

Professional Development

Finding Their Voice: AAC Strategies To Empower Students With Complex Communication Needs

Presented by: Elizabeth Biggs, Ph.D. Hosted by: FAU CARD

About the Presenter

Elizabeth E. Biggs, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of special education at Vanderbilt University. Her research focuses on improving social, communication, and literacy outcomes for nonspeaking students or those with limited speech using augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). She also teaches courses on inclusion, general education access, and literacy for students with extensive support needs.

Training Descriptions

Target Audience: Educators, Speech and Language Therapists, Board Certified Behavior Analysts, Mental Health and Behavioral Health Therapists & providers, Other Professionals, Parents.

Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) is an effective, evidence-based practice for students with limited or no speech. However, educators often face challenges integrating AAC into daily school interactions. This presentation will provide practical insights on implementing AAC interventions for students with complex communication needs, including those with autism, intellectual disabilities, and multiple disabilities, who lack reliable communication methods.

Training Objectives

Participants will be able to:

1. Discuss AAC myths that persist in the field and the research evidence about the benefits of AAC intervention for students with complex communication needs.

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2. Describe practical, research-based strategies for teaching early language and communication to students with complex communication needs using AAC in natural settings.

FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities

Date: April 1-30, 2025

Location: Online, pre-recorded, 60-minute webinar

Register HERE

Limited to first 500 participants

Registration is mandatory.

For more information contact:

CARD@fau.edu or (561) 213-5751

Be sure to contact your ESE District Staff or Staff Development Contact to determine the process for receiving in-service credits.

