

## About the Course

### Course Audience

Autism Navigator for Early Intervention Providers is an online course for professionals from diverse disciplines who work in early intervention systems and provide early intervention services in natural environments to families and other caregivers of children birth to 3 years of age. This interactive web-based course is designed to increase the capacity of early intervention providers to improve early detection of ASD, collaborate more effectively with families, and coach families and other caregivers to use embedded intervention strategies and supports in everyday activities.

### Course Content—Knowledge and Skills Level

Autism Navigator for Early Intervention Providers at the Knowledge and Skills level is a 30-hour online self-guided professional development course that uses interactive slides with audio narration, closed captions, and extensive illustrative video clips. You also have links to web resources, research briefs, supporting documents to help you learn and apply the information, and documents to share with families. Our Early Intervention course uses an unparalleled video library with more than two-dozen different toddlers with autism and their families embedding intervention strategies and supports in the natural environment. Video clips illustrate core diagnostic features, key social communication milestones and early signs of ASD, how to gather and share information with families, evidence-based early intervention strategies and supports used by families of toddlers with autism in everyday activities, and ways to manage challenging behavior using positive behavior support. Each video player contains sets of video clips that compare and contrast features across children, families, or contexts with commentary that recaps key points and highlights critical behaviors.

### Units at the Knowledge and Skills Level

- 1) Improving Early Detection
- 2) Collaborating with Families
- 3) Developmental Perspectives
- 4) Evidence-based Intervention Strategies
- 5) Addressing Challenging Behavior

The units range from 3 to 11 hours of content for a total of 30 hours. We have developed the content to build across units, so you need to complete the units in order starting with Unit 1 before you can open the next unit. We hope you will return to the course later as a resource to watch more or to use the tools when you need the information for families you serve.

Our e-learning platform includes a printed script of the content for each unit that you can download. At the end of each unit, you will complete a brief Check Your Knowledge activity. You can also complete a Learner Assessment with multiple-choice questions about information presented in each unit. You can then download or print a



certificate of completion for each unit. Your Autism Navigator certificate of completion can be used to claim continuing education units. Continuing education units are available from the American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA), Florida Board of Occupational Therapy, and the Florida Board of Physical Therapy. More options will be available in the future.

### Course Content—Mastery Level

Autism Navigator for Early Intervention Providers at the Mastery level builds on the content covered in the 30-hour Knowledge and Skills course by using a self-guided learning approach to help apply concepts learned and practice application. Instruction at the Mastery level is different than the slide format in the Knowledge and Skill level. The Mastery level incorporates libraries with extensive sets of video clips to illustrate content and application exercises to guide video exploration, compare and contrast concepts, and hone your observation and clinical decision-making skills. The Mastery level is designed to build the capacity of providers who have completed the Knowledge and Skills level course for two primary reasons: 1) to gain more experience practicing and implementing the concepts covered in the Knowledge and Skills level and to access more video clips to help generate new ideas and creative solutions to better serve your families; and 2) to support learners who want to become Autism Navigator specialists who provide mentorship and coaching of early intervention teams in your region.

### Join Autism Navigator Learner Community Webinars

When you enroll in the Autism Navigator for Early Intervention Providers, you are invited to join our Autism Navigator Learner Community at no additional cost and attend our monthly webinars, one for learners in the Knowledge and Skills level course and the other for learners in the Mastery level course. The integration of multiple e-learning tools will foster the creation of a versatile online learner community that invites interaction between specialists who support the learning of others to impact the transactions of children, families, and their social environments.

For individual and group pricing information, email [sales@autismnavigator.com](mailto:sales@autismnavigator.com) or call 1-844-427-3457 | 1-844-4ASDHLP

# What You Will Learn from Autism Navigator® for Early Intervention Providers—Knowledge and Skills Level Course Content Units and Key Questions

## Unit 1: Improving Early Detection (5 hours)

- Why is early detection important?
- What are the core features of autism?
- Why is the prevalence of autism increasing?
- What causes autism?
- What red flags of autism can we detect in infants and toddlers?
- How do red flags of autism change in infants and toddlers?

## Unit 2: Collaborating with Families (3 hours)

- How can EI providers build relationships and support families who have children with ASD?
- What are family-centered services and supports for young children with ASD and their families?
- What communication practices help build consensus with family members?
- How can EI providers develop a relationship that facilitates a collaborative coaching approach to intervention?



## Unit 3: Developmental Perspectives (6 hours)

- How does the natural environment support learning and development?
- How do children learn and make connections with the physical world through exploration and play?
- How do children develop communication from sounds and gestures to first words?
- How does communication develop from word combinations to the ability to use complex language?
- How does emotional regulation develop and impact learning?
- How do critical thinking, creativity, and self-directed learning develop in young children?

## Unit 4: Evidence-based Intervention Strategies (11 hours)

- What are priority intervention outcomes to address core deficits of ASD?
- What are the active ingredients of effective intervention practices for young children with ASD and their families?
- What are evidence-based intervention strategies for parent-implemented embedded intervention for young children with ASD?
- Within a collaborative consultation model, how does the early intervention provider coach the parent?
- How do you monitor meaningful progress in intervention?

## Unit 5: Addressing Challenging Behaviors (5 hours)

- Why do children with autism have challenging behaviors?
- How do you understand the function of challenging behaviors?
- How do you develop and implement a positive behavior support plan in partnership with families?

## Unique features of Autism Navigator Courses

- Specially designed video players—to view single, paired, and multiple video clips to compare and contrast behaviors across children or contexts. You are guided by narration to introduce the video clip, point out what to watch for, recap key points, and call attention to noted behaviors.
- Two ways to navigate easily to specific slides—a slide index with a list of the slide titles or key content, and a slide viewer with thumbnails of the slides in the unit.
- Ideas—a section inspired by TED Talks to see brief mini-documentaries or short talks that offer information and inspiration about autism. You can narrow your selection by choosing from a list of themes.
- Tools—a section for easy access to print materials for all units with more information for providers, research briefs, materials to share with families, and links to websites and e-documents related to ASD.

# What You Will Learn from Autism Navigator® for Early Intervention Providers—Mastery Level

## Course Libraries

### 1. Library of Everyday Activities

- Collection of video clips of different families interacting with their toddlers with ASD in a variety of activities in each of the following 8 categories of everyday activities:

Play with People	Play with Props	Meals & Snacks	Caregiving
Play with Toys	Family Chores	Books, Letters, & Numbers	Transitions

### 2. Library of Children and Families

- Collection of video clips for each child and family featured in Autism Navigator from home observations and parent-implemented intervention sessions ordered chronologically with explanations of intervention strategies and supports.

### 3. Active Engagement

- Pairs of videos to compare and contrast the child's level of active engagement for each of the 8 components of active engagement organized into the 3 steps:

Step 1: Coming Together	Step 2: Keeping Together	Step 3: Working Together
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### 4. Transactional Supports

- Pairs of videos to compare and contrast the parent's use of transactional supports in video players for each of the 13 Transactional Supports organized into the 3 layers:

First Layer: Supports for a Shared Agenda	Second Layer: Supports for Social Reciprocity	Third Layer: Supports for Better Skills
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### 5. Library of Coaching Strategies Along the Coaching Arrow

- Video clips to illustrate the continuum of coaching strategies along the coaching arrow:

Building Consensus with Parents	Figure Out What Works, Explain, and Model	Guided Practice with Feedback	Caregiver Practice with Feedback	Back out for Caregiver Independence
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## It Takes a Team to Support Families

Autism Navigator courses and tools are designed to help support collaborative partnerships with the medical home, early intervention system, community service providers, early care and learning, and families to improve children's outcomes. Our online platform maximizes the use of technology to bring evidence-based practice to communities at a critical window of opportunity.

Autism Navigator for Primary Care is a companion online course for providers who work with the general pediatric population. This includes physicians and other healthcare providers in primary care, service coordinators and other team members in early intervention systems making decisions about eligibility, as well as child development specialists in early learning environments who screen and make referrals. This interactive web-based course is designed to increase the capacity for universal screening in primary care settings to improve early detection of ASD, make referrals for children with or at risk for ASD, and help families access resources, support, and early intervention sooner.

Users with an annual subscription who complete Autism Navigator for Primary Care can apply to use the Smart ESAC, which stands for Early Screening for Autism and Communication Disorders. The Smart ESAC is housed within the FIRST WORDS Project Electronic Communication System or E-Co-System that is designed to support communication among the medical home, early intervention providers, other service providers and the family. Learn more about the Autism Navigator for Primary Care and unique features of the Smart ESAC and E-Co-System at [www.AutismNavigator.com](http://www.AutismNavigator.com).

We hope users in Autism Navigator for Early Intervention Providers will reach out to partner with users in the Primary Care course as a referral source to form a collaborative partnership and build a team with the family. Families screened with the Smart ESAC are invited to an online portal in the E-Co-System with links to the Seamless Path to 5 online resources, described on the next page.

## Tiers to Certification in Autism Navigator® for Early Intervention Providers

Using strategies based on implementation science to support system change, we have delineated steps in 5 tiers to achieve recognition of learning achievements and certification in Autism Navigator for Early Intervention Providers:

- Tier 1) Completion of Autism Navigator for Early Intervention Providers Knowledge and Skills level course**
- Tier 2) Leadership in Autism Navigator for Early Intervention Providers Mastery level course**
- Tier 3) Certification as an Autism Navigator Early Intervention Provider**
- Tier 4) Certification as an Autism Navigator Regional Specialist**
- Tier 5) Certification as an Autism Navigator Master Coach and Global Trainer**

The certification process is designed for providers who have at least 3 years of experience working with young children with developmental delays and their families who are seeking recognition for specialized Autism Navigator training.

To learn more, contact [info@autismnavigator.com](mailto:info@autismnavigator.com).





## A Seamless Path for Families



### 1 16 by 16™

**For all families**—the 16 by 16™ Lookbook series helps families and others learn critical social communication skills that children should reach by 16 months to help their child learn to talk.

Did you know that all children should have 16 gestures by 16 months? The 16 by 16™ series is a public awareness campaign designed to help families and others learn critical social communication skills that children should reach by 16 months in order to launch language learning, literacy, and much more by 24 months. This series of online Lookbooks illustrate with photographs each of the critical skills to provide a roadmap for families to monitor their child's early development and celebrate these important small steps their child is making. This information can help families notice small delays early in order to prevent bigger delays later and give all children an edge before preschool to better prepare for success in Kindergarten.

### 2 Social Communication Growth Charts

**For all families**—explore video clips to learn key social communication milestones that develop from 9 to 24 months and chart their child's social communication development.

Most parents and professionals are familiar with early motor milestones—when infants learn to hold their head up, turn over, sit up, crawl, and walk. However, few parents or professionals know the key milestones of social, communication, and language development. Yet these milestones offer a critical window into an infant's well being and are the earliest signs of healthy development and school readiness. These Growth Charts are available free to families who have been invited by their doctor or health care provider. Parents can explore our side-by-side video player to see video clips illustrating 80 social communication milestones that develop from 9 to 24 months of age in 5 different domains. They can watch the clips again with narration to see how they can support their child's development. Parents can chart their child's development and celebrate these early critical steps in development as they watch their child grow. The Growth Charts offer an unparalleled video library of hundreds of video clips of typically developing infants and toddlers interacting with their family in everyday activities. This information will help parents be better equipped to monitor their child's development and share and express their concerns with their primary care physician, if their child has not yet met expected developmental milestones.

### 3 Autism Navigator® — About Autism in Toddlers

**For families of children with a positive screen for autism**—learn about the early signs of autism with video clips of over a dozen toddlers with ASD at 18-24 months of age, and then see early intervention in action.

Our first online course free to the public is for families, professionals, or anyone interested in learning about autism spectrum disorder (ASD). You will learn about the core diagnostic features and early signs of autism in toddlers, the critical importance of early detection and early intervention, and current information on prevalence and causes of autism. This self-paced course has video clips of over a dozen toddlers with ASD at 18-24 months of age. It takes about 2 hours to go through the slides and videos, or you can spend a few minutes and visit again later.

### 4 Autism Navigator® — ASD Video Glossary

**For families of children with a positive screen for autism who want more information**—see a library of hundreds of video clips illustrating diagnostic features and many different interventions.

The ASD Video Glossary is a web-based tool built to help families and professionals learn more about the early signs of autism. This tool was developed by the Florida State University Autism Institute in collaboration with First Signs and Autism Speaks and has been available to the public free of charge since 2007. The Glossary contains more than 100 video clips illustrating the diagnostic features of ASD. Side-by-side video clips show behaviors that are typical in contrast with those that are red flags for autism. The Glossary also contains over 100 video clips to illustrate different common treatments available for children with autism. The ASD Video Glossary is being brought into the Autism Navigator collection and updated both in content based on the new DSM-5 diagnostic framework and in technology for accessibility on mobile devices. The updated ASD Video Glossary will be launched in early 2016.

### 5 Autism Navigator® — How-To Guide for Families

**For families who suspect their child has ASD**—get started right away and learn intervention strategies to use in their everyday activities, and support their child's learning and development.

This interactive web-based course is for families who suspect their toddler has autism or a social communication delay. It will put in the hands of families hundreds of video illustrations of evidence-based intervention techniques they can implement in everyday activities to support their child's learning as soon as they suspect autism. This self-paced course has 5 hours of interactive slides and 5 hours of video libraries. The course will teach families how to embed strategies and supports into their everyday activities, provide developmental growth charts to help families recognize and monitor meaningful outcomes, and offer video libraries to illustrate how to promote learning and development for toddlers with ASD. This How-To Guide for Families will also be instrumental for early intervention providers to use with families in early intervention to improve outcomes of toddlers with ASD and their families.