



Project PASS

Project PASS, or Preparing for Academic and Social Success, is a comprehensive professional development package designed by Virginia Commonwealth University's Autism Center for Education (VCU-ACE) specifically for educators teaching young children with ASD and developmental delay in Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) classrooms.

Project PASS aligns with VQB5 initiatives and content aligns with several dimensions of the CLASS including:

- Positive climate
- Regard for student perspective
- Behavior management
- Productivity
- Instructional learning formats
- Concept development
- Quality of feedback
- Language modeling

What is included?

This multicomponent package includes cycles of online learning, live discussion opportunities, and in-person and virtual coaching. Project PASS focuses on five [foundational evidence-based practices](#):

- Antecedent-Based Intervention**
- Visual Supports**
- Systematic Instruction**
- Reinforcement**
- Social Communication Interventions**

Through a step-by-step training and implementation process, Project PASS helps early childhood educators learn about these evidence-based practices and be able to use those practices with fidelity. Best practices in implementation science are utilized to engage adult learners, facilitate systems change, and support sustainability.



The components of Project PASS include:

- **Classroom based observations and classroom assessments**
- **Online modules and activities**
- **Meaningful self-reflection through the use of guided self-assessments**
- **Professional goal development**
- **Individualized action plans and learning paths to support professional goals**
- **Live discussion opportunities to brainstorm and learn from peers**
- **Embedded coaching sessions using in-person classroom coaching and e-coaching**

Timeline

Late Summer / Early Fall

- Recruitment and information meeting with administrators (includes an overview of project and resources available)
- Agreement letter sent to interested divisions (must be signed before starting)
- Welcome to Project PASS kick-off meeting: Introductions and Overview of project with educational team members and administrators
- Participating educational team members will receive sign on information for online content.

Fall

- VCU-ACE staff will conduct observation and completes Classroom Indicator Checklist Observation
- Participants will begin online content
- Participants will develop priority Learning Path goals and action steps based on classroom observation and results of Strengths and Needs checklists
- Participants will start learning path content
- Coaching begins

Winter / Spring

- Online learning and embedded coaching continues
- VCU-ACE Technical Assistance Associate conducts observation and completes Classroom Indicator Checklist



VCU

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Want more information?

Join Stefanie Paul, VCU-ACE Training and Technical Assistance Associate, for an informational session on Project PASS.



“When children with ASD are provided a voice through Project PASS strategies, they feel heard, understood, included, and not alone.”

Laura, Project PASS Graduate