### 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.
### 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 autism... and 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Supporting Students with Complex Disabilities: Helpful Websites</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Indicates a Louisiana-based resource</em></td>
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| **Literacy Instruction for Individuals with Autism...and Other Disabilities** | This website provides guidelines for teaching literacy skills to learners with special needs, especially learners with complex communication needs (CCN). |
| **AAC-RERC (Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center)** | The AAC-RERC is a Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center that functions as a collaborative research group dedicated to the development of effective AAC (augmentative and alternative communication) technology. |
| **USSAAC (U.S. Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication)** | USSAAC (U.S. Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication) is dedicated to providing information and support on the issues, technology, tools and advancements within the world of AAC. |
| **Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center** | LaPTIC is committed to helping parents of children with disabilities to become full participants in their children's educational process. All parent facilitators 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 Families of Louisiana** | The Families Helping Families (FHF) network is comprised of 10 individual 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 Positive Behavior Support project** | This project supports PBS efforts across the state. |
| **Louisiana State Personnel Development Grant** | Louisiana State Personnel Development Grant (LaSPDG) is a Louisiana Department of Education Grant (LDOE) funded by the Office of Special 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 Developmental Disabilities Council** | The Council’s efforts are designed to promote the increased self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in their communities. |