

## Virtual Augmentative and Alternative Communication Assessment Series

Facilitated by: Heather Miller Schwarz – MS, CCC-SLP and Amanda Khan, MSS, CCC-SLP  
Beginning November 7, 2024 (additional webinar dates listed below)

**REGISTER AT:** <https://bit.ly/4dESZy8>

**ONLINE – Zoom Links will be sent after registration complete**

**\*\*\*Must attend all training sessions in their entirety to earn ASHA Continuing Education.\*\*\***

### **DESCRIPTION**

This assessment series is designed for **teams** with prior knowledge and experience using augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) in the classroom. Teams are to be comprised of at least 1 SLP and educational team members (teacher, OT, PT, para-educator, administrator, SW). Each Team member **MUST APPLY** individually but should list each team member where noted. This will allow for each participant to receive their registration information and certificates. If you have any questions on team member eligibility please contact Heather Miller [hmillier@ucpnet.org](mailto:hmillier@ucpnet.org) for further information.

This presentation will discuss the AAC assessment process within the education environment. Participants will compare features of AAC tools including current mobile technology apps and dedicated speech generating devices and examine the benefits of matching the tool to the student rather than matching the student to the tool. The steps of an AAC assessment will be outlined & discussion will focus on evaluation models, tools, and recommendations. Teams will work collaboratively to complete a guided AAC assessment with one chosen student during the months of the training. Participants will walk away with the knowledge necessary to make decisions that best support a student's communication needs within the classroom.

#### **FULL DAY AAC WEBINARS:**

1. November 7, 2024 - AAC Overview (8:30 AM - 11:30 AM, 1:00-3:30 PM)
2. November 14, 2024 – AAC Assessment (8:30 AM - 11:30 AM, 1:00-2:30 PM)

#### **FOLLOW UP WEBINARS:**

1. December 5, 2024 - Customizing for Trials (8:00-9:30 AM)
2. January 16, 2025 - Data collection in Trials (8:00-9:30 AM)
3. February 13, 2025 - Funding and report writing (8:00-9:30 AM)

Follow-up Face-to-Face: 1-hour mobile lab scheduled at a location near each team

### **OUTCOMES**

Participants will be able to:

1. identify the components of a feature match assessment and list three tools to support this process.
2. compare and contrast the features of a variety of AAC tools including apps and speech generating devices for communication.
3. identify three strategies to promote AAC usage during and after the AAC trial and teach others.

**PLEASE SUBMIT the TEAM APPLICATION NO LATER THAN October 31, 2024**

## ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

**Heather Miller Schwarz**, MS, CCC-SLP is a Speech-Language Pathologist with over 20 years of experience working with individuals with complex communication needs. She has had experiences in public school, private practice and non-profit settings and has participated as a member of IEP and assistive technology teams. Currently, she is an Assistive Technology Lead for Collaborations and Trainings at UCP Seguin- Infinitec where she collaborates with IEP teams to provide augmentative and alternative communication support through student assessment and communication partner training and coaching. Heather has presented at local conferences in Illinois in addition to Closing the Gap, SWAAC and the Illinois Speech Hearing and Language Association Conferences. Her areas of interest continue to include pediatric speech-language disorders and assistive technology for individuals of all ages and abilities.



**Amanda Wydeveld-Khan**, MSS, CCC-SLP is a Speech-Language Pathologist with over 14 years of experience working with individuals who have complex communication needs. She first fell in love with Augmentative and Alternative Communication while working as a paraprofessional with a student who utilized a high-tech AAC device. She went on to receive her master's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts. Amanda trained under John Costello, MA, CCC-SLP in the Augmentative Communication Program at Boston Children's Hospital at Waltham. Since receiving her degree, she has worked in both public schools and clinical settings, providing direct, collaborative, and training-based services. Amanda has worked with individuals across the lifespan and in a variety of settings, including out in the community and in schools, clinics, homes, and residential facilities. Currently, she is an independent contractor for Infinitec.



**Financial Disclosure:** Heather Miller Schwarz is a contracted employee of UCP Seguin Infinitec and Technology and Language Center. She receives compensation for providing this training. **Non-Financial Disclosure:** Heather Miller Schwarz has no relevant nonfinancial relationships.

**Financial Disclosure:** Amanda Wydeveld-Khan is a contracted employee of UCP Seguin Infinitec and receives compensation for this training. **Non-Financial Disclosure:** Amanda Wydeveld-Khan has no relevant nonfinancial relationships.

This program qualifies for ISBE PD clock hours and CE for SLPs, OTs, PTs, SWs, Nurses through IDFPR and ASHA CEUs. NOTE: ASHA CE Registry does not apply to those who independently track their credit hours. CEUs are only awarded to those persons who are valid members of the Registry who attend all hours of the training.



**United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of  
Greater Chicago**

Intermediate Level  
1.55 ASHA CEUs

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Registration Questions? Email Heather Miller Schwarz [hmillier@ucpnet.org](mailto:hmillier@ucpnet.org)

Registration fee: No Cost as this training is sponsored through a grant from the Illinois State Board of Education.



**Illinois  
State Board of  
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