



## USSAAC launches its NEW Webinar Series

# SAVE THE DATE

### April 8, 2015 @ 7 p.m. EDT

## Funding for SGDs in 2015: Updates and Implications for the AAC Community

**FREE to ALL AAC Stakeholders**

**Presenter: Lewis Golinker, Esq., AAC Advocate**

**Facilitator: Amy Goldman, Speech-language-pathologist**

USSAAC Committee: Lateef McCleod (Chair),

Sarah Blackstone, Lisa Timm, Wendy Quach

The AAC community has good reason to be confused about recent shifts to funding policy for speech generating devices (SGDs) in the United States. Public funding and private insurance are being impacted by changes in the law and major policy shifts. For example, ongoing confusion in Medicare policy has created significant harm to Medicare beneficiaries who require access to SGDs and/or SGD accessories. Changes have occurred in other funding programs as well and are likely to continue and be impacted by Medicare's new National Coverage Decision (due out in July, 2015).

This is the first in a series of webinars USSAAC will offer during 2015. We begin with a focus on funding issues because these concerns affect ALL AAC stakeholders.

The webinar will provide a brief update on Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance funding for speech generating devices in an effort to help people with complex communication needs, family members, clinicians, educators, administrators, distributors, etc. understand what is happening. Part I (April 8<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 8 p.m. EDT) will focus on the current "state of the practice". Part II (sometime in June) will continue the discussion and provide additional updates.

Future USSAAC webinars will focus on other topics of interest to participants in an effort to build awareness and collaboration among USSAAC members and other AAC stakeholders. **Participants are encouraged to submit questions in advance as well as during the webinar. Please register as soon as possible.**

**Please register at:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2885030915589029634>

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) CEUs in speech-language pathology and audiology are awarded by the USSAAC CE Registry upon receipt of the CEU Participant Form from the ASHA Approved CE Provider, USSAAC. CEU Participant Forms are available onsite at Registration. ASHA CEUs are provided to full registrations. This program is offered for 0.1 ASHA CEUs (Introductory level, Related area).



The U.S. Society of Augmentative & Alternative Communication is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. **See course information for number of ASHA CEUs, instructional level and content area.** ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

Disclosure:

Financial — Lewis Golinker has provided legal advice to SGD Manufacturers (Tobi Dynavox, AbleNet, Salthillo, Prentke Romich, Lingraphica) in the form of professional legal services.

Nonfinancial —None