

“The successful implementation of IDEA is perhaps most critically dependent on the quality of the people who implement the principles contained in the law – teachers, para-educators, related service providers and administrators, in cooperation with the parents and students.”

*March 21, 2002
Testimony before the U.S. Senate committee
on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions*

The goal of the PDA Center is to conduct training across the country so that every student with ASD can access high-quality, evidence-based educational services in his or her local school district.

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PDA Center

Professional Development In Autism

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In partnership with:

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University of South Florida
Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education



Dedicated to improving educational opportunities for students with autistic spectrum disorders



Autistic Spectrum Disorders

What is Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?

- * ASD is a neurobiological disorder that affects social, communication and behavioral development
- * ASD is a spectrum disorder that varies in severity and behavioral characteristics from child to child
- * Characteristic patterns of behavior related to social, communicative and behavioral development associated with ASD appear very early in life
- * ASD involves lifelong challenges for students, families and communities
- * 1 in 150 children are diagnosed with ASD

Challenges in Educating students with ASD

- * Dramatic increases in the number of students identified with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- * Science related to effective practices is expanding rapidly, not always accessible, and often at odds with practices in the field
- * Shortages of resources and trained personnel
- * Some instructional strategies effective with children with ASD are relatively complex and demand sufficient practice to achieve fluency



How Can We Help?

* Training

The PDA Center offers a variety of trainings, workshops and other consultation services based on individual levels of support and need.

Implementer Training on the design and implementation of effective educational services for students with ASD

Trainer Training and technical assistance on professional development methods, increased expertise in specific topics, and evaluating school services for improvement.

Leadership Training and action planning for systematically improving educational services for students with ASD at the state and district level.

PDA Workshops Workshops regarding effective programming for students with ASD and related disorders

Extended Consultation Extended Consultation is available for teams seeking long term assistance

* Resources

- 1) Website with helpful links to other resources
- 2) Tip Sheets and Research Briefs
- 3) Online Autism 101 course

* For Additional Information or to request services

Visit our website <http://www.pdacenter.org>, email pdacent@u.washington.edu or call 206-221-3139