruitment and enrollment; (4) enhancing the Round Rock campus; and (5) becoming an employer of choice.

To elevate student success, the department is prioritizing continuous improvement of curriculum and assessment practices. Faculty are engaged in reviewing and refining student learning outcomes to ensure that academic programming remains rigorous, responsive, and aligned with accreditation standards and workforce expectations. These efforts support student achievement, clinical readiness, and career preparedness.

In support of the university's goal of achieving R1 status, the department is expanding its research infrastructure and fostering collaboration. Faculty are increasing engagement with research development resources, pursuing external funding opportunities, and strengthening interdisciplinary partnerships. These initiatives aim to enhance scholarly productivity and position the department as a contributor to high-impact research and innovation.

To increase recruitment and enrollment, the department is evaluating admissions processes and program structures to attract a diverse and highly qualified student body. Strategic efforts include reviewing admissions criteria, exploring program accessibility, and identifying opportunities to expand pathways into the profession. These actions are designed to grow enrollment while maintaining program quality and competitiveness.

The department also contributes to enhancing the Round Rock campus by supporting program development and identifying opportunities to expand the presence of academic and clinical training. This includes aligning resources and programming to meet regional workforce needs and improving access to educational opportunities across campuses.

Finally, in pursuit of becoming an employer of choice, the department is investing in faculty and staff support, development, and retention. Leadership is working to strengthen workplace culture, improve operational processes, and ensure that faculty and staff have the resources needed to succeed in teaching, research, and service roles.

Across all pillars, the department remains committed to innovation, collaboration, and continuous improvement. These goals serve as practical steps toward achieving the broader strategic vision, ensuring that the Department of Communication Disorders remains responsive to the evolving needs of students, the profession, and the communities it serves.