

AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) is all the different ways that someone communicates besides speaking. Many types of AAC exist and is based on an individual's needs.

WHO CAN USE AAC?

People of all ages can use AAC. It may be used occasionally or all of the time when a person cannot rely on spoken communication.

GET THE AAC SERVICES YOU NEED

Consult with a licensed and appropriately trained speech and language pathologist (SLP) and get an assessment to determine if AAC is a good option. Think about the person's communication needs and their long-term goals. There may be other factors to consider before using AAC. An SLP can assist with the decision-making process. For more information, refer to the [Communication Services FAQs](#)



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AAC does not hinder speech development. Research shows it helps speech and language development. People do not need prerequisite skills to use AAC. Multiple forms of AAC may be used.

UNAIDED AAC



Unaided/no-tech AAC does not require additional equipment or devices external to the individual.

Examples of unaided AAC include gestures, manual sign, and facial expressions.

AIDED AAC



Aided AAC is any device, either electronic or non-electronic, that is used to transmit or receive information.

- **Aided Low-Tech** includes communication boards, books, pictures, drawing and writing.
- **Aided High-Tech** includes single message devices, or recordable/digitized devices.