



**UW AUTISM CENTER**  
CENTER ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & DISABILITY  

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UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

### **Speech Department Volunteers Information 2020-2021**

**Clinic Description:** The UW Autism Center is a multidisciplinary Center of Excellence (COE) with opportunities for volunteers and students to participate in clinical services, training, and community outreach activities that support the local Autism community. The goal of this placement is to provide volunteers with high quality and individualized experiences in the clinical and resource needs of working with individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and their families, particularly in the Speech Therapy department.

Depending on in the volunteer's interest and availability, potential activities may include:

- Shadow/Observe clinical staff to include:
  - Diagnostic evaluations for ASD with licensed clinical psychologists
  - Speech-Language evaluations and outpatient therapy with licensed SLP
  - Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy and evaluations with licensed BCBA
- Assist in social skills therapy groups for individuals with ASD and their family members with a licensed clinical staff member
- Administration needs and projects of the Speech Therapy department to enhance clinic productivity or services for families, such as developing Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) systems, resources, and therapeutic materials for clients and families
- Assist patient navigator on administrative support tasks for families to include maintaining waiting room resources for families
- Assist therapists and researchers in UWAC research activities
- Assist therapists in preparing for training workshops and community outreach events
- Develop and execute a student-led independent project to meet the needs of clients, families, and the community \*dependent on availability and interests

### **Why Volunteer at UWAC?**

- Experience working with neuro-developmentally diverse populations
- Enhance your knowledge of the field include (but not limited to): autism, Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), language, articulation, evaluation and treatment, and social communication
- Network with a variety of professionals, such as researchers, psychologists, board certified behavior analysts (BCBA), and much more.



**Application requirements:** The following application requirements must be completed to be considered for the position:

- Copy of current Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume
- A letter of recommendation (can be email rather than formal letter)
- UW Autism Center Speech Volunteer Application
- Clinical interview with one of the staffed speech language pathologists and relevant UW Autism center staff.

**Experience Expectations:** The volunteer ideally would have some experience in:

- Working with neuro-developmentally diverse populations and a range of ages (children, adolescents, adults).
- Interested in or enrolled the Speech and Hearing Department and/or related field.
- Skills in Microsoft Office programs and/or Boardmaker programs preferred.

**Anticipated decision date:** Interviews are scheduled on a rolling basis between August to September for students to start in the fall of each academic year.

**Terms and Hours:** The volunteer program is flexible depending on the volunteer's schedule. Be expected to participate 2-3 hours a week. More hours can be added depending on students' interests and availability. The volunteer is expected to complete 9 months/1 academic year term.

\*\*\*The UW Autism Center follows the public health guidance and the University of Washington's policies regarding covid-19. As students begin a new school year (Autumn Quarter 2020), all volunteers will be supporting the center remotely. As the school year progresses, the UW Autism Center will continue to assess and monitor the covid-19 pandemic with guidance from the university and public health guidance for possibilities of in-person volunteering opportunities.\*\*\*

## Interested?

Contact James Engracia M.A. CCC-SLP for more information or questions.

Send all material to the email address below with "ST Department Volunteer Application" as the subject header.



**Contact:** James Engracia M.A. CCC-SLP

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