

San Diego Unified School District
Special Education Programs Division

SCERTS: Curriculum for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders
Course Name: SCERTS Orientation

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Al Bahr Shrine
5440 Kearny Mesa Rd
San Diego, CA 92111

Monday September 21, 2009
7:45 AM – 3:30 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION : This 1-day course will introduce the SCERTS model, a comprehensive, multidisciplinary educational approach designed for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). This framework is not exclusionary of other treatment approaches and methodologies, but rather provides a curriculum for those who are seeking guidelines for implementing a comprehensive educational plan that is based on our knowledge of the core developmental challenges faced by children with ASD, family-centered care, and our knowledge of the recommended tenets of educational programming, as indicated by the National Academy of Sciences. The acronym "SCERTS" refers to Social Communication (SC), Emotional Regulation (ER) and Transactional Support (TS), which we consider to be the primary developmental dimensions in an educational program designed to support the development of children with ASD and their families. The SCERTS framework has been designed to target priority goals in social communication (SC) and emotional regulation (ER) by implementing transactional supports (TS) (e.g., interpersonal modifications, environmental arrangement, visual supports, etc.) throughout a child's daily activities and across social partners in order facilitate competence within these identified goal areas in natural, functional and meaningful contexts.

The course will begin with a review of current perspectives in intervention (i.e., current efficacy research and characteristics of effective educational programs) and a review of the core developmental challenges faced by this heterogeneous population of children at various stages in development (i.e., pre-verbal stages, emerging language stages, and conversational stages). This introduction will then be followed by practical guidelines for prioritizing learning objectives and will cover a wide developmental range (applicable from preschool through the high school years). Video case examples will be used to illustrate how educators, clinicians, and families can directly apply learning strategies in the classroom environment and across settings.

INTENDED AUDIENCE: This training is most appropriate for professionals of all disciplines, service providers, and family members who are seeking an introduction to philosophy and practice in the SCERTS Model.

LEARNER OUTCOMES: Participants will be able to:

1. Describe essential components of a comprehensive educational program for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)
2. Describe core challenges in social-communication and emotional regulation faced by children with ASD at different stages of development.
3. Describe the SCERTS assessment process for prioritizing learning objectives for children with ASD.

4. Describe the SCERTS program planning process and strategies for implementing appropriate learning and educational accommodations for children with ASD.

FEES: No charge for SDUSD employees and parents. There is a \$100 registration fee for non-district participants that is payable prior to attendance. See payment procedures below.

CEUs: SDUSD is a registered professional development provider for the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Licensing Board. Participants will receive 6 hours.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES FOR SDUSD EMPLOYEES: Register online using ERO. Go to www.sandi.net/ero and follow the directions to set up an account. If you have difficulty establishing an account or need the job aid, contact Naomi Lewis at nlewis1@sandi.net. The course name is SCERTS Orientation. Registration closes September 17, 2009.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES FOR SDUSD PARENTS: To register, please contact Leslie Vittori at lvittori@sandi.net or call her at

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES FOR NON-DISTRICT PARTICIPANTS: Please complete and return the form below with your payment by September 17, 2009.

-----**Detach and Return**-----

I plan to attend the SCERTS workshop at Al Bahr on Monday, September 21, 2009. My check, payable to San Diego Unified School District for \$100.00, is enclosed.

Name _____ Position _____

School _____ District/Agency _____

Telephone No. _____ E-mail Address _____

Reserve your seat by completing and emailing this form to Rosa Calderon, rcalderon@sandi.net. Send your payment to Rosa at Wiggin Center, B-9, 4350 Mt. Everest Blvd. San Diego 92117 no later than September 17, 2009.