As a Master’s Degree Graduate of a fully accredited Speech-Language Program, you have multiple opportunities to seek and get full-time and part-time employment. While there are many perks to working on your own or working for a clinic or hospital or employment agency, in the opinion of many school – based SLPs there is no better place to work than for a school system. GO SSLP has put together a list of reasons why we think it is better to work directly for a school system.

Benefits of working directly for a school system:

1. paid sick leave (up to 15 days per year – which can be accumulated and used in subsequent years)
2. FMLA/Maternity/Paternity Leave
3. paid personal days
4. paid holidays
5. health/dental/vision/disability/life insurance
6. teacher retirement system
7. additional retirement investments provided by some school systems
8. annual salary increases
9. credit on pay scale for years worked outside of school settings
10. many districts offer financial incentives such as sign-on bonuses, membership fees for ASHA, GO SSLP, etc.
11. many districts pay for continuing education hours that are relevant for SLPs
12. budget for materials/supplies
13. pay is prorated over 12 months and is based on number of days worked as opposed to number of clients served
14. work schedule more closely aligns w/children’s school schedules (i.e., holidays and summers off)
15. mentors and clinical fellowship supervisors available
16. sense of belonging to a team/community
17. working with children, celebrating their milestones, observing their progress from year to year
18. opportunity for consistent assignments of school(s)
19. group therapy which can allow for more carryover and opportunities for social interaction
20. a great support system