

How do I get started?

For new clients, please contact the intake coordinator by calling either 206-221-6806 or 253-692-4721. After an intake interview, a packet of information will be sent to you to review and complete. Once we receive the completed paperwork, your child will be placed on the waiting list for services. It is the family's responsibility to contact their insurance company to understand coverage. Our information packet addresses this policy.

Where is the Autism Center located?

The Autism Center is based at the Center on Human Development and Disability on the University of Washington's Seattle campus. There is a satellite clinic in the Cherry Parkes building on the University of Washington's Tacoma campus.

Autism Center-Seattle

CHDD

Box 357920

University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195

TELEPHONE: 206-221-6806

FAX: 206-543-5771

EMAIL: uwautism@u.washington.edu

Autism Center-Tacoma

Cherry Parkes Building

1900 Commerce Street

Box 358455

University of Washington
Tacoma, WA 98402

TELEPHONE: 253-692-4721

FAX: 253-692-4718

EMAIL: uwautism@u.washington.edu

WEBSITE: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwautism/>



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

AUTISM CENTER

Committed to improving the lives of children
with autism spectrum disorders and their families

A variety of assessment and intervention services for children from infancy through age 18 with autism spectrum disorders are provided by our multidisciplinary team, which consists of educators, psychologists, psychiatrists, behavior analysts, a speech–language pathologist, an occupational therapist, and a developmental behavioral pediatrician.



Assessments

- Multidisciplinary and individual discipline evaluations and consultation are provided to address:
 - Diagnosis
 - Related medical conditions
 - Educational assessments
 - Treatment planning within school and other community settings
 - Follow-up consultation to assist in implementing treatment recommendations to school or other community environment's.

Early Childhood Intervention

- Provided to children, infancy to 7 years, after which families transition to other services at the Autism Center or in the community. *(Children must be admitted prior to their fifth birthday in order to qualify for early intervention services.)*
- Individualized treatment is provided based on each child's needs and their family's concerns.
- Early Childhood Autism Consultants utilize empirically based, best-practice strategies based on applied behavior analysis and developmental approaches. These strategies include:
 - Naturalistic strategies
 - Incidental teaching
 - Relationship-based strategies
 - Pivotal response training (PRT)
 - Functional communication training
 - Structured teaching
 - Discrete trial training

Child Psychiatry Service

(CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AT THE SEATTLE CLINIC)

- Diagnostic services
- Assessment of psychiatric conditions such as depression and anxiety.
- Medication management provided in collaboration with primary care physicians.

Developmental & Behavioral Pediatric Service

(CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AT THE SEATTLE CLINIC)

- Medical consultation
- Assessment for potential contributing medical and psychosocial factors.
- Consultation for specific functional issues such as toileting, eating, self-injurious behaviors, or tics.
- Recommendations to the child's primary caregiver or other service providers.
- Referral to collaborating specialists in associated medical conditions such as GI and sleep problems.

Behavioral Consultation

- Targets short-term goals to improve functional, adaptive, and other behavioral skills.
- Goals may focus on promoting social relationships, development of self regulation, and coping skills.
- Consultation may also include direct school observation and collaborative development of program goals with parents and school staff.

Occupational Therapy

(CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AT THE SEATTLE CLINIC)

- Individual or group therapy
- Evaluation emphasizes sensory processing, fine and gross motor development, play, and the ability to self-regulate arousal and emotions across environments.
- Individualized treatment focuses on the child's ability to participate in functional activities relevant to age or developmental level.
- Specific recommendations to assist in maximizing the child's independence in home, school, and community environments.
- Parent and team collaboration help individualize the child's treatment plan.
- School consultation

Speech & Language Intervention

- Evaluation services include assessment of receptive and expressive language skills, social communication / interaction skills, speech production, and play.
- Assessment results and recommendations assist in intervention planning for home, school, and community environments.
- Individualized treatment services are offered to target specific areas of need related to communication, social interaction, and speech production.
- Group intervention focuses on social communication skills, as well as group learning and language skills.
- Collaboration with other community agencies is emphasized.

Social Skills Groups

- Our clinicians provide social skills training to facilitate social initiation, peer relationships, and social skills.
- Children are matched based on age, verbal ability, and target skills.
- Groups typically meet once a week to address developmentally appropriate goals such as joining in play, making friends, and having conversations.
- Group sessions combine brief instruction with fun, cooperative activities designed to provide opportunities for skills practice in a naturalistic context.

Agency In-Service & Consultation

- Consultation to schools or community agencies to assist in program development.
- Targeted classroom or individual consultation addressing specific behavioral/academic concerns.
- Broader consultation to address programmatic and district-wide goals.
- Autism spectrum related presentations offered to school and community agencies.

The Professional Training Program prepares professionals to provide consultation and direct service to children with autism spectrum disorders. In addition, we offer a variety of workshops and trainings to professionals and paraprofessionals in schools, early-childhood centers, hospitals, and other community agencies.

Training Topics

- Overview of autism spectrum disorders
- Associated medical conditions
- Assessment and diagnosis
- High functioning autism and Asperger's syndrome
- Educational recommendations
- Social skills development
- Emotion regulation
- Behavioral management
- Structured environments
- Applied behavior analysis
 - Overview
 - Setting-up a home program
 - Functional behavioral assessment (FBA)
 - Naturalistic strategies
 - Discrete trial training (DTT)
 - Data collection
 - Self-management
 - Increasing communication
- Sensory processing
- Motor functioning
- Executive functioning
- Speech and language issues
- Using video modeling to promote functional skills
- Differential diagnosis/co-morbid conditions
- Paraprofessional aide training
- Medications

Long-Term Training Opportunities

Our Professional Training Program also offers long-term training experiences for advanced graduate students in psychology, education, and related fields. Medical fellows and residents have opportunities for supervised experience in working with children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders.

