

# Annual Conference on Language and Learning **Executive Function Skills in Children and Adolescents**

**April 27, 2012**

**Children's Hospital Colorado  
Mt. Oxford Conference Room  
Aurora, Colorado**

**Video Conference sites:  
Durango, Fort Collins, Grand Junction,  
Montrose, and Pueblo**

**Early  
registration  
deadline:  
April 6, 2012**



**Children's Hospital Colorado**

Affiliated with  
 **School of Medicine**  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO  
ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

**[childrenscolorado.org/events](http://childrenscolorado.org/events)**


## Overview

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 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 carrying out multiple complex steps to achieve expected goals.

This seminar will be divided into two main sections; education about executive functioning skills and implementation of executive functioning therapy. In the morning session, participants can expect to be able to clearly define executive functioning skills, determine the most effective treatment interventions, understand development of executive functioning skills and recognize what is meant by the term “executive dysfunction”. The remainder of the seminar is devoted to learning practical strategies for teaching students to develop executive functioning skills. Participants will learn about:

- Teaching 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.
- Improving 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.
- Teaching 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.
- Improving a student’s speed of processing and absorbing of information in an organized way.
- Practical strategies to help students record, initiate and complete nightly homework assignments and long term projects to ensure work is returned in a timely manner.

## Continuing Education Credit



**APPROVED PROVIDER**  
**ASHA**  
CONTINUING  
EDUCATION  
AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION

**Children’s Hospital Colorado** is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. **See course information for number of ASHA CEUs, instructional level and content area.** ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

This program is offered for .70 ASHA CEU’s (Intermediate level; Professional area). Adam’s State graduate credit (0.5 credits) will be available at the conference for an additional fee.

A general certificate of attendance will be available for all attendees.

## Conference Packets

Modified handouts will be available at the conference.

## Objectives

Upon completion of this conference, participants will be able to:

- State the functional working definition of what is meant by the term “executive function skills” as it pertains to therapeutic interventions
- Identify what is the typical developmental course of the executive function skills and how to define and identify Executive Dysfunction
- Define how situational awareness, self talk, forethought and episodic memory are the foundational skills for successful task execution
- List the standardized tests which assess the underlying skills for task execution and describe informal measures for assessing the executive function skills in children and adolescents
- Develop an intervention program to foster a patient’s ability to form more independent executive function skills by describing therapeutic activities to improve:
  - Situational awareness and forethought
  - Task planning, task initiation and transition within and between tasks
  - Active self management of the factors related to the passage of time
  - Internal self-talk for initiating tasks
  - Organized thinking and speed of processing
  - Student management of homework and materials
- Outline how the SLP can collaborate with parents, teachers and other professionals to implement an executive function based treatment program both in and outside of the classroom

## Location

The live conference will be held at Children’s Hospital Colorado, 2nd Floor Conference Center, at 13123 E. 16th Ave in Aurora, CO. Parking and shuttle services will be available; information will be provided in your confirmation email.

## Accommodations

Should you require special assistance or services to allow full participation, please notify us at least 2 weeks in advance of the conference.

## Registration Fees

**Early Registration Deadline: April 6, 2012**

Registration Fees:	Before 4/6/12	After 4/6/12
On-site at Children’s	\$125	\$150
Off-site/Videoconference	\$75	\$100

## Cancellation Policy

A refund, minus a \$25 processing fee, will be granted if cancellation is requested by April 1, 2012. No refunds will be granted after this date or for non-attendance, although you may send a substitute.

The Planning Committee reserves the right to modify the agenda content while keeping consistent the time and content requirements for ASHA CEU’s, or cancel this conference, with a full refund to participants, if minimum acceptable registration is not attained by April 21, 2012.

## Further Information

For additional information, please email the Committee at LanguageLearningASL@childrenscolorado.org or call Jeannie O’Neil at (720) 777-6841 or Melissa Shelton at (720) 777-6848.

# Annual Conference on Language and Learning

## Agenda

Friday, April 27

Children's Colorado 2nd Floor Conference Center

- 7:30 a.m.** Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 7:55** Welcome
- 8:00** **Executive Functions Skills Defined, Developmental Norms, Treatment Ideas To Increase Self Regulation And Forethought**
- 10:00** Break (snacks provided)
- 10:15** **Interventions to Increase Organized Thought and Speed of Processing**
- 12:00 p.m.** Lunch
- 1:00** **Teaching Time Management, Pacing, and Cognitive Shift**
- 3:00** Break
- 3:15** **Closing the Homework Circle**
- 4:30** **Question and Answers**
- 5:00** Evaluation, Write-Up (Adam's State) & Adjourn

## Faculty

### Sarah Ward, MS CCC-SLP

Sarah Ward, M.S., CCC-SLP has over 15 years of experience in diagnostic evaluations, treatment and case management of children, adolescents and adults with language learning disabilities, nonverbal learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, executive dysfunction, Asperger's disorders and social pragmatics disorders. Her particular specialty is in the assessment and treatment of executive function deficits. Ms. Ward holds a faculty appointment at the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions where she provides instruction to graduate level students in the assessment and treatment of individuals with traumatic brain injury and other cognitive communication disorders. A popular speaker, Sarah regularly presents locally and nationally on the topic of executive functions to a variety of professional and parent organizations, school and lay groups. She has presented to and consulted with over 200 public and private schools in Massachusetts and across the United States. Awards received include the MGH Expertise in Clinical Practice Award, the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Faculty in Excellence Award from the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions (2002, 2011).

# Registration Form

## Annual Conference on Language and Learning

April 27, 2012

(Please list your name and organization as you would like them to appear on your name badge.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Credentials \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fees:	Before 4/6/12	After 4/6/12
<b>Please check the appropriate circle.</b>		
<input type="radio"/> On-site at Children's Colorado	\$125	\$150
<input type="radio"/> Off-site/Videoconference	\$75	\$100
<input type="radio"/> Fort Collins	<input type="radio"/> Durango	<input type="radio"/> Pueblo
<input type="radio"/> Grand Junction	<input type="radio"/> Montrose	

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Visa/MC # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Print Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If using an agency credit card, prior authorization from the issuing bank is required as some cards have usage restrictions. There will be an additional \$25 fee to reprocess any declined credit card.

**Submit all completed registrations with credit card information via email to**

(All email communications are secure.):

LanguageLearningASL@childrenscolorado.org

Or **Submit Form**

Or by fax: (720) 777-7299

**If you prefer to mail your registration with payment by check or money order, you may do so by mailing your completed form with payment to:**

Children's Hospital Colorado  
13123 E. 16th Avenue, B030  
Attn: Jeannie O'Neil/L&L  
Aurora, CO 80045

\*Electronic confirmation of your registration will be sent to your email address provided on the registration form. You are not registered for this conference until payment has been made and you have received your email confirmation from the committee.

