

UCLA PEERS® for Adolescents Certified School-Based Training Seminar: School-Based Social Skills Training Program

**Evidence-Based Social Skills Training for
Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder &
Other Social Challenges**

June 27 - 29, 2018

UCLA PEERS® Clinic, UCLA Semel Institute
Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson

Founder & Director, PEERS® Curriculum Developer

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The PEERS® Curriculum
for School-Based
Professionals

Social Skills Training for Adolescents
with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Course Description

The PEERS® for Adolescents Certified School-Based Training Seminar is designed exclusively for educators and school-based professionals, as well as mental health practitioners, medical professionals, speech and language pathologists, occupational and recreational therapists, researchers, and other professionals who work with youth with social challenges. PEERS® is the ONLY available evidence-based social skills program for adolescents and adults with autism spectrum disorder, and is used clinically for youth with ADHD, anxiety, depression and other social challenges. Attendees will obtain 24 hours of training in the implementation of *The PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals: Social Skills Training for Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder* (Laugeson, 2014) and the research behind the program. This training will enable providers to implement PEERS® in their educational settings, or in other appropriate clinical settings, as PEERS® Certified School-Based Providers.

The 16-week PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals brings UCLA's highly acclaimed and internationally recognized PEERS® intervention into the school and/or community setting using:

- Daily or weekly lesson plans for educators and mental health professionals
- Concrete rules and steps of social skills for making and keeping friends
- Proven strategies for handling peer rejection and conflict
- Unique and fun activities for students to practice newly learned skills
- Corresponding homework assignments to generalize skills
- Parent handouts outlining the skills and homework assignments
- Tips for facilitators to prepare for lessons and strategies for overcoming potential pitfalls
- An overview of the research underlying this program

Topics of Instruction in the PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals

- How to use appropriate conversational skills
- How to start, enter, and exit conversations with peers
- How to appropriately use electronic forms of communication
- How to find friends and choose relevant social networks
- How to appropriately use humor and assess humor feedback
- How to organize and have get-togethers with friends
- How to be a good sport during games and activities
- How to handle arguments and disagreements with friends
- How to handle teasing, physical bullying, cyber bullying, and rumors or gossip
- How to change a bad reputation

Attendees will have the unique opportunity to learn directly from **Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, developer of the PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals**, on the effective administration of this empirically supported program. Dr. Laugeson, Founder and Director of the UCLA PEERS® Clinic, will serve as the course instructor throughout training.

Learning Objectives for Training

- Attendees will learn about the friendship and social difficulties common to adolescents with autism spectrum disorder and other social challenges.
- Attendees will become familiar with the PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals and the research upon which it is founded.
- Attendees will be equipped with the tools to deliver the PEERS® Curriculum in the school or community setting.
- Attendees will learn how to incorporate parents and family members into the ongoing training.

Training Materials

Each attendee will receive the following training materials on-site:

- *The PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals: Social Skills Training for Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder* (Laugeson, 2014)
- *Social Skills for Teenagers with Developmental and Autism Spectrum Disorders: The PEERS® Treatment Manual* (Laugeson & Frankel, 2010)
- *The Science of Making Friends: Helping Socially Challenged Teens and Young Adults* (Laugeson, 2013)
- *Companion DVD* with 24 role-play videos (Laugeson, 2013)

Training is conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, the developer of the PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals, using the following training methods:

- Interactive and comprehensive didactic instruction in using the curriculum
- Video demonstrations of adolescent social skills classes
- Live role-play demonstrations and behavioral rehearsals exercises of targeted social skills

Training Cost and Schedule

- The cost of the **PEERS® Certified Training for Educators** is **\$2,200 per person**
- Training is held at the **UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior** in Los Angeles
- Food and beverages (including breakfast and a light lunch) are provided throughout the training
- The training spans **3 days (24 hours total)**

To register for the PEERS® for Adolescents Certified
School-Based Training Seminar:
Evidence-Based Social Skills Training Program

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(310) 26-PEERS

