

## AUTISM: IDENTIFICATION

**Kari Chiasson** is an assistant professor in the special education program at the University of North Dakota (UND), Department of Teaching and Learning. She coordinates the teacher preparation programs for the Master's of special education degrees in the areas of Early Childhood Special education and Visual Impairment. She also co-teaches a course on Autism: Intensive Early Intervention through the distance Autism Certificate Program at UND. Prior to teaching at the University of North Dakota, Kari worked for over 20 years in the field of early childhood special education/visual impairment. She worked at North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind as the Parent-Infant Program Coordinator, Preschool Special Needs Teacher for Grand Forks Public Schools, and as a consultant for numerous preschool and Head Start programs in the state. She has presented regionally, nationally and internationally on topics such as vision screening, inclusion practices in preschool, and preparing pre-service teachers to meet the needs of students with disabilities in their classrooms.

**Carol Johnson** specializes in early intervention. She is currently the director of the Right Track Program for Region IV in North Dakota and director for the Statewide Technical Assistance Program for early intervention. She is an adjunct professor at the University of North Dakota teaching a graduate class on Intensive Early Intervention for young children with ASD. She has over 20 years experience supporting young children with disabilities and their families.



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## AUTISM: IDENTIFICATION

AUTISM:

**By:**

Kari S. Chiasson, EdD  
&  
Carol Johnson, MS

**Date:**

April 10, 2008

**Time:**

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
(Central time)



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**By:** Kari S. Chiasson, EdD. and  
Carol Johnson, MS

**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2008

**Time:** 2:00 - 4:00 PM Central Time

**Fee:** \$30 per site

**Abstract:** Autism is the fastest growing developmental disorder in the United States. According to the Center for Disease Control, the incidence rate for autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) is now as high as 1 in 150. Over the past few years, there has been an increased awareness of identifying young children who have autism so that they may receive appropriate services. New research suggests that we can diagnose children who have autism as young as six months of age. This presentation will address the early red flags in the areas of language and communication, social and behaviors that may lead to a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. In addition, physician screening guidelines will be discussed along with appropriate screening tools that can be used to assist in the identification process of ASD in young children.

**Who Should Attend?** This session is appropriate for parents, childcare professionals, Head Start Teachers, early childhood teachers, early interventionists, Right Track personnel, nurses, physicians, early childhood special educators and other medical personnel.



**CEUs:** .2 CEUs are available through Minot State University. The recording fee for MSU CEUs is \$20.00. Two contact hours for ND social workers and nurses are also available.

**Phone Conference & PPT/Webinar:** After registering, each site will be emailed the handouts for the meeting including the PowerPoint presentation and the toll-free telephone number to call into for the event. Participants will be able to hear the presentation during the conference call while they view the presenters' PowerPoint slides through a local slide show or via the Internet. The presenter has allowed time for questions during the presentation.

**Technical Requirements:** Participating sites need a computer with Windows 98 (or better) or Mac platform or CD-ROM drive, and PowerPoint software OR a Computer with a high speed Internet connection and an LCD projector if the number of participants warrants it.

**The call in number is toll free. There will be no long distance charges for sites.**

## Registration

The registration fee is **\$30 per site**  
Registration deadline is **April 7, 2008**  
Space is limited.

**Agency or School** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Include registration form and make checks payable to Minot State University and send to the attention of:**

**Vickie Brabandt**  
**Minot State University/NDCPD**  
**500 University Avenue West**  
**Minot, ND 58707**

**To pay by credit card contact Vickie at**  
**1.800.233.1737 or**  
**vickie.brabandt@minotstateu.edu**

This brochure is available in alternate formats by contacting  
[teri.aufforth@minotstateu.edu](mailto:teri.aufforth@minotstateu.edu)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

MAIL, E-MAIL OR CALL:

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