This guide is an initial product of a coalition of individuals, families, and representatives of public and private entities with an interest in increasing awareness of resources related to autism spectrum disorders. The contents of this directory were gathered from suggestions from many different sources and compiled by participants in the Piedmont Autism Action Group. PAAG serves Patrick County, Henry County, Martinsville City, and surrounding areas.

The directory can be accessed on the website of Commonwealth Autism Service: http://www.autismva.org/whatwedo/autismactiongroup

For the user of this guide, please remember that not every resource may be appropriate to your needs. The responsibility of looking into the services available to determine reliability and effectiveness rests with the user of the directory. The participants in the Piedmont Autism Action Group do not assume any liability or responsibility in this regard.

Your feedback, additions, corrections, and suggestions to this document are appreciated. To provide input, or to participate in a PAAG meeting, please contact the PAAG Coordinator, Heather Overstreet at Hoverstreet@autismva.org or by calling (540) 587 8990 ext. 105

Mission Statement

The mission of Virginia’s Autism Action Groups is to provide leadership in the implementation of a regional system of services and resources to maximize the potential and quality of life of each individual with an autism spectrum disorder across the lifespan.
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Glossary of SSA Disability Programs and Related Terms from Cornell University's Employment and Disability Institute
**ASSESSMENTS/IDENTIFICATION/DIAGNOSIS**

**Child Development Clinic – Southside**  
Public Health Center – Suite G41  
326 Taylor Drive  
Danville, VA 24541  
Ph: (434) 797 1040  
FAX: (434) 791 5342  
Contact: Brenda Wright, Nurse Coordinator  
Medicaid Waiver Assessments, Diagnostic Center  

*Dr. Kathryn Kerkering, M.D.*  
**Pediatric Neuro-Developmental Clinic**  
1030 S. Jefferson Street, Suite 201  
Roanoke, VA 24016  
Ph: (540) 224-4520  
Child Development  

**Virginia Tech Autism Clinic**  
3110 Price’s Fork Road,  
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0355  
Ph: (540) 231-6914 Fax: (540) 231-4250  
[autism@vt.edu](mailto:autism@vt.edu)  
[www.psyc.vt.edu/outreach/autism](http://www.psyc.vt.edu/outreach/autism)  
**Director:** Dr. Angela Scarpa,  
ascarpa@vt.edu  
Ph: (540) 231-2615  
Providing Assessment, Treatment,  
Consultation and Research; Social Skills  
Groups, Individual Therapy, Stress and Anger  
Management Program (children ages 4-12),  
COACH - intensive in-home ABA Program for  
children (under age 6), Pivotal Response  
Treatment.  

**Commonwealth Autism Service**  
**Transdisciplinary Diagnostic & Assessment Clinic**  
3900 W. Broad Street, Building 6, Richmond,  
VA 23220  
Ph: (804)355-0300, (800)649-8481,  
Fax: (804)355-0932,  
[www.autismva.org](http://www.autismva.org)  
The Clinic is led by clinical psychologist,  
Donald Oswald, Ph.D., an internationally  
acknowledged expert in the field of autism.  
The unique standards of practice followed in  
the Clinic include a commitment to providing,  
along with a diagnosis: rationale for the  
diagnosis; discussion with family members  
regarding the implications of the child’s  
strengths and challenges; set of treatment  
and education recommendations; and follow-  
up to support the implementation of the  
recommendations.  

**Building Blocks Center for Autism**  
175 Deer Run Road  
Danville, VA 24540  
Ph: (434) 797 5531  
812 East Church Street  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
Ph: (276) 638 4809  
[www.centerforpediatrictherapies.com/autism](http://www.centerforpediatrictherapies.com/autism)  
Diagnostic and Behavioral Services  

**Curry Autism Spectrum Services (CASS),**  
**Curry School of Education, University of Virginia**  
Sheila C. Johnson Center for Human Services  
School of Education  
417 Emmet Street South, Ground Floor,  
Bavaro Hall  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
Ph: (434) 924-7034 (ask for CASS)  
[For more information](mailto:rer5r@eservices.virginia.edu)  
**Contact:** Dr. Ronald Reeve  
rer5r@eservices.virginia.edu  
Provides multidisciplinary Assessment and  
Consultation services for children and young  
adults 3-25. The team includes school/clinical  
psychology, special education (including  
functional behavior assessment), speech/  
language/hearing, reading services, and  
career counseling as appropriate to the  
specific case. Also includes the services of an  
autism specialist from the Piedmont Regional  
Education Program (PREP), where  
appropriate.  

**Eastern VA Medical School Program**  
**Autism Spectrum Program for Older Adolescents**  
(14+) & Young Adults  
Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science  
Hofheimer Hall, Suite 710, 825 Fairfax Ave.  
Norfolk, VA 23507  
Ph: 757 446 5888
BARBERS/HAIR SALONS

Hair Gallery
3795 Fairystone Park Highway
Basset, VA 24055
Ph: (276) 629 8311
Contact: Susan Cassell
Haircuts for individuals with disabilities

Sunbeam and Curls
8960 Al Phillpott Highway
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 638 3441
Contact: Elissa Hubbard
Haircuts for individuals with disabilities

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Arc of Southside
7180 Highway 29
Blairs, VA 24527
Ph: (434) 836 3272
www.thearcofsouthside.org
Operates the White Oak School for children receiving special education services, the M.T. Sorrell Home provides residential support services to adults, The Hatcher Center provides job trainings and programs for individuals with disabilities.

Building Blocks Center for Autism
175 Deer Run Road
Danville, VA 24540
Ph: (434) 797 5531

812 East Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 638 4809

www.centerforpediatrictherapies.com/autism
Private Day School for ages 2-14, Summer programs ages 2 – 14; Accredited by the Virginia Association for Independent Specialized Education Facilities.

Blue Ridge Autism and Achievement Center (BRAAC)
312 Whitwell Drive
Roanoke, VA 24019
Ph: (540) 366 7399
www.braacroanoke.org
Preschool Program, Autism Program, STARS Program for children with learning disabilities, Tutoring Program, Summer Program; Occupational and Speech Therapy; Consultation and Observation

Center for Family Involvement
Partnership for People with Disabilities
Virginia Commonwealth University
700 E. Franklin Street
Richmond, VA 23832
Ph: 800 828 1120
www.centerforfamilyinvolvement.org

Patrick County Autism Action Team (P-CAT)
314 Staples Ave. (Stuart Elementary)
Stuart, VA 24171
Ph: (276) 694 7139
autism@patrickcounty.org
www.orgsites.com/va/patrickautismteam
Community Awareness Presentations, Consultations for schools, classrooms, teachers, and parents, Resource Library, Parent Support Group.

Radford T/TAC
Located at Radford University
Ph: (540) 831 5333
Rut.tacconnect.org

Virginia Tech T/TAC
Located on the campus of Virginia Tech
Ph: (540) 231 5167
www.ttac.vt.edu
Increase the capacity of schools, personnel, service providers, and families to better meet children and youth with disabilities; Help improve state goals and development, workshops, Resources for parents and families.

Piedmont Community Services Board
24 Clay Street
Martinsville, VA 24112  
Ph: (276) 632 7128  
www.piedmontcSB.org  
Crisis Support, Case Management, Day Support, Residential Services

Lynne Smith,  
*Piedmont Community Services, Medicaid Mentor*  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
Ph: (540) 489 1112 ext. 102  
www.piedmontcSB.org  
Member of Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

**Commonwealth Catholic Charities**  
541 Luck Avenue SW, Suite 118  
Roanoke, VA 24016  
Ph: (540) 342 0411  
agency@cccofva.org  
www.ccofva.org  
Support in crisis, Strengthening Families, Nurturing Children: Adoption, Foster Care, Court Appointed Special Advocates

**Creative Family Solutions**  
119 Sheraton Drive  
Salem, VA 24153  
Ph: (540) 562 0707  
www.creativefamilysolutions.net  
Intensive In-Home, Client Behavior Intervention, Mentoring, Residential/In-Home Services

**Dynavox Consultant for SW Virginia**  
Contact: LuAnne DeVall  
Ph: (540) 769 9461  
Luanne.devall@dynavoxtech.com

**Easter Seals UCP of Greater Salem**  
201 E. Main Street  
Salem, VA 24153  
(540) 777 7325

**DePaul Family Solutions**  
5650 Hollins Road  
Roanoke, VA 24019  
Ph: (540) 265 8923  
www.depaulfamilyservices.org  
Foster care and adoption services, Respite Services, Counseling, Improving Anger Management Skills

**EHS – Mental Health Supports**  
300 Franklin Street, Suite 226  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
Ph: (276) 638 0308  
www.ehssupportservices.com

**Family Preservation Services Corporation**  
1 Starling Ave  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
Ph: (276) 632 1113  
www.fpscorp.com  
Behavioral Monitoring, Individual Counseling for Children/Adults, Case Management, Virtual Residential Program (VRP)

**Family Services of Roanoke**  
360 Campbell Ave, SW  
Roanoke, VA 24016  
Ph: (540) 563 5316  
www.fsrv.org  
Counseling and Therapy Services, Services for youth and young adults

**Lutheran Family Services**  
2609 McVitty Road  
Roanoke, VA 24018  
Ph: (540) 774 7100  
www.lfsva.org  
Therapeutic Day Treatment/Support Services, Transition Services, Intensive In-Home Based Services; Essential Pieces: Educational group for parents of children with ASD and professionals

**Piedmont Autism Action Group**  
Meetings at The Starting Place at the Liberty Fair Mall in Martinsville held the 3rd Thursday of each month, from 10 -12.  
Ph: (540) 587 8990 ext. 105  
dnarodny@autismva.org  
www.autismva.org/whatwedo/autismactiongroup  
Association of self-advocates, family members, educators, private and public service providers
The Madeline Centre, Inc.
18697 Forest Rd.
Lynchburg, VA 24502
Ph: (434) 239 0003
www.madelinecentre.com
Contact: Cherie Arnn, Director of Autism Services
carnn@madelinecentre.com
Behavior and Autism Services, Mental Health Support Services, In-Home Counseling, Therapeutic Day Treatment, Mentoring, Behavior Specialist, Parent Education

Virginia Department of Social Services
20 Progress Street
P.O. Box 832
Martinsville, VA 24114
Ph: (276) 656 4300

Patrick County Office
106 Rucker Street, Suite 128
Stuart, VA 24171
Ph: (276) 694 3328

Carrington Autism Resource Center
Averett University Library
344 West Main Street
Danville, VA 24541
Ph: (434) 791 5692
autism@averett.edu
http://discover.averett.edu/autism
Direct intervention with children, Therapies, Online resources and Links, Activity Guides and Kits available at the Resource Center

Blue Ridge Independent Living Center
1502 B Williamson Road NE
Roanoke, VA 24012
Ph: (540) 342-1231
Fax: 540-342-9505
www.brilc.org
Serving the counties of Franklin, Henry, Patrick and Pittsylvania, and the cities of Martinsville and Danville

Wall Residences
P.O. Box 235
Floyd, VA 24091
Ph: (540) 745 4216
www.wallresidences.com
Sponsored Residential Services, Group Homes, In-home Support, Day Support, Crisis Stabilization, Therapeutic Consultation

DENTAL SERVICES

Carilion Pediatric Dental Clinic
Dr. Michael Jones, DDS
101 Elm Avenue
Roanoke, VA 24013
Ph: (540) 224 4380

Family Dentistry
Dr. Raymond Mallinak, DDS
Dr. Emily Mallinak, DDS
604 East Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 632 2189
Offering Friday and Evening Hours

The Greensboro Center for Pediatric Dentistry
5408 W Friendly Avenue
Greensboro, NC 27410
Ph: (336) 292 0411
www.greatkidssmiles.com
Parent Consults, Individualized Care;
Provides “Looney Lanny” the clown for relaxation and entertainment, Plasma TVs and Gameboys at every seat, Free Internet; Free Infant exams

Dr. James Jordan, DDS
1103 Brookdale Street, Suite E
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 632 2634
Family and Cosmetic Dentistry

Dr. James Julian, DDS
904 Brookdale Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 634 0071
General Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr. James Wilson, DDS
10 East Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 632 4600
General Dentistry
Pediatric Dental Care of Virginia
1152 East Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 403 5500
www.pediatricdentalcareofva.com
Pediatric Dentistry

Early Intervention

Denise Forrest, Early Childhood Education Program Manager
Clearview Elementary School
Herndon, VA 20170
Ph: (571) 423 4121

Part C-Early Intervention
Infant & Toddler Connection of VA
Contact: Mary Anne White
Ph: (804) 786 1522
Focused on children ages birth – 3, Resources to help families fund and receive early intervention services.

Starting Place
Liberty Fair Mall
240 Commonwealth Blvd
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 666 8901
www.smartbeginningsmhc.org/Starting-Place.html
Services from birth – age 5, Parent and Caregiver Education, “Ages and Stages Screening” – Free Assessment of Child

Piedmont Community Services Infant and Toddler Connection
24 Clay Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 632 2108
Contact: Sherry Winn
Services from birth – 3 years; Developmental Screenings and Assessments, Occupational, Speech, and Physical Therapy Referrals, Referrals to schools and medical professionals; family support, educational resources, respite care

Education: Special Education Offices

Danville City Schools
Office of Special Education

Ph: (434) 799 6400 Ext. 223

Franklin County Schools
Office of Special Education
Ph: (540) 484 0280

Rebecca Wells, Henry County Schools
Director of Special Education
Ph: (276) 634 4719
rwells@henry.k12.va.us

John Westphalen, Patrick County Schools
Director of Special Education
Ph: (276) 694 3163 Ext. 110
john.westphalen@patrick.k12.va.us

Pittsylvania County Schools
Office of Special Education
Ph: (434) 432 2761

Dr. Paulette Simonton, Martinsville City Schools
Director of Special Education and Assessment
Ph: (276) 403 5856
psimington@martinsville.k12.va.us

Educational Resources

Clearview Early Childhood Center
800 Ainsley Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 403 5800
Bus Transportation, ESL Services, Parenting Classes

Joanna Clement, Patrick County
Ph: (276) 694 7137
joanna.clement@patrick.k12.va.us
LD/ED Department Head, LD Teacher and Transition Coordinator at Patrick County High School

Melinda Comer, Patrick County
Ph: (276) 694 7137
Melinda.Comer@patrick.k12.va.us
ID Department Head, ID Teacher at Patrick County High School
The Greenvale School
627 Westwood Blvd
Roanoke, VA
Ph: (540) 342 4716
www.greenvale-school.org
Programs for children 6 weeks – 12 years, Early Education and appropriate childcare, TAP Early Head Start Partnership; Ongoing Developmental Screenings, Speech Services, Referrals; USDA Nutrition Program

Deborah Hoback, Patrick County
Ph: (276) 694 0111
Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Teacher

The Hughes Center
1601 Franklin Turnpike
Danville, VA 24540
Ph: (434) 836 8500
www.thehughescenter.com
Residential Treatment Services: ages 13-22, Day School: K-12

Dr. Carol Merchant, Director of Pupil Personnel and Psychological Services, Martinsville City
Ph: (276) 403 5833
www.martinsville.k12.va.us

Jeanne Westphalen, Martinsville City
Ph: (276) 403 5837
jwestphalen@martinsville.k12.va.us
Instructional Coordinator & Diagnostian, Autism Specialist

Minnick Education Center
2609 McVitty Road
Roanoke, VA
Ph: (540) 265 4281
www.minnickedc.org
Education, Plus Therapeutic Support and Special Programs, 3:1 Student: Staff Ratio

Northwest Child Development Center
1523 Melrose Ave, NW
Roanoke, VA 24017
Ph: (540) 342 0233
www.nwchilddevelopmentcenter.org
Childcare for ages 6 months – 5 years, Before and After Care for ages 5 – 12 years; Full Day Summer and Holiday Programs; Food Services provided, Transportation Services

Medical: Physicians

Bassett Family Practice
324 TB Stanley Highway
Bassett, Virginia
Ph: (276) 629 1076
www.healthcommunitymhc.org/Bassett-Family-Practice.html
Medication Assistance, Chronic Disease Management, Children's Health Services, Case Management
Ensure Care is provided regardless of financial circumstances

Children's Medical Center
15 Cleveland Ave #14
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 632 9714
Services from Birth to Teenage Years, 24 hour emergency services

Medical: Neurologists

Dr. Michael Sisk
Dr. James Thomas Wilson, III
Pediatric Neurology
102 Highland Ave, Suite 104
Roanoke, VA 24013
Ph: (540) 985 8454
Attention Deficit Disorder, Childhood Movement Disorders, Headaches, Seizures, Tourette's syndrome

Martinsville Neurological
Dr. Eugene Madonia, Neurology
Dr. Francis Walsh, Sleep Medicine
101 Cleveland Ave, #A
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 632 4181

Medical: Psychologists

Blue Ridge Wellness Center
Dr. Reddy Keshavpal
325 East Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 666 2605
Dr. Alan Beach  
Dr. Lisa Rochford  
Dr. Lisa Teegarden-Cabay  
Counseling and Psychological Services  
811 South College Street  
Salem, VA 24153  
Ph: (540) 387 3977  
General Clinic Visits; Sponsors FREE Support  
Group for parents of children with ASD;  
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Play Therapy,  
Attachment Therapy, Narrative Therapy  

Psychological Health Roanoke  
2727 Electric Road, Suite 100  
Roanoke, VA 24018  
Ph: (540) 772 5140  
www.psychhealthroanoke.com  
Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy, Family  
Psychotherapy, Psychological Assessments,  
Group Therapy, Crisis Counseling  

National Counseling Group, Inc.  
33 Ellsworth Street  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
Ph: (276) 638 8000  
www.nationalcounselinggroup.com/martinsville.html  
Therapeutic Day Treatment, Medical  
Intensive In Home Services for ages 4 – 21,  
Mental Health Support Services, Residential  
Diversion Program, Psychological Testing  

Dr. Judith Fleming  
Care Connection for Children  
102 Highland Ave, Suite 403  
Roanoke, VA 24012  
Ph: (540) 204 9711  
Counseling, Information, Referrals, Social  
Support  

**MEDICAL: GASTROENTEROLOGY**  

Danville Gastroenterology Center  
Dr. Mukesh B. Patel  
Dr. Bhusan H. Pandya  
501 Rison Street, Suite 130  
Danville, VA 24541  
Ph: (434) 791 1152  

Pediatric Gastroenterology-Martinsville  
Dr. Michael Hart  

Dr. Juan Olazagasti (Speaks Spanish)  
1107B Brookdale Street  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
Ph: (276) 634 4400  

Roanoke Office:  
102 Highland Avenue, Suite 305  
Roanoke, VA 24013  
Ph: (540) 985 9832  

Dr. Ivor Hill  
Pediatric Gastroenterologist  
Medical Center Blvd.  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
Ph: (336) 713 4500  

**RECREATION**  

Spirit Horse  
8767 Snow Creek Road  
Penhook, VA 24137 (Franklin Co.)  
Ph: (540) 765 2469  
www.spirithorseva.com  
Free Riding Services for Special Needs  
Children; Leading and Walking, Bonding with  
the horse, Safety, Saddling, Mounting, Riding  
and Obtaining Balance, Driving, Rewarding  

Tackfully Teamed Riding Academy, Inc.  
7975 Henry Rd.  
Henry, VA 24102  
Ph: (276) 627 0024  
www.tackfullyteamed.com  
Therapeutic riding for individuals with  
disabilities of all ages; CHAPS (Committee for  
the Hope, Awareness, Perseverance, and  
Success) Group Formed for Fundraising  

Boys and Girls Club of America  
Patrick Henry Elementary School  
1810 E. Church Street Ext.  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
Ph: (276) 806 8277  
Kamie Stallings, kstallings@bgcbr.org  
www.bgcbr.org  
Providing children with a safe place to learn  
and grow, Teen Center in Martinsville  

Special Olympics  
205 Church Street  
Blacksburg, VA 24060
Various competitive sports events adaptable for individuals with disabilities.

**Walk for Autism-Virginia**
P.O. Box 4327
Manassas, VA 20108
info@walkforautismva.org
www.walkforautismva.org
Annual 5K for Autism Awareness includes a silent auction and resource fair.

**YMCA-Martinsville**
3 Starling Ave.
Martinsville, VA 24165
Ph: (276) 632 6427
www.martinsvilleymca.com
After School Program, Early Learning Center, Summer Day Care, Aquatics Program, Gym, Indoor Track, Weight Room, etc.

**YMCA-Collinsville**
395 John Redd Blvd.
Collinsville, VA 24078
Ph: (276) 647 3771
www.martinsvilleymca.com
Aquatics Program (Outdoor Pool), Gym, Weight Room, Playground, Ball Field, Outdoor Running Track, Childcare and Preschool

**Camp Aristotle at The Auburn School**
13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite 101
Herndon, VA 20171
Ph: (703) 828 7179
www.theauburnschool.org
Contact: Allison Ober, Special Programs Director
camparistotle@theauburnschool.org
The Summer Program is appropriate for students in grades K – 9 with Asperger’s, high functioning Autism, anxiety related disorders, ADHD, etc. Each week is designed around a theme that is carried out throughout the day.

**Brainy Camps – Camp Connect ASD**
Massanetta Springs, VA
Ph: (202) 476 5142/(202) 476 3181
www.brainycamps.com
Summer Camp sponsored by Children’s National Medical Center for children and teens ages 9-16 with Aspergers. Six days and seven nights; Support Groups and Educational Programs; 24 hour Professional and Medical Staff; Activities include canoeing, gardening, swimming, archery, hiking, arts and crafts, yoga, etc; Scholarships and payment plans are available.

**Camp Communicate with Confidence**
Dower and Associates, Inc.
Aldie, VA 20105
Ph: (703) 618 6180
information@dowerandassociates.com
www.dowerandassociates.com/camp.html
Coed Summer Camp for Children ages 3 – 12 with ASD (Not an exclusive ASD camp); Different groups to accommodate different levels of communication ability

**Camp Connect**
P.O. Box 20571
Roanoke, VA 24018
Ph: (540) 520 2031/ (540) 598 7917
www.campconnectva.com
Summer Camp for school aged children with Asperger’s Syndrome.

**Camp Easter Seals UCP**
900 Camp Easter Seals Rd.
New Castle, VA 24127
Ph: (540) 864 5750
www.campeastersealsucp.com
Children and Young Adults (6-22); Adult Sessions (22 and older); 6 and 12 day options; Therapy Camp, Family Camp, Cooperative Camp, Children-Adult Sessions

**Camp Lakey Gap at Christmount Christian Assembly**
222 Fern Way
Black Mountain, NC 28711
Ph: (828) 669 8977
www.christmount.org/camplakeygap
Week-long camp based on age groups and functioning levels; Exclusively ASD; Overnight and Day Camp; Scholarships, Payment Plan, and Parent/Guardian Housing is available

**Camp Royall**
250 Bill Ash Road
Moncure, NC 27559
Ph: (919) 542 1033
www.autismsociety-nc.org
Exclusively ASD; Week-long camp depending on age group and functioning level; Recreation and Therapeutic Experience, Respite for Families, Educational Training; Employment and Vocational Training

Climbing Higher Ministry at Rich Acres Christian Church
422 Mountain View Road
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 638 2120
www.racconline.com/#/ministries/climbing-higher
Day camp for special needs adults; 10:30 – 1:00 on the first Thursday of the month (Sept – June); Music time, socialization skills, fine and gross motor skills, teamwork.

The Speech Garden Summer Camp
Charlotte, NC 28203
Ph: (704) 609 8255
Executive Director, Ellen Holloway  ellenholloway@speechgarden.com
www.speechgarden.org
Offered for up to 6 consecutive weeks for children ages 24 months – 2nd grade; Half and Extended days; Appropriate for high functioning ASD (Not exclusive); Scholarships available

Therapies

The Rimland Center
Dr. Elizabeth Mumper
Biomedical Therapies and Integrative Medicine
2919 Confederate Ave.
Lynchburg, VA 24501
Ph: (434) 528 9075
www.rimlandcenter.com
Specializing in autism and other related disorders and disabilities.

Roanoke Valley Speech and Hearing Center
2030 Colonial Ave
Roanoke, VA 24015
Ph: (540) 343 0165
www.rvshc.org
Speech and Hearing Evaluations; Staff trained in assisting autistic clients

Connections for Children
Dr. Brice Jackson
3812 Concord Place
Roanoke, VA 24018
www.connections4children.com
Occupational Therapy, Sensory Integration, Hemispheric Integration Therapy

Center for Pediatric Therapies
Martinsville Location:
812 East Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 638 4809
www.centerforpediatrictherapies.com
Danville Location:
175 Deer Run Road
Danville, VA 24540
Ph: (434) 797 5531
www.centerforpediatrictherapies.com
Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy; Building Blocks Center for Autism

Martinsville Physical Therapy and Industrial Rehab
812 E. Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 638 4809
www.doarpt.com/martinsville
Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Aquatic Therapy

Memorial Hospital of Martinsville and Henry County
320 Hospital Drive
Martinsville, VA 24115
Physical Rehabilitation Services: (276) 666 7590
www.aasdfw.com
Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy

The Madeline Centre
150 W. Main Street
Danville, VA
www.madelinecentre.com
Therapy Associates of Martinsville
2802 Greensboro Road
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 666 1600
Occupational Therapy, Hand Therapy, Aquatic Therapy, Physical Therapy

Speech-Language-Hearing Association of Virginia
3126 W. Cary Street #436
Richmond, VA 23221
Ph: (888) 729 7428
www.shav.org
Parent and Teacher Informational Resource

Piedmont Regional Feeding & Oral-Motor Clinic, LLC
22 E. Church Street, Suite 308
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 403 5083
www.prfeedingclinic.com

Virginia Physical Therapy Association
1111 N. Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Ph: 800 999 2782 ext. 3235
Executive Director, Julia Rice
www.vpta.org
Parent and Teacher Informational Resource

RESOURCES: NATIONAL AUTISM ORGANIZATIONS

Autism – PDD
Based in California
www.autism-pdd.net
Information and support for parents, Links to conferences, events, and workshops; Support Forums, Message Boards, and "Moms Fighting Autism" Group

Autism Speaks
Office in Richmond, VA
Ph: (609) 613 2430
www.autismspeaks.org
Krystle Hillery, Director of Regionally Supported Walk Events

Krystle.hillery@autismspeaks.org
Kelley Lesperance, Senior Regional Director East
klesperance@autismspeaks.org
General Autism Information, Virginia Resources, National Events Calendar, Community Events Calendar, Scientific News and Research

Autism Society
Based in Maryland
Ph: 800 328 8476
www.autism-society.org
General Autism Information; National, State, and Local Information and Resources; Research, Press Releases, Advocacy; Autism Society Shop; News, Publications, Awards/Scholarships

The Autism Education Site
www.theautismeducationsite.com
Resources for Autism Schools, Autism Summer Camp, Resources for Parents and Teachers, Information of Upcoming Events and Conferences

RESOURCES: NATIONAL MEDICAL ORGANIZATIONS

Education Law Center
Based in New Jersey
Ph: (976) 624 4618
elc@edlawcenter.org
www.edlawcenter.org
Legal and political advocacy in the United States

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities
Based in Washington, D.C.
Ph: 800 695 0285
nichcy@fhi360.org
www.nichcy.org
Research Information; Publications of specific disabilities, parent’s guide, resource lists; Information Specialists available by phone to answer questions; Ability to connect you with other disability resources and state agencies across the country; Spanish Speaking Resources
Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)
www.vadars.org

Martinsville Office
233 W. Commonwealth Boulevard
Martinsville, VA 24112
Ph: (276) 634-3633

Danville Office
211 Nor-Dan Drive Suite 1055
Danville, VA 24540
Ph: (434) 549 8210

RESOURCES: APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS (ABA)

Centra Autism Program (CAP)
Danville & Roanoke Rivermont School Campuses
Ph: (434) 200 6567
www.mentalhealth.centrahealth.com/services/centra-autism-program
CAP utilizes ABA, Sensory Integration, and other evidence based interventions for students ages 5 – 22.

RESOURCES: SPECIAL EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

Education-A-Must, Inc.
Based in New Hampshire
Ph: (603) 437 6286
info@education-a-must.com
www.education-a-must.com
Advocate Services for child/youth with disabilities (physical, emotional, learning, developmental, behavior); Supply coaching, counseling, advocacy, referrals to schools, community, local, state, and federal agencies.

Advocacy Institute
Washington, DC
Ph: (540) 364 0051
info@advocacyinstitute.org
www.advocacyinstitute.org
Consultative services to educators, counselors, service providers, and organizations.

Council of Parents, Attorneys, and Advocates (COPAA)

www.copaa.org
Provides timely and accurate information on students and parent special education rights; Assistance with finding an advocate

Families and Advocates Partnership for Education (FAPE)
Ph: (952) 838 9000
fape@fape.org
www.fape.org
Information about IDEA ’04 in English and Spanish; Trainings, workshops, seminars, satellite video conferences; Referrals to national, state, and local organizations and advocates.

IDEA Parent Guide
Ph: 888 575 7373
Information on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Available resources, Questions you should ask

The National Center on Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE)
Ph: (541) 686 5060
www.directionservice.org/CADRE
Works to resolve special education disputes

Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)
Ph: (804) 225 3252
www.doe.virginia.gov
Resources, Information, and Assistance for parents of children within the Virginia School Systems.

Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy (VOPA)
Ph: 800 552 3962
General.vopa@vopa.state.va.us
www.vopa.state.va.us
Works to prevent abuse, neglect, and discrimination; to protect and advance civil rights of individuals with disabilities; Promote independence, choice, and self-determination of those with disabilities; Website available in Spanish;
Wright’s Law
webmaster@wrightslaw.com
www.wrightslaw.com
Information/Articles on Special Education Law, Education Law, and Advocacy for Children with Disabilities

Celebrating Special Children
Burke, VA
www.celebratingspecialchildren.org
Comprehensive listing of local, state, and national resources for individuals with disabilities; News articles covering topics such as health care, advocacy, transition, employment, etc; Quarterly Newsletter “disAbilities Celebration Connection”

Comprehensive Services Act (CSA)
www.csa.state.va.us
Virginia Law in 1993 to fund services and “provide high quality, child centered, family focused, cost effective, community based services to high risk youth and their families”

Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC)
Richmond Regional Office
3600 W. Broad Street, Suite 397
Richmond, VA 23220
Ph: (804) 819 1999
www.peatc.org
Service and Support for Families and Professionals, Offers Research Based information and training, Opportunities for strategic partnership and advocacy

RESOURCES: VIRGINIA AUTISM ORGANIZATIONS

Communities of Practice in Autism (COPA)
COPA provides communities the opportunities to share information and experience in the improvement of service delivery and use of evidence based practices for students with ASD. A VCU ACE Technical Assistance Associate will work with school division leaders to build COPA in your area. Ph: 804 828 2494
Contact: Teresa Lyons, Technical Assistance Associate for Region Six

tlyons@vcu.edu
www.vcuautismcenter.org/ta/practice.cfm

University of Virginia (UVA)
Evaluations, Consultations, Counseling, Referrals; Preschool Development Clinic

UVA: Kluge Children’s Rehabilitation Center
2270 Ivy Road
Charlottesville, VA 22903
Ph: (434) 924 5161
www.uvahealth.com
Services include Developmental Delays and Disabilities, Dentistry, Diabetes and Endocrinology, Digestive Disorders, Neurology, Orthopedics, and Rehabilitation

Autism Society – Central VA Chapter
Richmond, VA
Ph: (804) 257 0192
Asacv@aol.com
www.asacv.org
General Autism Information, Free monthly chapter meetings, Free Workshops and Conferences, Newsletter, Resource Directory, Social Events for Families

Virginia Autism Project
www.virginiaautismproject.com

Autism Link – Virginia
www.autismlink.com
Chat room, discussion forums, resources including early intervention, employment, dentists, psychologists, respite, summer camps, etc.; General Autism Info, Art Gallery

Parent to Parent of Virginia
Richmond, VA
Ph: (804) 828 0352
ptpofva@aol.com
www.ptpofva.com
Contact: Dana Yarbrough
Resources and Information on various state services, support groups, and advocacy organizations; Access to other people and groups who share an interest and concern for individuals with disabilities; Various
networking opportunities, products, support, education, training, and links

Virginia Autism Council
info@autismtrainingva.org
www.autismtrainingva.org
Resources include Skill Competencies for Professionals and Paraprofessionals, Autism Education Materials, Higher Education/Coursework Recognition Program, Tuition Reimbursement Program; Online Training in ASD; Support Group Information

RESOURCES: VIRGINIA AND REGIONAL DIAGNOSTIC ORGANIZATIONS

Commonwealth Autism Service Transdisciplinary Diagnostic & Assessment Clinic
3900 W. Broad Street, Building 6, Richmond, VA 23220
Ph: (804)355-0300, (800)649-8481, Fax: (804)355-0932,
www.autismva.org
The Clinic is led by clinical psychologist, Donald Oswald, Ph.D., an internationally acknowledged expert in the field of autism. The unique standards of practice followed in the Clinic include a commitment to providing, along with a diagnosis: rationale for the diagnosis; discussion with family members regarding the implications of the child’s strengths and challenges; set of treatment and education recommendations; and follow-up to support the implementation of the recommendations.

Virginia Tech Autism Clinic
3110 Price’s Fork Road,
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0355
Ph: (540) 231-6914 Fax: (540) 231-4250
autism@vt.edu
www.psyc.vt.edu/outreach/autism
Director: Dr. Angela Scarpa, ascarpa@vt.edu,
Ph: (540) 231-2615
Providing Assessment, Treatment, Consultation and Research; Social Skills Groups, Individual Therapy, Stress and Anger Management Program (children ages 4-12), COACH - intensive in-home ABA Program for children (under age 6), Pivotal Response Treatment.

RESOURCES: FUNDING

AXA Advisors, LLC
Richmond, VA
Ph: (804) 288 1100
Contact: Mark Dellosso
Mark.dellosso@axa-advisors.com
www.axa-equitable.com
Financial Planning for Families with Special Needs; Provides Educational Group Workshops

RESOURCES: GOVERNMENT

Virginia House of Delegates 2012
Donald Merricks
16th District – County of Henry (part), County of Patrick (part); City of Martinsville
District Office: Chatham, VA
Ph: (434) 432 3370
DelDMerricks@house.virginia.gov

Daniel Marshall III
14th District – Counties of Henry (part) and Pittsylvania (part); City of Danville
District Office: Danville, VA
Ph: (434) 797 5861
DelDMarshall@house.virginia.gov

Charles Poindexter
9th District – Counties of Franklin (part), Henry (part), and Patrick
District Office: Glade Hill, VA
Ph: (540) 576 2600
DelCPoindexter@house.virginia.gov

Senate of Virginia 2012
William Stanley, Jr.
District 20 – Patrick Co., Henry Co., Martinsville City
13508 Booker T. Washington Highway
Moneta, VA 24121
Ph: (540) 721 6028
District20@senate.virginia.gov
Glossary of Special Education and Legal Terms

from *Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy, 2nd Edition*

A

**Accommodations.** Changes in how test is administered that do not substantially alter what the test measures; includes changes in presentation format, response format, test setting or test timing. Appropriate accommodations are made to level the playing field, i.e., to provide equal opportunity to demonstrate knowledge.

**Achievement test.** Test that measures competency in a particular area of knowledge or skill; measures mastery or acquisition of skills.

**Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).** Legislation enacted to prohibit discrimination based on disability.

**Attention Deficit Disorder/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADD/ADHD).** Child with ADD or ADHD may be eligible for special education under other health impairment, specific learning disability, and/or emotional disturbance categories if ADD/ADHD condition adversely affects educational performance.

**Adversarial system.** The system of trial practice in which each of the opposing parties has an opportunity to present and establish opposing contentions before the court.

**Alternative dispute resolution.** See mediation.

**Appeal.** Procedure in which a party seeks to reverse or modify a judgment or final order of a lower court or administrative agency, usually on grounds that lower court misinterpreted or misapplied the law, rather than on the grounds that it made an incorrect finding of fact.

**Appendix A.** Appendix to the federal special education regulations that answers questions about IEPs, IEP teams, parental role, transition.

**Assessment.** Systematic method of obtaining information from tests or other sources; procedures used to determine child’s eligibility, identify the child’s strengths and needs, and services child needs to meet these needs. See also evaluations.

**Assistive technology device.** Equipment used to maintain or improve the capabilities of a child with a disability.

**Audiology.** Related service; includes identification, determination of hearing loss, and referral for habilitation of hearing.

**Autism.** Developmental disability that affects communication and social interaction, adversely affects educational performance, is generally evident before age 3. Children with autism often engage in repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resist environmental change or change in daily routines, and have unusual responses to sensory experiences.
B

Basic skills. Skills in subjects like reading, writing, spelling, and mathematics.

Behavior disorder (BD). See emotional disturbance.

BIP. A plan of positive behavioral interventions in the IEP of a child whose behaviors interfere with his/her learning or that of others.

Brief. Written argument that supports a case; usually contains a statement of facts and a discussion of law.

Burden of proof. Duty of a party to substantiate its claim against the other party; in civil actions, the weight of this proof is usually described as a preponderance of the evidence.

Business day. Means Monday through Friday, except for federal and state holidays.

C

Calendar day. (See "day").

Case law. Decisions issued by a court.

CBM. See "Curriculum Based Measurement" below.

Child find. Requirement that states ensure that all children with disabilities are identified, located and evaluated, and determine which children are receiving special education and related services.

C.F.R. Code of Federal Regulations

Class action. A civil action filed in a court on behalf of a named plaintiff and on behalf of other individuals similarly situated.

Complaint. Legal document that outlines plaintiff’s claim against a defendant.

Confidential file. File maintained by the school that contains evaluations conducted to determine whether child is handicapped, other information related to special education placement; parents have a right to inspect the file and have copies of any information contained in it.

Consent. Requirement that the parent be fully informed of all information that relates to any action that school wants to take about the child, that parent understands that consent is voluntary and may be revoked at any time. See also Procedural safeguards notice and prior written notice.

Controlled substance. Means a drug or other substance identified under schedules I, II, III, IV, or V of the Controlled Substances Act; does not include a substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health care provider.
Counseling services. Related service; includes services provided by social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, or other qualified personnel.

Cumulative file. General file maintained by the school; parent has right to inspect the file and have copies of any information contained in it.

Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM). A method to measure student progress in academic areas including math, reading, writing, and spelling. The child is tested briefly (1 to 5 minutes) each week. Scores are recorded on a graph and compared to the expected performance on the content for that year. The graph allows the teacher and parents to see quickly how the child’s performance compares to expectations.

D

Damages. Monetary compensation that may be recovered by a person who has suffered loss, detriment or injury to his person, property or rights, through the unlawful act or negligence of another; damages are not generally available under the IDEA.

Day. Means calendar day unless otherwise indicated as school day or business day.

Deaf-blindness. IDEA disability category; includes hearing and visual impairments that cause severe communication, developmental and educational problems that adversely affects educational performance.

Deafness. IDEA disability category; impairment in processing information through hearing that adversely affects educational performance.

Disability. In Section 504 and ADA, defined as impairment that substantially affects one or more major life activities; an individual who has a record of having such impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.

Discovery. Term for methods of obtaining evidence in advance of trial; includes interrogatories, depositions and inspection of documents.

Due process hearing (impartial due process hearing). Procedure to resolve disputes between parents and schools; administrative hearing before an impartial hearing officer or administrative law judge. Called a "fair hearing" in some states.

E

Early intervention (EI). Special education and related services provided to children under age of 5.

Education records. All records about the student that are maintained by an educational agency or institution; includes instructional materials, teacher’s manuals, films, tapes, test materials and protocols.
**Educational consultant/diagnostician.** An individual who may be familiar with school curriculum and requirements at various grade levels: may or may not have a background in learning disabilities; may conduct educational evaluations.

**Emotional disturbance (ED).** Disability category under IDEA; includes depression, fears, schizophrenia; adversely affects educational performance.

**EMR.** Educable mentally retarded.

**ESY.** Extended school year services.

**Exhibit.** Anything tangible that is produced and admitted in evidence during a trial.

**F**

**FAPE.** Free appropriate public education; special education and related services provided in conformity with an IEP; are without charge; and meets standards of the SEA.

**FBA.** Functional behavior assessment.

**FERPA.** Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; statute about confidentiality and access to education records.

**G**

**General curriculum.** Curriculum adopted by LEA or SEA for all children from preschool through high school.

**Guardian ad litem.** Person appointed by the court to represent the rights of minors.

**H**

**Hearing impairment.** Disability category under IDEA; permanent or fluctuating impairment in hearing that adversely affects educational performance.

**I**

**ID.** Intellectual Disability (see older reference: Mental Retardation)

**IDEA.** The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

**IDELR.** Individuals with Disabilities Law Reporter

**IEE.** Independent educational evaluation.

**IEP.** Individualized Educational Plan.

**IFSP.** Individualized Family Service Plan.
**Illegal drug.** A controlled substance; does not include substances that are legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional.

**Impartial due process hearing.** See due process hearing.

**Inclusion.** Practice of educating children with special needs in regular education classrooms in neighborhood schools. See also mainstreaming and least restrictive environment.

**Interrogatories.** Written questions served on a party that must be answered under oath before trial; method of discovery.

**ITP.** Individual Transition Plan

**J**

**Judgment.** Order by a court

**L**

**Learning disability.** See specific learning disability (SLD).

**LRE.** Least restrictive environment; requirement to educate special needs children with children who are not disabled to the maximum extent possible.

**LEA.** Local education agency or school district

**M**

**Mainstreaming.** Practice of placing special needs children in regular classrooms for at least a part of the children’s educational program. See also least restrictive environment and inclusion.

**Manifestation determination review.** If child with disability engages in behavior or breaks a rule or code of conduct that applies to nondisabled children and the school proposes to remove the child, the school must hold a hearing to determine if the child’s behavior was caused by the disability.

**Mediation.** Procedural safeguard to resolve disputes between parents and schools; must be voluntary, cannot be used to deny or delay right to a due process hearing; must be conducted by a qualified and impartial mediator who is trained in effective mediation techniques.

**Medical services.** Related service; includes services provided by a licensed physician to determine a child’s medically related disability that results in the child’s need for special education and related services.

**Mental retardation.** Disability category under IDEA; refers to significantly sub-average general intellectual functioning with deficits in adaptive behavior that adversely affects educational performance. (INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY)
**Modifications.** Substantial changes in what the student is expected to demonstrate; includes changes in instructional level, content, and performance criteria, may include changes in test form or format; includes alternate assessments.

**Multiple disabilities.** Disability category under IDEA; concomitant impairments (such as mental retardation-blindness, mental retardation-orthopedic impairment, etc.) that cause such severe educational problems that problems cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for one of the impairments; does not include deaf-blindness.

**Native language.** Language normally used by the child’s parents.

**Norm-referenced test.** (See standardized test)

**OCR.** Office of Civil Rights

**Occupational therapy.** Related service; includes therapy to remediate fine motor skills.

**OHI.** Other health impairment.

**Opinion.** Formal written decision by judge or court; contains the legal principles and reasons upon which the decision was based.

**Orientation and mobility services.** Related service; includes services to visually impaired students that enable students to move safely at home, school, and community

**Orthopedic impairment.** Disability category under IDEA; orthopedic impairment that adversely affects child’s educational performance

**OSERS.** Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

**OSEP.** Office of Special Education Programs

**Other health impairment (OHI).** Disability category under IDEA; refers to limited strength, vitality or alertness due to chronic or acute health problems that adversely affects educational performance.

**Parent.** Parent, guardian, or surrogate parent; may include grandparent or stepparent with whom a child lives, and foster parent.

**Physical therapy.** Related service; includes therapy to remediate gross motor skills.

**Precedent.** A court decision that will influence similar cases in the future.
**Prior written notice.** Required written notice to parents when school proposes to initiate or change, or refuses to initiate or change, the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child.

**Pro se.** Representing oneself without assistance of legal counsel

**Procedural safeguards notice.** Requirement that schools provide full easily understood explanation of procedural safeguards that describe parent’s right to an independent educational evaluation, to examine records, to request mediation and due process.

**Progress monitoring.** A scientifically based practice used to assess students’ academic performance and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction; can be implemented with individual students or an entire class.

**Psychological services.** Related service; includes administering psychological and educational tests, interpreting test results, interpreting child behavior related to learning.

**Public Law (P.L.) 94-142.** The Education for All Handicapped Children Act; enacted into law in 1975

**R**

**Reasonable accommodation.** Adoption of a facility or program that can be accomplished without undue administrative or financial burden.

**Recreation.** Related service; includes therapeutic recreation services, recreation programs, and leisure education.

**Rehabilitation Act of 1973.** Civil rights statute designed to protect individuals with disabilities from discrimination; purposes are to maximize employment, economic self-sufficiency, independence, inclusion and integration into society.

**Rehabilitation counseling services.** Related service; includes career development, preparation for employment, vocational rehabilitation services funded under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

**Related services.** Services that are necessary for child to benefit from special education; includes speech-language pathology and audiology services, psychological services, physical and occupational therapy, recreation, early identification and assessment, counseling, rehabilitation counseling, orientation and mobility services, school health services, social work services, parent counseling and training.

**Remediation.** Process by which an individual receives instruction and practice in skills that are weak or nonexistent in an effort to develop/strengthen these skills.

**Response to Intervention (RTI).** Use of research-based instruction and interventions with students who are at risk and students who are suspected of having specific learning disabilities.

**S**
School day. A day when children attend school for instructional purposes.

School health services. Related service; services provided by a qualified school nurse or other qualified person.

SEA. State educational agency (state department of education).

Section 504. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act protects individuals with disabilities from discrimination due to disability by recipients of federal financial assistance.

Settlement. Conclusion of a legal matter by agreement of opposing parties in a civil suit before judgment is made.

SLD. See "Specific learning disability" below.

Special education. Specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.

Specific learning disability (SLD). Disability category under IDEA; includes disorders that affect the ability to understand or use spoken or written language; may manifest in difficulties with listening, thinking, speaking, reading, writing, spelling, and doing mathematical calculations; includes minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia.

Speech-language pathology services. Related service; includes identification and diagnosis of speech or language impairments, speech or language therapy, counseling and guidance.

Speech or language impairment. Disability category under IDEA; includes communication disorders, language impairments, voice impairments that adversely educational performance.

Statutory rights. Rights protected by statute, as opposed to constitutional rights that are protected by the Constitution.

Statute of limitations. Time within which a legal action must be commenced.

Standardized test. Norm-referenced test that compares child's performance with the performance of a large group of similar children (usually children who are the same age).

State education agency (SEA). State departments of education.

Statutory law. Written law enacted by legislative bodies.

Supplementary aids and services. Means aids, services, and supports that are provided in regular education classes that enable children with disabilities to be educated with nondisabled children to the maximum extent appropriate.

SWD. Students with disabilities.
Technology (see assistive technology)

Testimony. Evidence given by a person as distinguished from evidence from writings and other sources.

Transcript. Official record taken during a trial or hearing by an authorized stenographer.

Transition services. IEP requirement; designed to facilitate movement from school to the workplace or to higher education.

Transportation. Related service about travel; includes specialized equipment (i.e., special or adapted buses, lifts, and ramps) if required to provide special transportation for a child with a disability.

Traumatic brain injury. Disability category under IDEA; includes acquired injury caused by external physical force and open or closed head injuries that result in impairments; does not include congenital or degenerative brain injuries or brain injuries caused by birth trauma.

Travel training. See orientation and mobility services

U


V

Visual impairment including blindness. Disability category under IDEA; impaired vision that adversely affects educational performance.

W

Weapon. Means a “dangerous weapon” as defined in the United States Code.
Age 18 Re-determination (SSI): Any person who was found eligible for SSI as a child in the month before they turned 18 must have their eligibility for SSI re-determined as an adult. This review should be completed before the age of 19.

Appeals: Individuals have the right to appeal any “initial determination” made by the SSA. Individuals may also appeal denial of benefits, reduction of benefits, termination of benefits, and/or the assessment of overpayments. There are four levels of the appeals process with certain time restrictions for each. Individuals generally have 60 days from the time they receive a notice from the SSA to file appeals.

Blind Work Expense (SSI): Any SSI recipient whose primary diagnosis is blindness, and who receives earned income is entitled to exclude from that income any ordinary and necessary expenses attributable to the earning of income. This is not counted in determining SSI eligibility and monthly cash payments.

Break-Even Point (SSI): While a reduction in the SSI cash payments will occur as a recipient’s earnings increase, SSI recipients will continue receiving cash payments until their total countable income increases to the point where their SSI payment is reduced to zero.

Childhood Disability Benefits (SSDI): Adults with disabilities who do not have sufficient Social Security-covered work history for insured status may receive Social Security benefits based on their parents’ insured status. To be eligible for Social Security as a disabled adult child, individuals must be: 18 years of age or older; disabled by SSA’s definition before age 22; and the child of an insured worker who is either disabled, retired or deceased. (If adult child marries, benefits end unless marriage is to another Title II beneficiary.)

Continuing Disability Review: The Social Security Act requires that the SSA periodically update records and review the disability status of beneficiaries and recipients to ensure that they continue to be disabled and thus eligible for disability payments. These reviews are called Continuing Disability Reviews (CDRs) and apply to persons receiving both SSI as well as SSI. These reviews can be based on either medical improvement or work activity.

Countable Income (SSI): The amount of combined earned and unearned income remaining after SSA has subtracted all allowable income exclusion and deductions from your income. This amount will determine the amount of the SSI eligibility and payment amount.

CDR Protections: Effective January 1, 2001, SSA was no longer able to initiate a Continuing Disability Medical Review while an SSI recipient or Title II beneficiary is using a “Ticket” under the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency program. Extending CDR protections further, effective January 1, 2002, work activity by a Title II beneficiary who has received Title II for at least 24 months cannot be used as a basis for conducting a medical CDR.

Deemed Income (SSI): When the SSA determines the eligibility and amount of payment for an SSI recipient, the income and resources of people responsible for the recipient’s welfare are also considered. This concept is called “deeming.” It is based on the idea that those who have a responsibility for one another share their income and resources. It does not matter if money is actually provided to an eligible individual for deeming to apply. There are three main situations where income and resources are “deemed”: from an ineligible spouse to an eligible individual; from an ineligible parent(s) to a child; or, from a sponsor to an alien.

Disability Standard: “The inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.” This is the legal definition of disability used by the Social Security Administration in both the SSI and SSDI programs.

Earned Income (SSI): Earned income may be paid in cash or in-kind. If it is in-kind and in exchange for labor, its full current market value is the amount used to determine countable income. Earned income is: wages paid; net earnings from self-employment; payments for participating in a sheltered workshop or work activity center: sickness or temporary disability payments received within the first six months of stopping work; royalties earned in connection with any publication of the individual’s work or any honoraria received for services rendered. Earned income is favored by SSA and receives significant exclusions and deductions before “countable income” is determined.

Employment Network (EN): A qualified public or private organization that has entered into an agreement with SSA to function as an EN under the Ticket to Work program and take responsibility for the coordination and delivery of employment services, vocational rehabilitation services, and/or other support services.

Expedited Reinstatement of Benefits: An individual, who has had their disability benefits ceased as a result of work and earnings and have had to subsequently reduce their work below substantial gainful activity levels or stop work as a result of their impairment, may request reinstatement of benefits within five years of their benefits stopping. Up to six months of provisional benefits can be paid while a disability determination is made. Provisional benefits will never be considered an overpayment.

Extended Medicare Coverage (SSDI): Beneficiaries who continue to work can generally continue to receive Medicare for 78 months with the first month of SGA occurring after the 15th of the month of the EPE. Medicare coverage extends for at least 93 months.

Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE) (SSDI): At the conclusion of the nine-month Trial Work Period (TWP), as long as individuals continue to have their original disabling condition, a 36-month EPE will begin in the month following the ninth TWP month. During these 36 consecutive months, individuals will receive benefit checks when their earnings are below SGA. During the EPE, individuals are due payment (disability
benefits) for any month they do not work, or when work and earnings fall below the SGA level. During this period, it is not necessary to file a new application for benefits to resume.

Federal Benefit Rate (SSI): SSI is an economic “need-based” program and is intended to supplement any income individuals already possess, to ensure that they are afforded a minimum level of income. Therefore, the dollar amount of SSI benefits received on a monthly basis varies from person to person. The Federal Benefit Rate (FBR), is the maximum dollar amount that individuals or couples can receive in SSI/cash benefits on a monthly basis from the federal government. Some states supplement the FBR.

Income Averaging (SSDI): When conducting the SGA determination, or work CDR, the Claims Representative may average income when monthly earnings are typically under the SGA level but there are one or two months in which the reported earnings are above the SGA limit. Income averaging can only occur during a period of time when the SGA level is consistent and only when job duties are the same or very similar.

Income Disregards (SSI): SSA allows individuals a $20 general income exclusion, which is subtracted from their income. The general income exclusion is first applied to unearned income received. Any portion of the general income exclusion remaining is then applied to earned income. In addition to the general income exclusion a $65 earned income exclusion is subtracted from earned income. For SSI recipients, earned income is the gross amount received in the calendar month, regardless of when it was earned. After the earned income exclusion is applied, SSA counts one-half of the remaining earned income. Then, the remaining amount of earned and unearned income after exclusions is combined to give the countable income. This is the dollar amount that SSA uses to determine the SSI payment.

Impairment-Related Work Expense (IRWE) (SSDI): The cost of certain impairment-related items and services required by individuals in order to work are deducted from gross earnings in calculating SGA, even if these items and services are also needed for non-work activities. The purpose of the IRWE is to allow beneficiaries to reduce income below SGA levels until they can work at a level of self-sufficiency, which decreases reliance on benefits. The cost of IRWE expenses can also be deducted from gross earnings during initial application processes, enabling individuals to meet the SGA requirement. In order for the expense to be deductible it must be related to the work activity and paid for by the recipient.

IRWE (SSI): For SSI recipients, deducting the cost of the IRWE from monthly gross wages increases the SSI cash payments they can receive. The cost of IRWE expenses can also be deducted from gross earnings during initial SSI application processes, enabling individuals to meet the SGA requirement. IRWE may also help individuals meet the income test for SSI eligibility. In order for the expense to be deductible it must be related to the work activity and paid for by the recipient.

Income Exclusions (SSI): In determining SSI eligibility, individuals may exclude any of the following: parent’s income/resources once a child reaches the age of 18, regardless of their student status; any portion of student’s grants, scholarships, or fellowships used to pay the cost of tuition, books, and other education related expenses; and/or food and shelter provided “in-kind” by a non-profit organization as income. If the assistance is based on need and is certified by the state.

Medicaid Buy-In: States can extend Medicaid coverage to certain individuals with disabilities who work under a provision known as the Medicaid Buy-in. The Medicaid Buy-in first appeared as an option for States under Section 4733 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. The Buy-in is designed to provide Medicaid to working people with disabilities, who, because of relatively high earnings, cannot qualify for Medicaid under one of the other statutory provisions. The Medicaid Buy-in program allows working individuals with disabilities to “buy into” their state’s Medicaid program by paying a premium and/or cost share amount similar to the manner in which they would purchase health coverage on the private market. Any working individual with a disability who meets their state’s specific eligibility requirements for the Buy-in may enroll in the program.

Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS) (SSI): PASS is an SSI work incentive under which persons with disabilities can set aside income and/or resources to be used to achieve specific work goals. A PASS can be established to cover the costs of obtaining an education, receiving vocational training, starting a business, or purchasing support services which enable individuals to work and result in reduction/cessation of benefits.

Property Essential to Self-Support (PESP) (SSI): This SSI provision allows individuals to exclude certain resources which are essential to their means of self-support. Properties that are used in trades or businesses by individuals for work as employees are totally excluded as of May 1, 1990. Up to $6,000 of the equity value of non-business properties that are used to produce goods or services essential to daily activities are excluded. Also, up to $6,000 of the equity value of non-business income-producing properties are excluded, provided that the property yields an annual rate of return of at least six percent.

Re-determination Review (SSI): Re-determinations are non-medical reviews, which occur annually. During the re-determination reviews, the SSA updates the individual’s income, resources, and living arrangement in order to ensure continued financial eligibility for SSI benefits.

Representative Payee: It is the policy of the SSA that every legally competent beneficiary or recipient has the right to manage his or her own cash benefits. However, when there is evidence that an individual is not able to manage or direct the management of benefit payments in their best interests, representative payment may be made. Benefits are then paid to a third party for the use and benefit of the beneficiary.
Resource Test (SSI): The SSI benefit program has specific resource limitations that are set by statute and include real or personal property (including cash). This must not exceed the specified amount at the beginning of each month. The resource limits are not subject to regular cost-of-living increases, and the current limit is $2,000 for individuals and $3,000 for married couples.

Section 1619(a) (SSI): 1619(a) enables individuals who continue to be disabled to receive special SSI cash benefits in place of their regular SSI payments, when earnings exceed the SGA level. To be eligible for 1619(a) benefits, individuals must continue to have the original disabling impairment under which eligibility for SSI was initially determined, and must currently meet all other eligibility rules, including the income and resource test. If all eligibility requirements continue to be met, when earnings increase too greater than the SGA level but remain lower than the break-even point, SSI recipients will automatically move into 1619(a) status. There is no application for 1619(a). This process happens automatically upon the beneficiary’s report of income above SGA levels.

Section 1619(b) (SSI): 1619(b) provides for continued Medicaid eligibility for individuals whose incomes are too high to qualify for an SSI cash payment, but are not high enough to offset the loss of Medicaid or publicly funded attendant care. Individuals will be eligible only for the 1619(b) protected Medicaid status if the sole cause for SSI payments cessation is increased earnings over the break-even point. If cash excess cessation is a result of anything other than earnings (e.g. determination of medical recovery or excess resources and/or excess unearned income) individuals will not be eligible for 1619(b). A second criterion for 1619(b) status requires that individuals’ gross earnings fall below certain limits called threshold amount. There is no application for 1619(b). This process happens automatically upon the beneficiary’s report of increased earned income.

Section 301: The Social Security Act provides for continuation of SSI and/or Title II benefits respectively to individuals who have medically recovered but who are participating in a program consisting of the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program or another program of vocational rehabilitation services, employment services or other support services. These provisions allow individuals who have medically improved and are no longer considered disabled to continue receiving SSI and SSI benefits if: they are participating in approved vocational rehabilitation programs at the time their disability ceases and SSA has determined that the beneficiary’s continued participation in the vocational rehabilitation programs will increase the likelihood of permanent removal from the disability benefit rolls.

SSDI: Social Security Disability Insurance, authorized under Title II of the Social Security Act.

Social Security Eligibility (SSDI): To be eligible for Social Security, individuals must have insured status as former employed workers; that is, they have been employed for a specified minimum period in Social Security-covered employment. To establish insured status for disability benefits, individuals need 20 credits (formerly called “quarters of coverage”) in the 10 years prior to the onset of disability. Those disabled before age 31 need less work to qualify. It is possible to earn up to four credits of coverage yearly based on annual earnings. In 2007, employees earn one credit for every $1,000 of earnings. This amount is automatically increased each year under a formula that takes into account increases in average wage levels nationally. In summary, to be eligible for Social Security individuals must: be determined medically disabled; not be working or earning less than SGA; and have insured status as former workers.

SSI: Supplemental Security Income program authorized under Title XVI of the Social Security Act.

SSI Eligibility (SSI): To be eligible for SSI an individual must fit into one of the following categories: disabled (as defined earlier); blind: 20/200 or less in better eye with glasses, or field of vision less than 20 degrees; or aged: 65 or older. In addition, they must meet the Income and Resource Test and other SSI eligibility requirements.

Subsidies and Special Conditions: A subsidy is support a person receives on the job, which could result in more pay than the actual value of the services the person performs. Only earnings that represent the real value of the work performed are used to determine SGA. SSA makes a determination of the value of the work, after subsidies are subtracted. Subsidies and special conditions are applicable to both SSI applicants and SSI beneficiaries. The dollar amount of these is subtracted from gross monthly earnings during the initial eligibility process for both SSI and Social Security; potentially reducing gross earnings below the SGA level. They are applicable to the SSI program only during initial eligibility. For the Social Security program, however, they are considered in ongoing SGA determinations.

Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA): SGA is defined as the performance of significant physical or mental duties for pay or profit and in 2007 is generally determined to be gross earnings in excess of $900 a month for individual with a disability other than blindness and $1,500 for a person who is blind.

SGA Determination and Grace Period (SSDI): When individuals the six months of trial work, a work CDR is conducted by SSA. The purpose of the review is to determine whether or not the work is SGA. A decision of SGA implies that individuals are performing significant mental or physical duties for profit, and are, therefore, demonstrating the ability to work in spite of their disabling impairment. If individuals are determined to be engaging in SGA, they “cease” eligibility for cash benefits, they will receive full benefit checks for an additional three months (the first month of SGA after the end of TWP (cessation month) and the two following months), and then the cash benefits will stop. This three-month period is called the “grace period” and may occur at any time after the end of the TWP.
If individuals are determined not to be engaging in SGA, they will continue to receive full benefit checks.

**Student-Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE) (SSI):** SEIE is a SSI work incentive program which allows individuals under age 22 who regularly attend school to exclude (as of January 2007) up to $1,510 of earned income per month (up to a maximum of $6,100 per year). This exclusion is applied before any other exclusion. These amounts will be automatically adjusted on an annual basis to higher or the previous year's amounts or increased amounts based on the cost of living. The exclusion is only applied to the earned income and consecutively to months in which there is earned income until either the exclusion is exhausted or the individuals are no longer a student child.

**Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program:** Public Law 106-170 directed the Commissioner of Social Security to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency program (section 1148), which would expand the universe of service providers available to SSDI and SSI disability beneficiaries and provide them with a ticket they may use to obtain vocational rehabilitation services, employment services, and/or other support services from an employment network of their choice.

**Trial Work Period (TWP) (SSDI):** Unless medical recovery is an issue, individuals receiving Social Security based on disability are entitled to a nine-month TWP which provides opportunities to test work skills while maintaining full benefit checks regardless of any income earned. The TWP is a work incentive and begins the first month that individuals are entitled to Title II benefits or file applications for disability benefits (whichever is later). Effective January 2007, only months during which an individual earns over $640 or works over 80 hours in self-employment are service months and count as TWP months.

**Unearned Income (SSI):** Unearned income is all income that is not earned. Some common types may include: in-kind support and maintenance; private pensions and annuities; periodic public payments such as SSDI, Veteran’s Benefits, railroad retirement benefits, workers’ compensation, unemployment compensation, etc; and others.

**Unincurred Business Expense (SSDI):** Unincurred Business Expense is SSA’s term for self-employment business support that someone else gives to the beneficiary without cost. Examples include: unpaid help; a third party buys a computer for your business; unincurred business expenses (e.g., business loss); and/or Soil Bank Payments (farmers).

**Unsuccessful Work Attempts (UWA) (SSDI):** When work at the SGA level cannot be sustained by the individual for more than six months, a provision called “Unsuccessful Work Attempt,” or UWA, may apply in both initial determinations and for continuing disability. Termination or reduction of work must be due to the individual’s impairment or the removal of special conditions that are necessary because of the disability.

**Waivers:** When an individual receives a written notice from SSA, which states that he or she has been overpaid, the individual can file an appeal and/or seek a waiver of overpayment recovery. Many overpayment determinations relate to work activity and wages. A waiver request is based upon the recipient not being at fault in causing the overpayment and being unable to repay the overpayment without risking the ability to meet basic needs.

**Work Incentives:** The Social Security Act outlines several work incentives intended to help SSI recipients and SSDI beneficiaries in two significant ways. First, they can help individuals pay for services or items that they need in order to work and to maintain, or even increase, their cash benefits until they are stable in employment. Second, in addition to the 1619(b) work incentives, the Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS), Impairment Related Work Expense (IRWE), and Blind Work Expense (BWE) are incentives that enable people with disabilities to recover expenses they incur while working towards greater economic self-sufficiency. The goals of the work incentive programs are to assist individuals to achieve gainful employment, increase independence, facilitate empowerment, and acquire self-support.