

## Supporting Students with Complex Disabilities: Helpful Websites\* \*Indicates a Louisiana-based resource

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Center for Literacy and Disability Studies	The Center's mission is to promote literacy and communication for individuals of all ages with disabilities. The site provides resources to support literacy access for students with significant disabilities, including those with deafblindness.
Tarheel Reader	Tar Heel Reader is a collection of free, easy-to-read, and accessible books on a wide range of topics. Each book can be speech enabled and accessed using multiple interfaces (i.e. switches, alternative keyboards, touch screens, and dedicated AAC devices). The books may be downloaded as slide shows in PowerPoint, Impress, or Flash format. You may write your own books using pictures from the huge collection at Flickr or pictures you upload.
All Children Can Read	This website, funded by the Office of Special Education Programs, U.S.  Department of Education, provides extensive information on literacy for students with dual sensory challenges. The website provides strategies in a user-friendly, interactive manner that utilizes existing resources and provides practical examples.
Louisiana Assistive Technology Initiative (LATI)*	The mission of the Louisiana Assistive Technology Initiative (LATI) is to provide leadership and support to local education agencies and families in the development and implementation of assistive technology services that will have meaningful application for the educational, social, recreational, vocational, and developmental experiences of students with disabilities.
National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC)	The National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) is a project led by five centers and 19 states to build an alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards (AA-AAS) for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The goal of the NCSC project is to ensure that students with the most significant cognitive disabilities achieve increasingly higher academic outcomes and leave high school ready for post-secondary options.
National Alternate Assessment Center	NAAC is a five-year project funded under the United State Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).
AAC Institute	A not-for-profit, charitable organization dedicated to the most effective communication for people who rely on augmentative and alternative communication (AAC).
National Consortium on Deaf-Blindness	NCDB is a national technical assistance center funded by the US Department of Education. NCDB works to improve the quality of life for children who are deaf-blind.
TASH	TASH is an international membership association leading the way to inclusive communities through research, education, and advocacy.
LearningPort	LearningPort is a national online library of professional development resources compiled to help bridge research, policy and practices. This library provides local educators with easy access to an array of resources that can be used or customized to meet their needs. Click on the "Explore Topics" tab for an easy search for your area of interest (e.g., Autism).
Louisiana Autism and Spectrum Related Disorders Project*	The LSARD (Louisiana Autism and Spectrum Related Disorders) Project is a collaborative effort between LSUHSC Human Development Center and the Louisiana Department of Education.



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AAC Intervention	This site provides information related to augmentative/ alternative
	communication interventions.
Bookshare.org	The Bookshare.org library provides an accessible online library for people in the United States with print disabilities. This project is supported by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs.
International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication	ISAAC supports and encourages the best possible communication methods for people who find communication difficult.
CAST (Universal Design for Learning)	CAST is a nonprofit research and development organization that works to expand learning opportunities for all individuals, especially those with disabilities, through Universal Design for Learning.
Council for Exceptional Children	The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving the educational success of individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.
National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center	The NSTTAC is a national Technical Assistance and Dissemination center funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).
Disability is Natural	The mission of this site is to encourage new ways of thinking about developmental disabilities, in the belief that changes in our attitudes and actions can help create a society where all children and adults with developmental disabilities have opportunities to live the lives of their dreams, included in all areas of life.
OSEP Ideas that Work	This site, operated by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), is designed to provide easy access to information from research to practice initiatives.
UNCC Access Grant Website	This site, hosted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, provides information and resources related to general education access for students with significant disabilities.
Inclusive Schools Network	The Inclusive Schools Network (ISN) is a web-based resource for families, schools and communities that promotes inclusive educational practices.
Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence	This site provides information and resources related to students with autism and other low incidence disabilities. The site houses electronic modules on topics related to the education and support of students with autism.
National Braille Press, Inc.	The National Braille Press promotes the literacy of blind children through braille and provides access to information that empowers blind people to actively engage in work, family, and community affairs.
Communication Matrix	An easy to use assessment instrument designed for individuals of all ages who function at the earliest stages of communication and who use any form of communication.
Early Intervention for young children with autismand other disabilities	This website provides guidelines for early intervention to maximize the language and communication development of young children with special needs including infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.



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Literacy Instruction for	This website provides guidelines for teaching literacy skills to learners with
Individuals with	special needs, especially learners with complex communication needs (CCN).
Autismand Other	
Disabilities	
AAC-RERC	The AAC-RERC is a Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center that functions as
(Rehabilitation	a collaborative research group dedicated to the development of effective AAC
Engineering Research	(augmentative and alternative communication) technology.
Center)	
USSAAC (U.S. Society	USSAAC (U.S. Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication) is
for Augmentative and	dedicated to providing information and support on the issues, technology, tools
Alternative	and advancements within the world of AAC.
Communication)	
Louisiana Parent	LaPTIC is committed to helping parents of children with disabilities to become
Training and	full participants in their children's educational process. All parent facilitators
Information Center*	with the program are also parents of children with disabilities. This site also
	provides links to the regional Families Helping Families (FHF) Centers, a
	Louisiana network of family-directed resource centers which provide
	information and support on issues related to disabilities.
Families Helping	The Families Helping Families (FHF) network is comprised of 10 individual
Families of Louisiana*	nonprofit, family-driven resource centers that provide support and information
	to families who have members with disabilities. The term "disability" includes
	physical, mental, emotional, behavioral, and/or academic needs. Each center
	maintains its own website.
Louisiana School-Wide	This project supports PBS efforts across the state.
Positive Behavior	
Support project*	
Louisiana State	Louisiana State Personnel Development Gran t (LaSPDG) is a Louisiana
Personnel Development	Department of Education Grant (LDOE) funded by the Office of Special
Grant*	Education (OSEP). The purpose of the project is to develop a system of
	professional development and support based on state, district, and school
	needs to improve outcomes for students with disabilities ages 6-21 across all
	disabilities and create sustainable, evidence-based practices.
Louisiana	The Council's efforts are designed to promote the increased self-determination,
Developmental	independence, productivity, integration and inclusion of people with
Disabilities Council*	developmental disabilities in their communities.
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