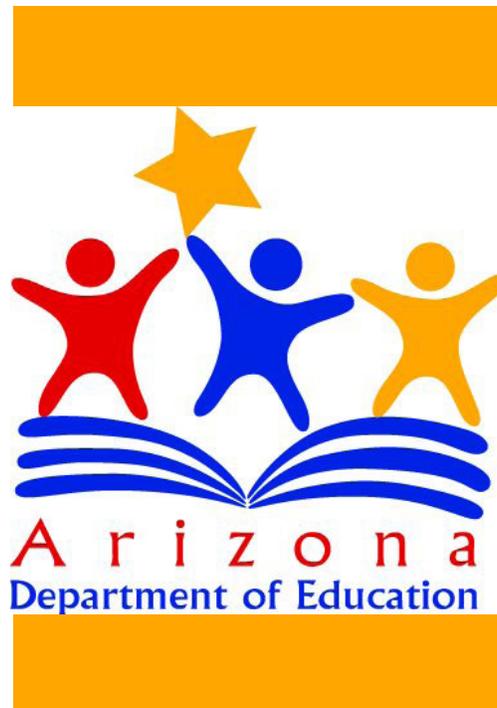


# Announcement of Opportunity for Participation in Arizona Statewide Early Childhood Autism Project (AzSECAP)

*An Innovative Early Intervention Project in Cooperation with  
Arizona Department of Education, Early Childhood Education Unit  
&  
STAR® Autism Support*



To meet the needs of young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

**LEARN EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES** for young children with ASD

**GAIN** valuable resources for implementing a **COMPREHENSIVE EARLY LEARNING CURRICULUM**

**INTEGRATE** early childhood practices with **PROVEN EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES**

**Application Deadline: 12/01/12**

Return the attached application to:

ECEInBox@azed.gov

**You are invited** to participate in an innovative project during the 2012 - 2013 school year designed to increase early childhood providers' capacity to work effectively with children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) during the critical years of brain and behavior development.

**Participants will consist of Early Childhood Teams including:**

- one administrator
- one early childhood special education teacher
- one general education early childhood teacher (consider community partner teachers such as Head Start, Title I, First Things First, Community Education Partner, et. al)
- one related service provider
- one teaching assistant or paraprofessional
- one kindergarten teacher and/or psychologist (optional)

Participating teams will learn effective instructional strategies for teaching young children with ASDs in a high quality early learning environment.

**Free professional development will include the following:**

- *3-day workshop for background and a strong emphasis on evidence-based early intervention teaching strategies and practices for children with ASD.*
- *3-days of individualized on-site coaching and support.*

**Each school team will also receive the following free materials:**

- *STAR Program Kits Levels 1 and 2*
- *Teaching Social Communication to Children with Autism Kit*
- *DT Essentials Reinforcement Kit*
- *Routine Essentials Visual Package*

**The Local Education Agency's responsibilities include:**

- A commitment to participate in the entirety of the project.
- *Hiring of substitute teachers and payment of travel expenses for team members.*

This is a competitive application process. Applications will be reviewed by committee based on submission date, geographical location, number of students with ASD, number of students with ASD being served and demonstrated needs.

**Training to be Provided by STAR® Autism Support**

STAR® Autism Support has extensive experience providing school districts effective tools to implement evidence-based strategies and to train and coach early childhood teams in these strategies. SAS provides workshops, training and support to school districts throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. SAS has successfully collaborated with school districts, private agencies, parents and the broader community to implement successful programs for children with autism.



The STAR Program is a comprehensive behavioral program that incorporates the applied behavior analysis strategies of: Discrete Trial Training, Pivotal Response Training and Teaching Functional Routines. STAR also promotes the use of positive behavior interventions, environmental supports (visual supports, visual schedules, etc) in inclusive and self-contained settings.

## Eligibility to Participate:

1. Be a state funded early childhood site with established early childhood teams working with children with ASD's (either diagnosed or suspected).
2. Come as an Early Childhood Team (as previously specified) with a commitment to full participation in the project.
3. Team will agree to mandatory attendance at a workshop to be held January 23—25, 2013 and 3 follow up coaching days on-site at Team's facility (dates TBD).
4. Team will agree to provide feedback/evaluation on training and program implementation, as well as complete a pre-training and post-training competency self-checklist.

## Complete the following application and participation agreement

### APPLICATION

School District: \_\_\_\_\_ Urban | Suburban | Rural | Tribal

Name of Nominated Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator/Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator/Director Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of preschool children identified or suspected of having ASD in the district \_\_\_\_\_

Number of preschool children with ASD that the team is currently working with \_\_\_\_\_

Types of classrooms children with ASD are served

self-contained cross categorical

self-contained with peer models

inclusive settings (e.g. Head Start, Community Ed., et. al.)

specialized classroom for children with autism

Identified Team Members:

Name	Position	Email Address
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Lead Contact for School Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your preschool program's current services for children with ASD, including what settings your preschoolers with ASD are served in (.e.g. cross categorical preschool classroom with typical peers, self-contained autism classroom, community partner classrooms/inclusive).

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Explain why your district needs this professional development for preschool children with ASD.

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What ASD trainings has your district's Preschool Autism Team already attended?

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# PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

\_\_\_\_\_ agrees to provide an Early Childhood Autism Team as identified  
*Admin Initials*                      *Name of School District*      in the application for the entirety of the project.

\_\_\_\_\_ Our school district agrees to send the identified Early Childhood Autism Team to the three  
*Admin Initials* day professional development event on January 23-25, 2013. Team members also agree to and will be available for three days of on-site coaching at a date to be determined.

\_\_\_\_\_ As a director of the school district named above, I have informed the chosen Early  
*Admin Initials* Childhood Autism Team of the mandatory three days of professional development on January 23-25, 2013, and additional professional development/on-site coaching (3 days) at a date to be determined.

\_\_\_\_\_ As a director of the school district named above, I understand I will have opportunity  
*Admin Initials* to purchase additional days of coaching from STAR Autism Support.

\_\_\_\_\_ As part of this collaborative effort, professional development, materials and three days of  
*Admin Initials* on-site coaching will be provided at no cost to the Districts who participate. The District's responsibilities include the Early Childhood Autism Team's commitment to participate in the entirety of the project, the District hiring of substitute teacher and payment of travel expenses for team members.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Administrator*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Administrator*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date Signed*