



COLLABORATIVE AUTISM TRAINING & SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Education ♥ Child & Family Support ♥ Autism Awareness

CATS Director: Dr. Lorna Catford, (707) 664-2402, lorna.catford@sonoma.edu

FAMILY SUPPORT & RESOURCES (rev 5/10)

In response to parents' requests, Sonoma State University, in partnership with California Parenting Institute, has a program to teach students to work with children with autism spectrum disorders. Our goal is to give the children support, the families some much-needed respite, and the students a valuable educational opportunity. If you participate, your role is to supervise a student intern working with your child.

WHAT THE CATS PROGRAM GIVES YOUR FAMILY

- At no cost to you, an SSU student works one-on-one with your child 1- 5 hours/week for 20-30 weeks.
- An opportunity to attend seminars with other parents & professionals on a variety of autism topics.
- Free SSU Library and Parking passes for the semester.
- Consultation with Dr. Lorna Catford (Program Director) for advocacy & support.
- Contact information for a pool of students available for paid respite.
- Free Parent Support Groups with free child care.
- Support & information by networking with other families in the program.
- Access to a native Spanish-speaking associate if needed.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Fill out the application and return it to Dr. Lorna Catford. (Space is limited so please return it soon.)
- Once accepted, you will be invited to attend a Parent Orientation Meeting.
- We will do our best to match you with a student for your child's support team under your supervision.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide us with information about your child and their support team/program (on the *Application*).
- Attend an Orientation Meeting with the Program Director and other parents in the program.
- Read and sign the documents required for participation.
- Have at least 2 initial meetings in your home to orient your student to your child and his/her needs.
- Provide necessary supervision and training of your student to keep your child and the student safe.
- Be accessible at all times your child is with your student (You needn't be with them.).
- Ensure that your student is not responsible for other children or tasks beyond participation in your child's program of support unless you have prior agreement for special supervised situations.
- Ensure the student does not take your child off your property unless you are with them.
- Communicate any concerns directly to the student or Dr. Lorna Catford as soon as they arise.
- Sign your student's Time Log, complete a mid-term student evaluation, and a final satisfaction survey.

LIMITATIONS OF THE PROGRAM

This program is in response to parent request. We are working hard to ensure that it SAFELY meets your and the students' needs, and anticipate that you will partner with us to help it run smoothly.

- For safety reasons, we cannot provide students for children with potentially dangerous behaviors.
- We cannot guarantee the student's performance (However each student participates in training).
- We cannot guarantee the availability of students beyond that required for the course.

TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION, AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

- Dr. Lorna Catford, Program Director, Sonoma State University, (707) 664-2402, lorna.catford@sonoma.edu



Proud partners with Sonoma State University
and California Parenting Institute



Other major supporters include:

California Parenting Institute

Barbara & Jacques Schlumberger, Becoming Independent, Community Foundation of Sonoma County, Janice March Family, Sonoma County Office of Education, SSU Instructional Related Activity Program, United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay.