AAC Leadership Project

A doctoral fellowship program in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) designed to develop high-quality researchers, teachers, scholars, and future leaders in the field of AAC.

The Penn State program is recognized nationally and internationally as one of the top research programs focused on the needs of children who require AAC. This is an exciting opportunity for you to develop your competencies as a future researcher/university faculty in AAC and to thereby make a difference in the lives of children with complex communication needs and their families.

Our vibrant community of academic and clinical faculty has more than 60 externally funded grants, over 300 publications in peer-reviewed journals, over 500 conference presentations, and extensive experience in evidence-based practice in AAC.

Ph.D. students participate in a comprehensive curriculum addressing issues related to AAC:

• Core courses dedicated to AAC, including advanced topics in AAC, interdisciplinary approaches to evidence-based practice, neuroscience, child language development, and diversity and global issues in AAC;

• Hands-on lab experiences with state of the art AAC assistive technologies;

• Related coursework in statistics, methodology, and elective areas of language, neurology, grant-writing, etc.;

• Completion of at least three mentored research projects, structured to result in conference presentations and publications;

• Training in research-based methods of college teaching, including classroom teaching and mentorship of research and/or clinical experiences of pre-service students.

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aac.psu.edu

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