

Augmentative Communication Evaluations

Simplified

Tools and Resources

DATES ARRANGED TO MEET
YOUR NEEDS



HOSTED AT
YOUR LOCATION

Featuring



Aug. Comm. Evals. Simplified

A unique approach which **simplifies** the AAC evaluation process yet provides **effective** and **low-cost** tools and resource ideas.

Host this popular workshop today-
No charge to you
Free CEU's for participants
Benefits for your organization
Raise awareness of your own program

This day is for professionals including:

- Speech-Language Pathologists
- AT Specialists
- Special Educators
- OT/PT's
- Other AT Team members
- Administrators



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Benefits for your organization:

- Up to 5 people can attend from your organization at no charge (depends on final number of participants attending)
- Learn ways to provide cost-effective, yet efficient AAC evaluations for your clients &/or students.
- We provide promotional flyers, will do emails and/or mailings if necessary.
- Have free use for 6 months of website tools from AAC TechConnect (for up to 5 users).
 - (Value \$150+)
 - Paperwork Assistant
 - Device Assistant
- Promote your organization as a local resource for AAC Services.

What we ask you to provide:

- Room which seats up to 50 participants (w/tables and chairs - classroom style).
- Assistance in promoting to local organizations (must have 25 paying participants in order to offer).
 - Fee is only \$125-\$135 for 1st day and reduced for the 2nd day.
- To email brochures and/or provide us with emails and/or addresses for local school districts/organizations/agency: universities/listserves, etc.
- LCD projector and screen
- Microphone (if needed)
- Internet access (if possible)
- Coffee in A.M.; snacks for morning and afternoon (we will provide optional lunch).
- Adequate parking

Day #1 Overview:

Augmentative Communication Evaluations Simplified (**ACES**): Tools and Resources

This workshop will focus on planning and implementing effective augmentative and alternate communication evaluations using the **ACES Approach**.

This workshop provides:

- ✓ Step-by-step approach for doing **AAC** evaluations
- ✓ A recommended list of low-cost tools for your evaluation toolkit
- ✓ Sets of suggested vocabulary/activities for all levels of communication
- ✓ List of resources available to help you to decide on appropriate AAC devices
- ✓ Templates to assist throughout **AAC** process including report writing



Participants will receive a variety of additional resources for their toolkits:

- A CD containing 100+ device flyers from manufacturers
- CD also has additional assessment templates & other resources
- Catalogues & communication software CD's from manufacturers
- Free trial offer for online clinical tools

Objectives:

Upon completion of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- > Describe the communicator's skills/needs and match them to required device features using pre-made templates.
- > Identify some low-cost communication tools which make up an evaluation toolkit.
- > Assemble your own evaluation tools & resources for a variety of levels of communicators.
- > Identify local resources and vendors for trials, support, and funding assistance for AAC devices.

Day #2 Optional:

Participants will:

- > See case studies for each level of communicator.
- > Work on own cases using the provided tools/resources.
- > Meet local vendors and/or see demonstrations of available devices.

CEU'S:

AAC TechConnect is offering IACET CEU's provided by AAC Institute, which can also be used for ASHA certification/maintenance or other professional CEU's. Note: This is **not** an ASHA sponsored activity, and you can still get CEU's you need for ASHA. For more info go to:

<http://www.aac institute.org/CEU'sparticipants.html>

This activity offers up to .7 CEU's per day or almost /7.0 contact hours and there is no CEU fee.



Presenters:

Debby McBride, MS, CCC-SLP has worked in most areas of augmentative communication for almost 25 years. Her broad & unique perspective comes from being a clinician as well as a vendor. Her clinical experience is in a variety of settings (outpatient, schools, rehab, hospitals, residential settings). She has also been a manufacturer's rep & distributor. Her educational presentations on AAC evals are well-known nationally, as well as her unique clinical tools she has developed for the web. Ms. McBride's company, *AAC TechConnect*, has been taken on as a project by the AAC-RERC research group.

Lisa Bardach, MS, CCC-SLP has over 18 years of experience providing neurogenic rehabilitation to adult and pediatric clients. She is in private practice specializing in evaluation and treatment for individuals requiring augmentative communication. She is an adjunct faculty member of the University of Buffalo, where she presents workshops in the area of alternative access to SGD's. She has authored multiple professional presentations on AAC on local and national levels, in addition to several publications and has served on ASHA's *Medicare Implementation Team*.

Tanya Curtis, MS, CCC-SLP has practiced in the field of augmentative communication for 19 years. As a clinician and former vendor of AAC devices she has spoken on various topics related to AAC at conferences, regional meetings and trainings in the Northwestern United States and Canada. Workshop attendees consistently comment on increased skills and confidence in providing AAC services following her trainings. Her broad clinical background includes state institutions, nursing homes, outpatient clinics, private practice, and school consultation services.