

Utilization of a Single Preferred AAC System in US Schools

February 18, 2026
7:00-8:00 p.m. EDT

PRESENTED BY:

Jill E. Senner and Amy S. Goldman



ABOUT THE PRESENTERS:

Jill E. Senner, PhD, CCC-SLP, has over 25 years of experience working with children with complex communication needs. She is the owner and director of Technology and Language Center where she specializes in providing augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) services via telepractice. Dr. Senner presents lectures on AAC topics online and around the world and has published research articles and textbook chapters on AAC.

Throughout her long career as a speech-language pathologist, **Amy S. Goldman, M.S., CCC-SLP**, has been a vigorous advocate for people with complex communication needs who use, or who can benefit from, AAC. A nationally and internationally known presenter, she currently serves as Past President of the United States Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (USSAAC). She is a Strand Advisor and Subject Matter Expert on AAC for the Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA). Previously she was chair of the steering committee of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's (ASHA) Special Interest Group on AAC and represented ASHA on the National Joint Committee for the Communication Needs of Persons with Severe Disabilities (NJC).

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION: Children who use augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) are a heterogeneous group with differing needs and skills. In fact, "there is no typical person who relies on AAC. AAC is determined based on a comprehensive, person-focused assessment. The use of a single preferred communication book, board, app, or device across an entire US school or district is becoming a frequent topic of discussion on social media, however; little is known about this practice. During this seminar, results of a recent study will be shared including: 1) When a single preferred communication book, board, app or device is adopted by a school or district, how does frequency of input from other stakeholders compare to when a single preferred system is not used; 2) When a single preferred communication book, board, app or device is used are data collected?; and 3) When a single preferred communication book, board, app or device is adopted by a school or district, are criteria specified and what criteria are used to determine which students receive which levels of support?

MODERATED BY: Betsy Caporale

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SLPs who are USSAAC/ISAAC members may have their participation in this webinar reported for ASHA CEUs at no charge. Non-members must pay a \$25 reporting fee.

This course is offered for 0.10 ASHA CEUs (Introductory level; Professional area).

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

1. Describe historical AAC assessment processes.
2. List the stakeholders typically involved in AAC assessments.
3. Summarize the practices being used in schools that use single preferred AAC systems.

TIME ORDERED AGENDA:

- 5 minutes: Introduction of Speakers, USSAAC and topic
- 10 minutes: Literature and Review
- 10 minutes: Methods and Participants
- 10 minutes: Results
- 15 minutes: Discussion, Practical Implications, Limitations, Future Research
- 10 minutes: Q & A

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) CEUs in speech-language pathology and audiology are awarded by the ASHA CE Registry upon receipt of the CEU Participant Form from the ASHA Approved CE Provider, USSAAC. CEU Participant Forms are available online at Registration or via the QR Code displayed during the presentation. ASHA CEUs are provided to full registrations. This program is offered for .10 ASHA CEUs (Introductory Level, Professional Area). Participants must stay for the entire presentation and complete the questionnaire at the end of the webinar.

ASHA Disclosures:

Speakers

Financial:

Jill Senner receives a salary from Technology & Language Center, PC

Amy Goldman has no Financial Disclosures to report

Non-Financial

Jill Senner and Amy Goldman are both members of USSAAC and serve on the USSAAC Research Committee. (This study was supported by the USSAAC research committee.)

Moderator

Financial: Betsy Caporale has no financial disclosures to report.

Nonfinancial: Betsy Caporale is a USSAAC board member and chairs the Education Committee.

To register for this Webinar please go to the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dzJ1BheCRfCbGVcGloxlow

PLEASE NOTE: Only the first 150 attendees to log into the webinar will be guaranteed spots.

USSAAC EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Amy Bereiter, Betsy Caporale, Kate DeJarnette, Nicole Gallagher, Richard Hurtig,
Michelle Phillipy, Wendy Quach, Sharon Redmon

about USSAAC

The United States Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (USSAAC) is the national chapter of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). As the United States' only non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the entire AAC community, USSAAC provides an invaluable role, working to ensure that individuals who could benefit from AAC have access to the technology and services they need.

Benefits of membership include, but are not limited to:

- *Free access to USSAAC webinar series with ASHA CEUs and USSAAC Twitter chats*
- *Advocacy for maintaining & expanding access to AAC systems and services*
- *Discount to ISAAC Conferences*
- *SpeakUp publication/Blog*
- *Information updates on USSAAC website, social platforms and member finder*
- *Membership in ISAAC with their additional benefits*

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