

ASSIST Study Recruitment Email

Subject: Study to test a services advocacy program with parents of youth on the autism spectrum

Body:

We are inviting interested parents of youth with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to participate in a research study testing the ASSIST (Advocating for Supports to Improve Service Transition) program. ASSIST aims to improve parents' ability to advocate for adult services on behalf of their son or daughter with ASD.

You may be eligible to participate in our study if you are the parent of a son/daughter with ASD who is between 16 and 26 years old. You must also have availability to attend a 12-week training program (a weekly 2-hour session after business hours).

This study will require a screening phone call, a packet of questionnaires, and one visit to our office at The Shaker Building in Oak Park for you and your son or daughter with ASD. During the lab visit, we will conduct a behavioral assessment with interviews and questionnaires with you and your son or daughter.

After that, we will invite parents to attend the ASSIST training or receive the ASSIST written materials (with the possibility of attending the in-person training at a later time). You will not be able to decide which group you are invited to; groups will be randomly assigned. Follow-up data will be collected from families over subsequent years. Study participation may last up to 3.5 years.

Parents can earn up to \$325 for study participation, and participants with ASD can earn up to \$100.

If you would like to learn more about this study, please contact the principal investigator Dr. Meghan Burke at meghanbm@illinois.edu or at (217) 300-1226.

We are looking forward to hearing from you!