Senate Bill 1293
VA - 2025

# AUTISM TRAINING FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL

## WHAT IS SB1293?

Strengthens statewide expectations for preparing staff to support students with autism and directs VDOE to develop and maintain evidence-based autism training for school personnel.

## WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Mandates high-quality autism professional development for instructional personnel & school board employees in Virginia who have regular student contact. Annual participation remains optional for staff members.



## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Increases access to evidence-based training
- Builds staff knowledge & practical autism support strategies
- Strengthens staff ability to support students with autism across school settings

## WHAT IS REQUIRED?

Virginia Board of Education guidance on high-quality autism professional development, including:

- Primary, associated, and cognitive characteristics
- Communication, interaction, and support
- Best practices for responding to and de-escalating behavioral challenges



## HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

PADLET

VCU-ACE's self-paced course: **Supporting Students with Autism: A Practical Guide for School Personnel**. Employees who complete the training may be eligible for license renewal points.

VCU RRTC ace

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AUTISMCENTER@VCU.EDU