



<http://LearnAAC.org>

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is Augmentative and Alternative Communication?

- Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) addresses the needs of individuals with complex communication needs, including difficulties with speech and writing.
- AAC includes all forms of communication to supplement, augment, or in place of oral speech, such as facial expressions, gestures, signs, picture symbols, and print.
- AAC includes the use of choice boards, picture communication books, picture exchange systems, and speech generating devices, including computers, electronic devices, tablets, may be used to provide alternate form of communication for an individual.

What is the NH AAC Initiative?

- The purpose of the NH AAC Initiative is to provide professional development to all NH school districts (K-12) for special education students who benefit from supports to express thoughts, needs, wants and ideas via the use of AAC.
- All training and resources are FREE to NH School Districts. (On-site, student-specific technical assistance is not included, at this time.)
- The “hub” is <http://LearnAAC.org> where NH School Districts can access
 - state and national resources on the topic of AAC
 - online learning modules
- Membership is available to anyone in a NH K-12 school district – any general or special educator, related service provider, paraprofessional, or administrator.
- As a member of the NH AAC Initiative, you will have access to the following:
 - Website with NH and national AAC resources
 - Topical, online modules,
 - Monthly topical webinars (presented live then archived at <http://LearnAAC.org>)
 - Opportunities to blog with other members about your experiences
 - Newsletter for members of the NH AAC Initiative.
 - In-person trainings (upon demonstration of mastery knowledge through completion of online modules).

How do I become a member?

- Complete the enrollment form found at: <http://NH.LearnAAC.org>
- Provide your name and basic demographic data, including SAU affiliation
- Once your enrollment information has been received, you will be emailed within 24-48 hours from learnaac.nh@unh.edu with a link on how to proceed with training and resources.
- You will create a unique Username and Password that you will use to logon to the **Learn AAC** website.

When may I enroll?

- You may enroll at any time between now and June 2014. Enroll early to receive all updates and information about the NH AAC Initiative.

How will I learn about the In-Person Trainings?

- Members who have completed the enrollment form and set up their account for the online learning center will receive regular updates on activities of the NH AAC Initiative
- Successful completion of specific online modules is required to be eligible to participate in the In-Person trainings.
- A complete list of required modules for each In-Person training is listed on the <http://LearnAAC.org> website.
- Members will receive monthly email announcements regarding upcoming modules, webinars, and in-person trainings.

I'm a parent. Do I qualify for membership with the NH AAC Initiative?

- If you are a parent of a child in a NH K-12 school, you are eligible to register as a member of your child's educational team to participate in the online trainings.

I work in a NH preschool program. Do I qualify for membership with the NH AAC Initiative?

- You are eligible to register for the online modules and webinars.
- Training content will emphasize the use of AAC with students in K-12.
- Space in the in-person training sessions is reserved for NH K-12 School Districts.

Do I need to have access to an AAC device to participate in the trainings?

- While you do not need access to an AAC device to participate in the trainings, the best learning takes place when you have an opportunity to practice the skills promoted in the training.
- A number of device manufacturers have trial software available free of charge to simulate an AAC device on your computer. Also, there are several AAC apps for tablets available for a fee.
- Visit the resource section of the website for more information.

Who should I contact for more information?

- General Questions: learnaac.nh@unh.edu

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