

The Virginia Commonwealth University Autism Center of Excellence

A STATEWIDE CENTER DEDICATED TO IMPROVING SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH ASD THROUGH THE DISCOVERY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES IN SCHOOL AND THE COMMUNITY.

Mission

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Build state- and system-wide capacity to improve individual outcomes through four activities:



Meet our Team

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- Dr. Paul Wehman – Principal Investigator
- Dr. John Kregel – Director
- Dr. Dawn Hendricks – Director of Training
- Dr. Carol Schall – Director of Technical Assistance
- Sue Palko, M.Ed. – Training Coordinator
- Joy Engstrom Ph. D. Candidate – Technical Assistance Coordinator
- Emily Helmboldt, M.Ed., LPC – Technical Assistance Coordinator

Our Regional Technical Assistance Coordinators

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Superintendent's Region	VCU-ACE Technical Assistance Associates
Regions 1	Adam Dreyfus, M.A., BCBA
Region 2	Noel Woolard, M. Ed., BCABA
Region 3	Noel Woolard, M. Ed., BCABA
Region 4	Steven Celmer, M.A., BCBA
Region 5	Steven Celmer, M.A., BCBA
Region 6	Teresa Lyons, M. Ed.
Region 7	Teresa Lyons, M. Ed.
Region 8	Adam Dreyfus, M.A., BCBA

Partners & Collaborators

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- **Virginia Department of Education**
- VCU School of Education and School of Medicine
- Virginia Autism Resource Center
- Community and University
 - ▣ School Divisions
 - ▣ Other College / University Partners
 - ▣ T/TAC
 - ▣ VAC
 - ▣ The Partnership for People with Disabilities
 - ▣ The National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders

TRAINING



Training For:

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- Special Educators,
- General Educators
- Related Service Personnel
- Paraprofessionals
- Administrators
- Psychologists
- Family Members and Friends
- Medical Professionals
- Early Intervention Service Providers
- Adult Service Providers

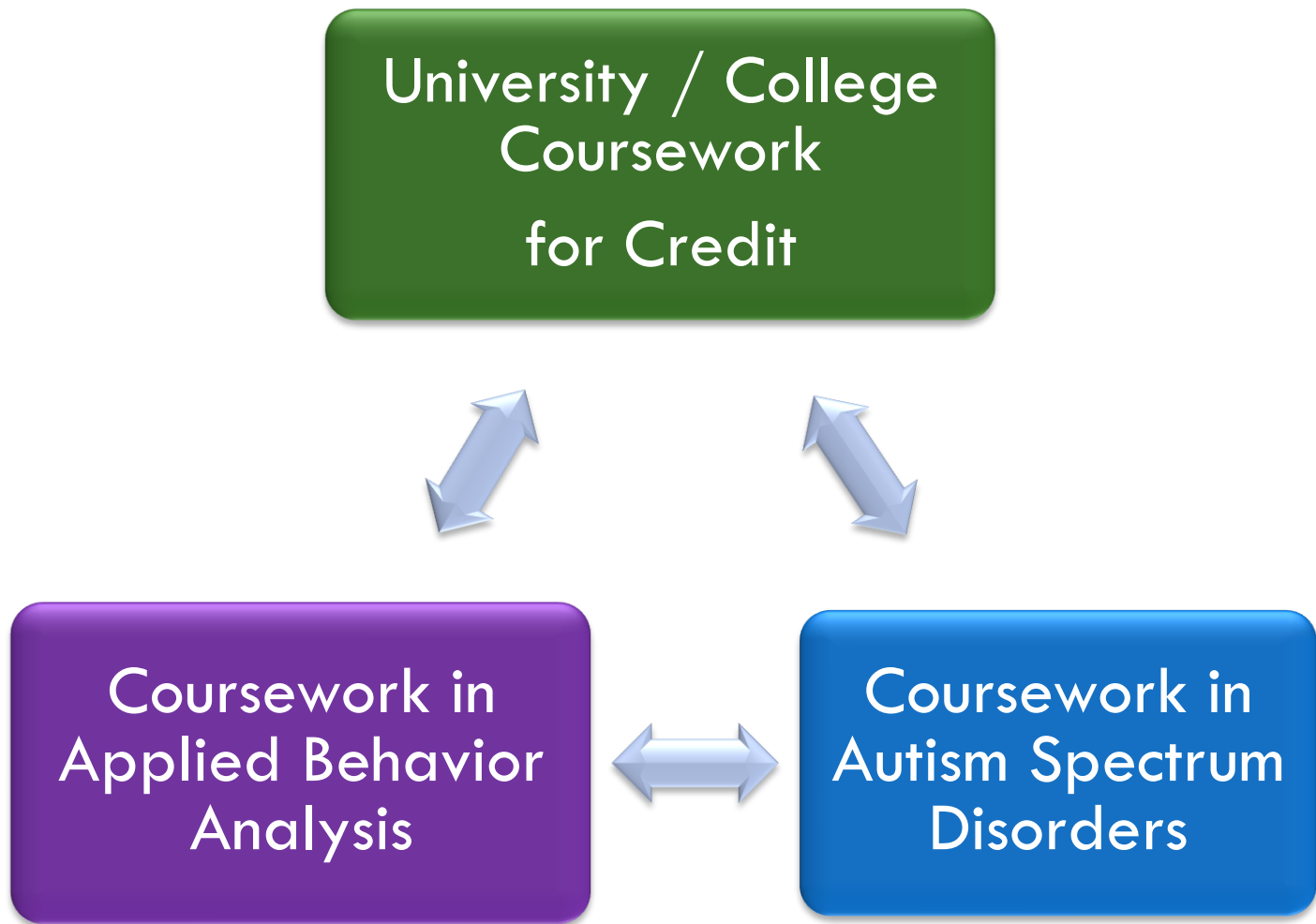
Online Training

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University / College Coursework

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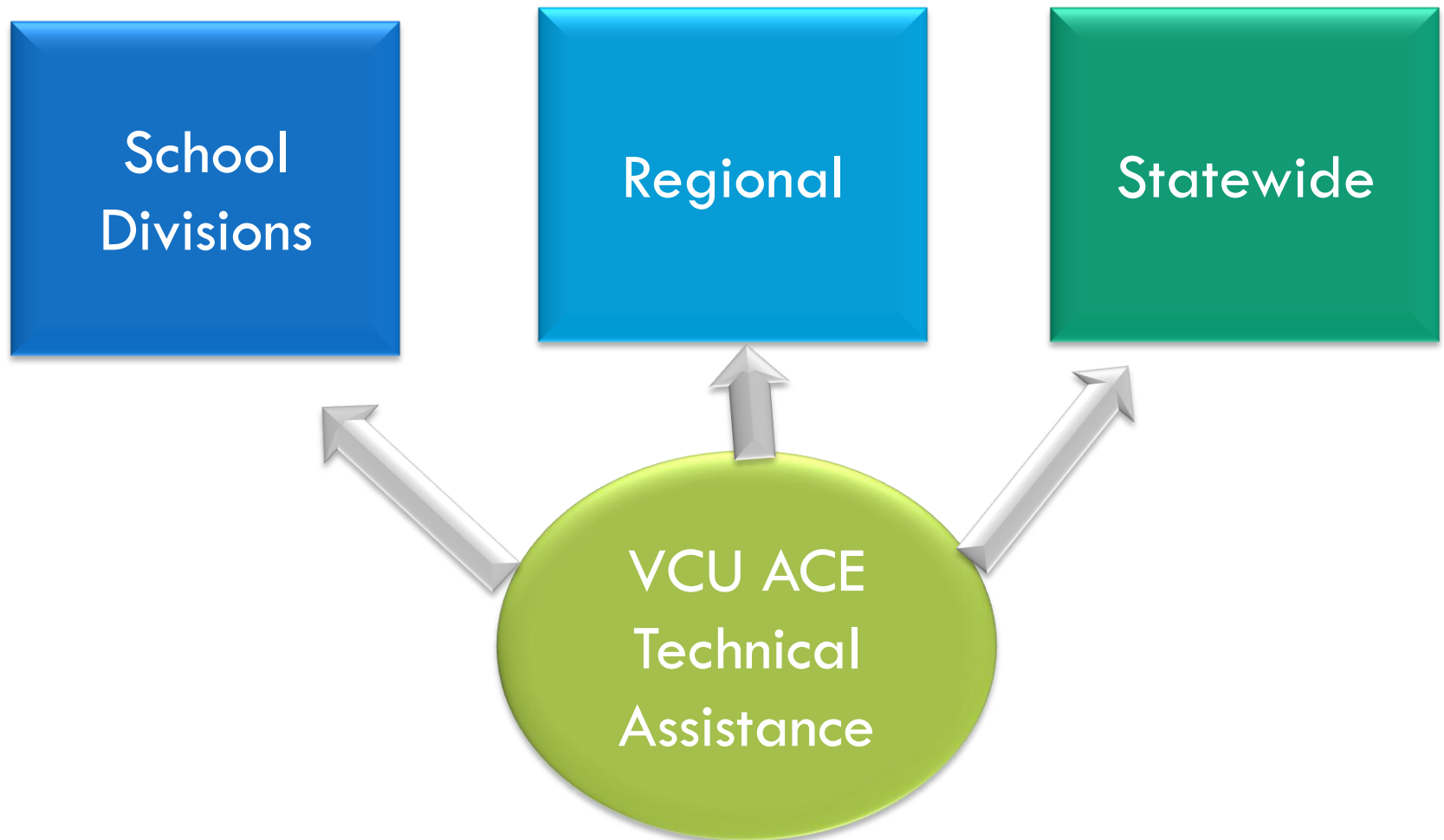


TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



Technical Assistance

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School Division

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- Systems Change Initiative
 - Provide targeted TA to top level directors and administrators
 - Provide embedded TA to classroom staff to implement and expand the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders Evidence-Based Practices
 - 4-8 school divisions

What VCU-ACE will do:

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- Complete division wide program assessment of ASD services
- Facilitate Division Wide Autism Services Improvement Team
- Assist the Division Wide Autism Services Improvement Team in developing a services improvement plan
- Provide the necessary direct technical assistance to the school division to achieve the goals identified in the Division Wide Autism Services Improvement Plan
- Develop a transition plan for the division to continue efforts once the technical assistance period is closing

What VCU-ACE Technical Associates will do while embedded:

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- Be available to the division staff 2 to 3 days weekly
- Coach classroom staff and administrators in Evidence-Based Practices and how to identify high quality ASD classroom practices and services
- Coach other division professionals and paraprofessional based on the school division goals

What School Divisions must do

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- ❑ Commit to 3 year systems change process
- ❑ Identify Autism Services Improvement Team and Coordinator
- ❑ Agree to send Autism Services Improvement Team to:
 - ❑ Autism Excellence Academy (March 28 – April 1)
 - ❑ NPDC/ACE Summer Institute (July 11 – 14)
- ❑ Consider participating with the NPDC on ASD Model Site Project
- ❑ Identify staff who must complete on-line training
- ❑ Develop an Autism Services Improvement Plan
- ❑ Require building and division administrators to support VCU-ACE by collaborating with initiative, communicating with VCU-ACE, and learning about Evidence Based Practices in ASD
- ❑ APPLY!

How to Apply

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- Take application with you today or access application on-line through VDOE at:
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/disabilities/autism/index.shtml
- Contact VCU-ACE Technical Assistance Director, Dr. Carol Schall for e-copies of the application or technical assistance in completing the application at 804-828-4523 or cmschall@vcu.edu

What is Needed for Application

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- Convene ASD stakeholder team to assist in completing the application
- Collect letters of commitment from Superintendent, Director of Special Education and other Key Division Personnel
- Collect letters of support from key school division stakeholders and constituents

For Divisions who are not selected:

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- Regional Communities of Practice
 - Master teachers
 - Special education specialists
 - Autism specialists
- Limited remote and web based technical assistance for individual school divisions:
 - Individual questions/concerns
 - School division questions/concerns

Question and Answer Session

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- Staff from the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and the VCU Autism Center For Excellence will answer your questions regarding the presentation and application.
 - ▣ Conference Call-in Number: 866-842-5779
 - ▣ Conference Code: 8042252675

For More information

Carol Schall at cmschall@vcu.edu

or

Dawn Hendricks at drhendricks@vcu.edu