## Tier 1 AAC Foundations

**Who SHOULD participate?**
Special Education Teachers, SLPAs, OTs, PTs, Behaviorists, School Psychologists & Paraprofessionals who support students with complex communication needs. SLPs who want to move up to Tier 2 MUST attend.

**Designed to build the knowledge and skill that EVERY PERSON who supports a student with complex communication needs should demonstrate in order to foster the student’s skill development with augmentative & alternative forms of communication (AAC).**

- Knowledgeable of the universal supports for developing communication competence.
- Can actively participate in a Communication Access Plan process for communication tools & strategies.
- Can effectively support a student’s collaborative plan for developing communication participation & skill development.

## Tier 2 AAC Implementation

**Who CAN participate?**
SLPs who have successfully completed AAC Foundations; must have access to 3 students on caseload with varying AAC user profiles.

**Designed to build the knowledge and skill of SLPs who can guide individual student teams in selecting appropriate tools and strategies and who can develop effective Communication Access Plans for students with complex communication needs.**

- Knowledgeable of the tools to support students across the range of AAC user profiles.
- Can guide a Communication Access Plan process for communication tools & strategies.
- Can complete an AAC Needs Assessment for students requiring more individualized AAC tools.
- Can effectively coach a student’s team in identifying and selecting appropriate implementation strategies.

## Tier 3 AAC Specialization

**Who CAN participate?**
Licenced SLPs who have successfully completed AAC Implementation and have been nominated by their district. A district capacity assessment will follow to ensure access to a range of students with complex cognitive, linguistic and/or motor profiles.

**Designed to build the knowledge and skill of AAC Implementers in order to provide support and expertise for a full range of AAC needs (e.g. complex access solutions, sensory and motor disabilities) and navigate external sources of funding for speech-generating devices.**

- Knowledgeable of the tools and methodologies that support complex seating, positioning and alternative access barriers.
- Knowledgeable of custom vocabulary design to match complex symbolic and linguistic needs.
- Knowledgeable of the range of funding avenues and can successfully complete outside funding requests.
- Can effectively train and support other SLPs in an expert consultant role for more complex cases.