

Information from Our Partners

15th Annual Southwest Washington Autism Conference

October 30, 2026 | 8:30 am–4 pm | Great Wolf Lodge-Grand Mound, WA

This full-day conference will bring together autistic and neurodivergent self-advocates, families, educators, clinicians, therapists, developmental disability professionals, first responders, service organizations, researchers, and community leaders to share practical strategies, elevate lived experience, strengthen partnerships, and explore better pathways of support across the lifespan.

Attendees can expect a full day of learning, conversation, and connection, including:

- Engaging keynote and breakout presentations
- Autistic and neurodivergent voices and lived-experience perspectives
- Practical strategies for families, educators, healthcare professionals, first responders, service providers, and community partners
- Conversations about rural access, education, healthcare, culture, crisis prevention, family support, and cross-system collaboration
- A special interdisciplinary lunch plenary built around a complex real-world case
- Film and storytelling exploring autism, opportunity, and belonging
- Opportunities to connect directly with presenters, professionals, advocates, and community organizations
- A Resource and Exhibitor Hall featuring organizations serving Southwest Washington and beyond
- A Silent Auction featuring original artwork and unique donated pieces, including work created by people with lived experience
- A delicious, warm lunch catered by Great Wolf Lodge, is included with registration

Clock hours will be offered, and conference scholarships are available as well.

For conference registration and additional information, please visit the [Lewis County Autism Coalition website](#).

WA INCLUDE: ECHO Complex Behavior

1st and 3rd Mondays of each month | 3:30–5:00pm | Zoom

Educators, administrators, and support staff play an important role in ensuring that students with behavior support needs and their families find a sense of belonging and community at school. ECHO Complex Behavior empowers professionals to support children and youth with extensive behavior support needs. This ECHO is well suited for school teams including educators, administrators, and related service providers, and provides:



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

- Evidence-based professional learning that values person-centered care and holistic behavioral support
- Whole-person strategies for comprehensive behavior support grounded in a variety of relevant factors (e.g., environmental, social, communication, health)
- Connection for professionals providing support to individuals with extensive behavior support needs across school, home, and community settings, with a focus on inclusionary practices
- Statewide knowledge-sharing and cross-disciplinary and cross-system collaboration to support our communities, especially underserved populations

During each session, a participating team presents de-identified information about a client/student/patient, leading to questions, recommendations, and discussion about how best to support the individual. Other attendees participate in the case discussion and learn supportive and person-centered strategies they can implement in their own environment.

Learn more and sign up at [ECHO Complex Behavior](#), or reach out to echocomplexcare@uw.edu with any questions!

Building Capacity: Free Brain Injury Conference-Workshop Series

Join us for the 2026–27 conference-workshop series! These conference-workshops will address challenging themes through a brain injury lens, providing valuable insights and support for survivors, families, caregivers, and professionals. Registration is free and sessions are designed for anyone interested in gaining a deeper understanding of these important topics. All sessions run from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Pacific Time.

Upcoming Sessions:

- Friday, October 23rd, 2026: Brain Injury, Mental Health, and Emotional Regulation
- Friday, February 19th, 2027: Brain Injury and the Law
- Friday, May 21st, 2027: Brain Injury, Substance Use, and Recovery

For more information about the conference-workshop series, visit the [TBI Events Portal](#).

This workshop series is sponsored by the [Department of Social & Health Services](#) and the [Traumatic Brain Injury Strategic Partnership Advisory Council of Washington State](#).

Professional Learning Opportunities from Roots of Inclusion

Roots of Inclusion, an IPTN member organization, is excited to offer three free learning opportunities for educators, paraeducators, and school leaders. Families may be especially interested in the third of these opportunities, as it uses an on-demand and self-paced format designed with families in mind.

Vulnerable Nervous Systems in the Classroom

A three-part professional learning series pairing on-demand foundational learning with two live virtual sessions with Robyn Gobbel. Educators will explore nervous system vulnerability, regulation, responding to challenging behaviors, and what to do when it feels like nothing is working.

- Format: On-demand foundational session, plus two live virtual sessions
- Live sessions: October 7 and 14, 2026, from 4–6 pm
- Cost: Free
- WA Clock Hours available

Exploring Intersections of Race, Disability & Gender in Education

A five-part series with Adana Protonentis equipping educators to recognize and disrupt the compounding effects of racism and ableism as they intersect with gender in students' educational experiences, with particular attention to adultification and body-based bias toward Black children with disabilities. The series also explores how these dynamics shape family and community engagement, helping educators build trust-based partnerships with marginalized families.

- Format: Three 90-minute content trainings, plus two 90-minute follow-up application sessions
- Dates: October 28, November 18, December 9, January 13, and February 3, from 4:00–5:30 pm
- Cost: Free
- WA Clock Hours available

Understanding Behavior & Regulation

A free, self-paced course featuring recorded webinars from Robyn Gobbel, exploring the brain, nervous system, and practical ways to support children with curiosity, compassion, and connection. Designed for families, educators, and professionals alike, this is a great standalone resource or a starting point before diving into the live series above.

- Format: On demand
- Cost: Free

Please note – this series is especially well-suited for educators and school leaders to share directly with families, since it requires no live attendance and can be completed on each participant's own schedule.

WIDA ACCESS Spring Registration in the Washington Assessment Management System (WAMS)

Spring registration for the WIDA ACCESS for the 2026–27 school year opened on Friday, October 2, in the Washington Assessment Management System (WAMS). In addition to registering students for WIDA ACCESS Modes of Administration and WIDA ACCESS Domain Exemptions, new this year, districts can also register students for WIDA ACCESS Accommodations. Resources to support this release can be found on [English Language Proficiency Assessment Resources](#). This includes full guidance and directions for use.

Please direct questions to OSPI's ELP Assessment Coordinator, Sharon Coward, at sharon.coward@k12.wa.us.