



Making Implementation Happen. Bridging the Research to Practice Gap.

2025 CAPTAIN CADRE Commitments and Expectations





CAPTAIN is a multiagency network developed to support the understanding and use of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) for individuals with Autism across the state of California.

Representatives (Cadre) are from Regional Centers, Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA), State/Federally Funded Family Support Agencies (FRC, FEC/PTI) and Higher Education.



CAPTAIN Vision



Establish a statewide training and technical assistance network focused on the use of EBPs for Autism inclusive of agencies who will work collaboratively at a local level so that individuals with Autism and their families can benefit from research-based practices.



Increase Knowledge of Autism and EBPs



Improve Implementation of Autism EBPs



Improve Interagency Collaboration and Coordination



Create an Equipped Workforce and System of Support

GOALS

Who are CAPTAIN Cadre?

The CAPTAIN Cadre are nominated members of skilled implementation teams who work to disseminate information about and train for the implementation of EBPs for Autism with fidelity at the local level.

CAPTAIN Cadre they are committed to be active members who carry out the the mission and goals of CAPTAIN.

What to expect as a supporting agency!

Commitments

- Nominate Cadre Annually
- Support participation at the Annual Summit
- Support Cadre with time and resources to fulfill CAPTAIN commitments
- Meet with Cadre to identify needs and share progress

Benefits

Agency:

- Regional plans developed to address local needs
- Multi-agency collaboration to address needs through:
 - High quality EBP trainings
 - Coaching/Mentoring of EBPs
- Increased staff knowledge and confidence in implementing EBPs with fidelity

Cadre:

- Training in providing high-quality training and coaching/mentoring in EBPs
- Interagency networking to create sustainable support systems for autistic individuals

Improved outcomes for autistic individuals

Commitments for ALL CADRE



- Complete “Introduction to Autism” AFIRM Online Module Before Summit (New Members Only)
- Complete New Cadre Orientation (First Year New Members Only)
 - First Year New Schools Cadre will additionally attend four Professional Learning Network sessions about high quality training and coaching (3 virtual sessions/1.5 hours each held throughout the school year)
- Participate fully in the Annual in-person CAPTAIN Summit each Fall (November 3 & 4, 2025, Sacramento)
- Participate in local CAPTAIN Regional Network collaborative meetings/activities to implement local plans (6 meetings per year)
- Complete Annual CAPTAIN Online Survey each spring
- Use the CAPTAIN Data System for dissemination, training and/or coaching efforts

ADDITIONAL Commitments for SELPA CADRE



- Provide an information session for your SELPA on “Overview of Autism, What is CAPTAIN and What are EBPs for Autism” (at least 1 per year)
 - Provide high quality workshops in specific EBPs (at least 3 per year)
 - Provide practitioner coaching for 3 teachers/programs within your SELPA using implementation checklists and the CAPTAIN coaching process
- OR**
- Train 3 additional coaches on CAPTAIN model of training and coaching EBPs for Autism (Mentor)
 - Meet with SELPA Leadership (SELPA Director and immediate supervisor) to discuss and plan for local implementation of EBPs and Regional Plans (2 times per year, Fall and Spring)

ADDITIONAL Commitments for REGIONAL CENTER CADRE



- Provide information sessions for Service Coordinators/RC Staff, service providers, and/or community partners on "Overview of Autism, CAPTAIN and EBPs for Autism" (at least 2 per year)
- Provide EBP workshop for service providers and/or caregivers (at least 1 per year)
- Participate in quarterly Regional Center CAPTAIN Cadre Meetings (4 per year)

ADDITIONAL Commitments for FAMILY SUPPORT CADRE



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- Meet with your Agency Leader following the Summit to share back new resources and the contents of your CAPTAIN Regional Plan
 - Share information with your support organization staff about CAPTAIN and EBPs for Autism
 - Show the “What are EBPs for Autism” PowerPoint and Video
 - Review the CAPTAIN Parent Infographics
 - Encourage other support staff to help disseminate information
 - Disseminate CAPTAIN and EBP resources
 - Add CAPTAIN website to your agency website as a resource for Autism
 - Share CAPTAIN social media posts on your agency social media pages
 - Talk about and share print materials at outreach events
 - Talk about and share information and resources when coaching families

ADDITIONAL Expectations for HIGHER EDUCATION/PERSONNEL PREPARATION



- Include overview of CAPTAIN, Autism and EBPs into appropriate course work, research and other professional activities and, if applicable, integrate opportunities to apply strategies for selection and use of EBPs into appropriate coursework.
- Share information about CAPTAIN and EBPs for Autism both a) within your Department and b) outside your department so that other faculty/lecturers/teacher educators at their/your institution are able to integrate information into their teaching.
- Participate in HE CAPTAIN collaborative meetings/activities and events to implement workgroup plans and strengthen interagency/interdisciplinary collaboration (at least quarterly).

NOMINATION INFORMATION



SELPA CAPTAIN Cadre



SELPA CAPTAIN Cadre are nominated by their SELPA Director

Key considerations when selecting a Cadre to represent your SELPA:

1. Proven experience, motivation, and success in training and coaching others
2. Regularly supports and/or trains others on EBPs for Autism
3. Open to improving their training and coaching skills
4. Familiar with using data to support decision making
5. Are available to carry out the Cadre commitments

Regional Center CAPTAIN Cadre



Regional Center Cadre are nominated by their Chief Counselors and/or Clinical Directors

- CAPTAIN Regional Center Leadership will share information about the year in review, ask Chief Counselors and Clinical Directors about their needs/input into CAPTAIN activities and review current CAPTAIN Cadre openings and nomination procedures at a spring/summer meeting each year
- Consider the following when determining who to nominate:
 1. Is in a clinical, QA or leadership role with the RC
 2. Has the ability to train and inform others about Autism, EBPs and the implementation resources supported through CAPTAIN
 3. Can be made available to carry out all of the Cadre commitments

Family Support Agency CAPTAIN Cadre (State and Federally Funded Agencies)



State and Federally Funded Family Support Agency CAPTAIN Cadre are nominated by the Family Resource Center Network of CA, Family Empowerment Center and/or Parent Training and Information Center Directors or through their University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) or Community Advisory Committees (CAC)

Consider the following when determining who to nominate:

1. Agency staff or volunteer who has knowledge about Autism
2. Agency staff who has the willingness and ability to share information about Autism, EBPs and the implementation resources supported through CAPTAIN with agency staff, community members and families they are supporting

Higher Education/Preparation Program CAPTAIN Cadre



- Higher Education Leaders will request nomination input from the CAPTAIN Leadership Team and the Regional Implementation Leads each spring/summer regarding possible HE CAPTAIN Cadre from within each CAPTAIN Region
- Priority will be given to CAPTAIN Regions with fewer HE representatives
- Potential Cadre will be invited to become a Cadre by the HE Leadership Team

NOMINATION PROCESS



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- Nomination information will be sent to Agency Leaders with instructions for nominations each year
 - The nomination window for the 2025 cycle will be open from **August 4 through September 5, 2025**. Please note that **late submissions cannot be accepted**.
 - Each agency is allocated a designated number of CAPTAIN Cadre slots, determined by a regional formula to ensure equitable representation across all regions.

Questions about CAPTAIN?

Send us an email!

CAPTAIN Email: captain@health.ucdavis.edu



www.captain.ca.gov