



# AWARENESS EDUCATION POTENTIAL

Providing you the tools to reach and teach your maximum potential.

Phone: 833.237.2668 | Fax: 920.482.1270 | [info@aepconnections.com](mailto:info@aepconnections.com) | [aepconnections.com](http://aepconnections.com)

## BACK TO THE BASICS: Autism and Neurodiversity

**SPEAKER: KELSIE BACON, LCSW-S, RPT**

**November 3, 2023 | 12:00 pm - 3:15 pm Eastern Time**

**ZOOM - INTERACTIVE WEBINAR**

PACIFIC	MOUNTAIN	CENTRAL	EASTERN
Start Time: 9 am	Start Time: 10 am	Start Time: 11 am	Start Time: 12 pm

*This Webinar will replay as a recording on Saturday, November 4th, 2023 beginning at 12 pm Eastern Time. This is not a recording that can be downloaded and replayed at your own pace. All registered attendees will receive a link to the live webinar and a link to the recording replay on Saturday. Full attendance will be taken during the replay and will still qualify you for a certificate of attendance and other professional development opportunities listed. "Live" Q&A feature with speaker will not be available, however you will have the ability to use "chat" feature to interact with other participants. Same registration process for both the live and the recording replay.*

The most recent data gathered by the CDC in 2018 reports that 1 in 44 children are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). With a statistic of 241% higher in baseline since 2000, autism is one of the most talked about and sought-out training topics in mental and behavioral health fields. Currently, there is controversy as to whether autism should be viewed as a disability or a normal neurological difference. In this 3-hour webinar, a multiply neurodivergent presenter will review the medical model of disability criteria for ASD while also identifying the social model of disabilities views on autism. Participants will explore the neurodiversity movement, neurodiversity-affirming language, the importance of using identity-first language, and strengths associated with being autistic. Additionally, this webinar will review autism and intersectionality and its impacts on receiving an autism diagnosis. Co-occurring conditions associated with autism will be explored as well as the impact of camouflaging on autistic individuals. This live webinar will utilize research and the presenter's lived experiences as a member of the autistic community. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in Q-and-A sessions to deepen the material being presented.

### LEARNER OBJECTIVES:

1. Attendees will be able to identify the medical model's DSM-5 medical criteria for autism spectrum disorder and the social model of disability's view on autism.
2. Attendees will be able to identify neurodiversity-affirming language, identity-first language, and strengths associated with being autistic.
3. Attendees will be able to identify 3-5 common co-occurring diagnoses associated with autism and the role camouflaging plays in the mental health of autistic individuals.

If you require special assistance, please contact AEP Connections to inform them of your special needs by emailing: [info@aepconnections.com](mailto:info@aepconnections.com) or calling: 833.237.2668



## BACK TO THE BASICS:

Autism and Neurodiversity

**SPEAKER: KELSIE BACON, LCSW-S, RPT**

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Special Education teachers, Speech-Language Therapists, OTs, counselors, general education teachers, administrators, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, PTs, principals, nurses, parents, and anyone who works with someone on the autism spectrum, ADHD, executive functioning difficulties, or other neurodivergent learning needs. This conference is open to anyone who wishes to attend and will cover content applicable for Preschool - Grade 12.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

*(All times are Central Time)*

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm | Autism <i>(Medical Model, Social Model, Neurodiversity-affirming language)</i><br>Autism and Intersectionality <i>(Gender, Sexuality, Race and Ethnicity, Geographical Location and Culture, Socioeconomic Status/Social Class)</i> |
| 1:30 pm - 1:45 pm  | <b>Break</b>  |
| 1:45 pm - 2:00 pm  | Q & A   |
| 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm  | Autism and Mental Health <i>(Cooccurring Disorders, Non-suicidal Self-Harming Behaviors, Autism and Suicidality)</i><br>Camouflaging in Autism <i>(Making, Compensation, Assimilation)</i>  |
| 3:00 pm - 3:15 pm  | Q & A   |



## **BACK TO THE BASICS:**

**Austism and Neurodiversity**

**SPEAKER: KELSIE BACON, LCSW-S, RPT**



**KELSIE BACON, LCSW-S, RPT**

### **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY**

Kelsie Bacon is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Registered Play Therapist. She is a clinical therapist and supervisor at The Treehouse in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Kelsie is multiply neurodivergent and specializes in working with children, adolescents, and families, including working with autistic children, neurodivergent children, and those diagnosed with ADHD and other developmental disabilities. She is certified in Autplay Therapy, level 1 and 2 sand tray trained, Level 3 OCN London accredited in Supporting Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults with Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA), and has her Down Syndrome Awareness Diploma. Kelsie is an integrative and prescriptive play therapist drawing from theories and modalities such as Cognitive Behavioral Play Therapy, Child-Centered Play Therapy, Experiential Play Therapy, Theraplay, Adlerian Play Therapy, Attachment theory, Sand tray, Mindfulness, Art, and DIR Floortime.

Kelsie has given national and international presentations on working with neurodivergent populations using play therapy. Kelsie is passionate about providing support and consultation to individuals, families, and therapists regarding PDA characteristics and strategies. She is a published author and co-authored the book *Supporting Autistic Ava*, with Lynn Louse Wonders. She was a guest on the Neurodiversity podcast where she spoke on depression and suicide in the neurodivergent community. She is a current board member of the Association for Play Therapy, New Mexico Branch, and is the current secretary for the Child Counseling Center and Play Therapy Institute of New Mexico board. Kelsie is a current participant in the 2023 Association of Play Therapy Leadership Academy.

#### *Disclosures:*

*Financial: Kelsie Bacon, LCSW-R, RPT receives an honorarium for her presentation with AEP Connections. Kelsie is on staff at The Treehouse.*

*There are no reported conflicts of interest, financial, or non-financial relationships regarding this presentation.*

*Webinar will replay as a recording on Sat., Nov. 4th, 2023 beginning at 12pm Eastern, with the same agenda.*



## BACK TO THE BASICS:

Autism and Neurodiversity

**SPEAKER: KELSIE BACON, LCSW-S, RPT**

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFERED:

1. **CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE** 3.0 clock hours for the day. Attendance will be confirmed via Zoom log in/log out.
2. **NBCC** AEP Connections, LLC has been approved as an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 7173. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. AEP Connections, LLC is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs. This workshop offers 3.0 NBCC clock hours.
3. **ASWB** AEP Connection, LLC, #1332, is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved as ACE providers. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. AEP Connections, LLC maintains responsibility for this course. ACE provider approval period: 1/27/2022- 1/27/2025. Social workers completing this course receive 3.0 continuing education credits. Full attendance, a course evaluation and an additional post test is required for satisfactory completion.
4. **AOTA** - AEP Connections, LLC is an AOTA Approved Provider of professional development. Course approval ID 07293. This distance learning – interactive is offered for up to .3CEUs (3.0 contact hours). Intermediate, OT Service Delivery. AOTA does not endorse specific course content, products, or clinical procedures. A course evaluation with additional post test questions is required for satisfactory completion. \*pending approval
5. **ASHA** - Provider approval and use of the Brand Block does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures. Full attendance and a course evaluation are required.
6. **NASP** - AEP Connections is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists to offer continuing education for school psychologists. AEP Connections maintains responsibility for the program. NASP Approved Provider #1165. A code to access the course evaluation will be provided in segments throughout the webinar, to ensure full participation.



**ASHA CE**  
**APPROVED PROVIDER**

**AEP Connections, LLC**

Introductory Level

.3 ASHA CEUs



*Ensuring High Quality  
Professional Development*





## BACK TO THE BASICS:

Autism and Neurodiversity

**SPEAKER: KELSIE BACON, LCSW-S, RPT**

### REGISTRATION FORM

**November 3, 2023 | 12:00 pm - 3:15 pm Eastern Time**

**ZOOM - INTERACTIVE WEBINAR**

PACIFIC	MOUNTAIN	CENTRAL	EASTERN
Start Time: 9 am	Start Time: 10 am	Start Time: 11 am	Start Time: 12 pm

**ONLINE REGISTRATION** | Available for credit card transactions at: [aepconnections.com](https://aepconnections.com)

**CHECK OR PURCHASE ORDERS:** Please send completed registration form via mail, email or fax.  
*Purchase orders must accompany registrations.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School District: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Confirmations and communications will be sent by email. Please print email clearly.*

#### REGISTRATION COST

**EARLY BIRD \$59**  
(Register on or before October 6, 2023)

**REGULAR PRICING \$79**  
(Register after October 6, 2023)

*Call for Group Rates (defined as 10 or more, rates decrease as group gets larger)  
Register group by phone or email.*

☐ Early bird registration - \$59      ☐ Regular Price registration - \$79      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**AEP Connections | P.O. Box 286, Roscoe, IL 61073**

Phone: 833.237.2668 | Fax: 920.482.1270 | [info@aepconnections.com](mailto:info@aepconnections.com) | [aepconnections.com](https://aepconnections.com)

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** More than 45 days before the first day of the conference: Full Refund, less a \$25 processing fee. Less than 45 days, but more than 14 days before the first day of the conference: Credit towards a future conference or a substitute may be sent in your place, with prior approval by AEP Connections, LLC. Less than 14 days before the first day of the conference: No Refunds. AEP Connections reserves the right to substitute speakers in the event of a speaker cancellation. AEP Connections reserves the right to change "live in person" conference to a "Live-stream" webinar in the event of weather, pandemic, Acts of God, national or local guidelines. Our refund policy applies to all registration payments including those by purchase order.