Support our work
If you are interested in supporting the work of the UW-Eau Claire Campus Autism Program, please contact the UW-Eau Claire Foundation at 715-836-5630 or fndn@uwec.edu.

If you wish to send a tax-deductible gift, make your check payable to: UW-Eau Claire Foundation Fund #1699, and mail it to:

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You also can go online and make a secure credit card gift at www.uwec.edu/fndn/giving.htm.

For details on specific gift plans, contact Kimera Way at 715-836-5180 or waykk@uwec.edu.

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www.uwec.edu/psyc
The UW-Eau Claire Campus Autism Program

Your child, our mission

The Campus Autism Program at UW-Eau Claire brings psychology students, children with autism or related pervasive developmental disorders and their families together and offers intensive behavioral intervention. Dr. Kevin Klatt, a board-certified behavior analyst, and student therapists are dedicated to understanding the individual differences and needs of each child they meet. The therapists emphasize teaching communication skills, using only scientifically validated intervention techniques and educating caregivers about how to help their child make progress.

What services we provide

Student therapists provide personalized treatment services in a fun teaching environment. The therapists record progress for every skill to aid in making accurate and effective treatment decisions. Caregivers view the sessions from an observation room and discuss the intervention with Dr. Klatt. Caregivers are also encouraged to read related articles provided by the autism program and carry out part of the intervention at home.

Sessions provide the following general services:

- Teaching skills to achieve fluency.
- Play and social skills.
- Daily documentation of progress.

The child typically participates in one-hour sessions, four days a week. A caregiver is expected to attend every session. The autism clinic is open Monday through Thursday mornings.

Who we serve

The Campus Autism Program serves children ages 1 to 4 years old who have been diagnosed with autism or related PDD. The child’s caregiver must be pursuing the state waiver for in-home behavioral intervention — the university’s on-campus autism program provides the therapy needed until the funding is secured for the in-home sessions. At least one caregiver is required to participate in the behavior intervention sessions.

Cost

The cost is $25 per one-hour session; however, reduced rates are available based on the family’s ability to pay. Campus Autism Program therapists serve all eligible patients and do not want finances to prohibit treatment.

Student therapists

Approximately 20 UW-Eau Claire psychology majors work with children in the Campus Autism Program. The student therapists are required to maintain a high overall grade-point average, particularly in their behavioral course work. They also must be enrolled in the internship program and be committed to pursuing a professional career in behavior analysis.

Autism research

Having a child diagnosed with autism is a life-changing event for parents and families. The vast amount of information can be confusing, but parents understand implicitly that time is of the essence. Research has shown that children make the most progress when they receive intense behavioral intervention at an early age. The Campus Autism Program therapists believe it is good practice to use intervention that is soundly based on research and to avoid using non-researched therapies. To identify procedures that are most effective, the therapists conduct ongoing applied research studies to increase their understanding of autism and for the potential benefit to the child. Children in the autism program sometimes participate in studies, with the permission of their caregiver. Participation in a research study is a decision that is both voluntary and personal.

“While working as a student-intern therapist, I gained firsthand experience using behavioral therapy with young children with autism from our community. This experience gave me a better understanding of what this developmental disability truly entails.”

— Jennifer Solin

UW-Eau Claire 2005 psychology graduate
Clinical psychology doctoral student at Argosy University