

## **ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **CLASS TITLE: Language, Speech, and Hearing Specialist – Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)**

#### **BASIC FUNCTION:**

Under the direction of an assigned administrator, assess, prescribe equipment, plan and implement strategies and techniques for students for whom an appropriate intervention is augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) due to language, speech and hearing disabilities. Provide collaborative consultation and training to school site staff, district specialists and families concerning the use of AAC devices to support communication development.

#### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

Plan and implement strategies and techniques for students with language, speech, and hearing disabilities for whom an appropriate intervention includes the use of AAC.

Accept and review referrals in accordance with the established AT-AAC Program procedures.

Use appropriate data gathering procedures and strategies to conduct a needs based assessment utilizing a team approach and the student's customary learning environment or setting.

Determine AAC needs as part of a comprehensive assessment, which addresses all areas related to the student's disability and based on the student's strengths, tasks, expectations and cognitive abilities.

Prepare and maintain a variety of records and reports related to diagnostic testing, student progress, and program activities.

Consult with school site staff, district specialists, and families concerning the use of AAC devices for communication development; respond to inquiries and provide information concerning program activities; be familiar with resources in the community and up-to-date AAC research.

Provide direct support to teachers and support staff including training, direction and consultation regarding AAC implemented for students with assessed AAC needs.

#### **DEMONSTRATED KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:**

##### **KNOWLEDGE OF:**

Strategies and techniques used for language/communication development for students with no or limited ability to produce verbal communication

General purposes and applications of AAC systems

Appropriate diagnostic testing and assessment for students with no or limited ability to produce verbal communication

Various aspects of aided and unaided AAC systems

Broad array of switches and corresponding skills necessary to use them to access AAC devices

Perceptual skills necessary to access different AAC systems

Seating and positioning influences as it relates to access to AAC systems

Methods used to customize AAC systems

Laws/regulations regarding student's rights to access AAC and other forms of technology

Operation of standard office and classroom equipment including a computer and assigned software

Recordkeeping and report preparation techniques

Oral and written communication skills  
Correct English usage, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary  
Policies and procedures of assigned programs and activities  
Interpersonal skills using tact, patience, and courtesy

**ABILITY TO:**

Assess, prescribe equipment, plan and implement strategies and techniques for communication development for students with no or limited ability to produce verbal communication  
Monitor and evaluate student progress  
Consult with school site staff, district specialists and families concerning the use of AAC devices to support communication development  
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing  
Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others  
Prioritize and schedule work  
Plan and organize work  
Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action  
Operate standard office and classroom equipment, including a computer and assigned software  
Maintain records and prepare reports  
Maintain consistent, punctual and regular attendance  
Move hands and fingers to operate a computer keyboard  
Hear and speak to exchange information  
See to read a variety of materials

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:**

Any one of the following required:

- Clinical Rehabilitation Services Credential – Language, Speech, and Hearing (with Special Class Authorization)
- Masters degree equivalent in Speech Pathology and Audiology credential
- Masters degree in Communication Disorders
- Masters degree in Speech and Language Pathology

Documented specialized training in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) that has been completed through a recognized provider. Providers may include college/universities, RESNA, County Offices of Education.

Minimum of two years working in a setting directly related to augmentative and alternative communication and/or assistive technology preferred.

**LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**

**REQUIRED:** Valid California Credential with an authorization to provide services in Language, Speech, and Hearing.

**DESIRABLE:** California license and ASHA certification

**WORKING CONDITIONS:**

**ENVIRONMENT:** Office environment and travel to multiple school sites