AAC Collaboration Project

A master’s-level fellowship program in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) designed to provide speech-language pathologists or special education teachers with the skills they need to provide outstanding services to children who require 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 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**.

Master’s students complete a **two-year program** in either Communication Sciences and Disorders or Special Education, which includes:

- All of the **standard requirements** for ASHA or Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) certification;
- **Collaborative coursework** in evidence-based practices for children with complex communication needs who require AAC;
- **Extended collaborative practicum experiences in evidence-based practices** for children with complex communication needs who require AAC.

Acceptance of the grant support **requires a commitment to work as a speech language pathologist or as a special education teacher**, in a school program in the United States, with children or adolescents with disabilities who require AAC, for a period of at least two years for every academic year of funding support.

For more information, contact:
- Jessica Caron, Ph.D. at jgc169@psu.edu (CSD)
- David McNaughton, Ph.D. at dbm2@psu.edu (SPLED)

Financial support for master’s students comes from a personnel preparation grant from the U.S. Department of Education, grant #H325K170130.

This publication is available in alternative media on request. Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.