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LEARN IT TODAY - USE IT TOMORROW!

Fostering Independent Executive Function Skills - FOUNDATIONS COURSE

(Including Autism, Anxiety, Attention Deficits, Social & Behavioral Issues)

SPEAKER: SARAH WARD, M.S., CCC-SLP

March 2, 2026 | 8:00 am - 3:30 pm Central Time

LIVE - INTERACTIVE WEBINAR

PACIFIC	MOUNTAIN	CENTRAL	EASTERN
Start Time: 6 am	Start Time: 7 am	Start Time: 8 am	Start Time: 9 am

This Webinar will replay as a recording on Saturday, March 7, 2025 beginning at 10 am Central 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 the speaker will not be available, however you will have the ability to use the "chat" feature to interact with other participants. Same registration process for both live webinar and the recording replay.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Special Education teachers, SLPs, 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, bi-polar, or other learning disabilities or has executive functioning deficits. This conference (Foundations) is open to anyone who wishes to attend. This is an intermediate level course.

LEARN IT TODAY - USE IT TOMORROW! *Foundations Course*

What is executive functioning?

Executive functioning is an individual's ability to organize thoughts and activities, prioritize tasks, manage time efficiently, and make decisions.

In this full-day training you will learn many strategies and techniques that you can bring to your classroom or practice that you can utilize immediately with your student/child with executive functioning deficits.

To successfully execute, children need to be aware of task demands and set goals. Then they must access forethought and hindsight to think in an organized way and to sustain their focus on the relevant features of the task at hand. As students mature they learn how to organize their time, space, materials and develop the

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reasoning skills to consider multiple possible solutions to problems, recognize the “gray” in situations, and manage both expected and unexpected changes in plans, routines, rules and novel situations. Students must fluidly shift between changing task demands and carry out multiple complex steps to achieve expected goals. This is a practical strategies seminar! First you will learn how to clearly define what the executive function skills are for the purpose of determining the most effective treatment interventions and to understand the development of the executive function skills and what is meant by the term “executive dysfunction”. You will learn dozens of functional, ready-to-use strategies for teaching students how to develop the executive function skills. Teach students to develop a “memory for the future”, to devise plans to achieve their goal, to use self-talk, to self-initiate, to transition to the next task of higher priority and to control their impulses and emotions to successfully complete a task. Improve a student’s awareness skills so that he/she can “read a room” then “stop, think and create” an appropriate action plan and infer possible outcomes. Teach students to see and sense the passage of time, accurately estimate how long tasks will take, change or maintain their pace, and carry out routines and tasks within allotted time frames. Learn methods to improve a student’s ability to cognitively shift and to be flexible in processing and accessing information. Learn how to use the Get Ready * Do * Done Model to turn the core curriculum and lesson/treatment plans into powerful tools to teach students executive control skills. Fresh approaches to help students develop automatically for class routines and transitions.

General education teachers (as well as special education teachers) will find the information presented invaluable. Strategies presented will allow general education teachers to utilize approaches within their own classroom.

LEARNER OBJECTIVES:

1. State the functional working definition of what is meant by the term “executive function skills” as it pertains to therapeutic interventions.
2. Define how situational awareness, self-talk, forethought and episodic memory are the foundational skills for successful task execution.
3. Integrate the theory and techniques of the 360 Thinking model to develop lesson plans to remediate executive function skills in the classroom and/or individual and group therapy.
4. Generate a framework of interventions for and choose at least 5 ways to foster a student’s ability to sense and manage the passage of time.
5. Describe 4 strategies to develop a student’s capacity to read a room then shift and be a ‘mental time traveler’ to pre-experience the physical actions to complete a task in prospective time and space.
6. Breakdown the clinical interventions and techniques for teaching students how to plan for, initiate and complete complex assignments and long-term projects within allotted time frames using the Get Ready * Do * Done (Get Done) Model.
7. Create a therapeutic alliance with parents to improve the effectiveness of clinical treatment with kids with executive function based challenges and articulate the relationship between how individuals self-regulate and executive function symptomatology to educate clients, family members and school professionals.

In this full-day training you will learn many strategies and techniques that you can bring to your classroom or practice that you can utilize immediately with your student/child with executive functioning deficits.

This Webinar will replay as a recording on Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 10:00am to 4:30pm Central.
Breaks will be shortened and a modified agenda will be sent out.



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DAILY SCHEDULE

(All times are Central Time)

7:50 am - 8:00 am	Zoom Webinar Opens
8:00 am - 9:30 am	Executive function (EF) skills defined, EF dysfunction and the development of EF skills
9:30 am - 9:45 am	Break
9:45 am - 11:30 am	Treatment interventions to improved forethought and self-talk, task initiation, self-regulations, making timely transitions and following routines
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch Break
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Strategies to increase time management of daily and hourly time and long term projects. Teaching and planning skills: *Get Ready *Do * Done model for classroom
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Break
2:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Teaching and planning skills: homework assignments and interventions



SARAH WARD, M.S., CCC-SLP

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Sarah Ward, M.S., CCC/SLP has over 25 years of experience in the treatment of executive dysfunction. Sarah is an internationally recognized expert on executive function and presents seminars on the programs and strategies she has developed with her Co-Director Kristen Jacobsen. Their 360 Thinking Executive Function Program received the Innovative Promising Practices Award from the National Organization CHADD. She has presented to over 1800 public and private schools and organizations worldwide. In recognition of their global influence in the field of twice-exceptional learning, Sarah and Kristen Jacobsen were the honored recipients of the Nancy Tarshis Legacy Fellowship Award. Further solidifying their status as eminent figures in their field, Sarah and Kristen were named one of the Top 10 Professional Development Providers for 2023 by Education Technology Insights Magazine.

Disclosure: Sarah Ward's company Cognitive Connections produces and sells products on her website, which are tools, that support students in developing an internal sense of time. Some of these materials will be referenced in the presentation. Many of these materials can also be purchased at local stores. The website also sells treatment programs and games to develop independent executive function skills. In addition, the website offers many free resources and references. Sarah Ward receives a speaker's fee for presentations. There are no non-financial relationship to disclose.



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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFERED:

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE - 6.0 clock hours for the day. Attendance will be confirmed via Zoom log in/logout.

NBCC - AEP Connections, LLC has been approved by NBCC as an 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.

Available NBCC Clock Hours: 6

ASWB - AEP Connections, LLC, #1332, is approved as an ACE provider to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Regulatory boards are the final authority on courses accepted for continuing education credit. ACE provider approval period: 1/27/2025- 1/27/2028. Social workers completing this course receive 6 continuing education credits. Full attendance, a course evaluation and an additional post test is required for satisfactory completion.

AOTA - AEP Connections, LLC is an AOTA Approved Provider of professional development. Course approval ID 02206. This distance learning – interactive is offered for up to .6 CEUs (6 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.

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.

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.



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Intermediate Level
.6 ASHA CEUs



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(First 50 registrations)

REGULAR PRICING \$249

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Total Paid: \$ _____

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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. 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.