COVID-19 Response and Resources

For many families, their homes have now become more than just a home: an office, a school, a playground, and a safe haven. To better support families and professionals, AG Bell has gathered valuable resources to keep families learning, playing and communicating at home. Visit the AG Bell website to view the resources and updates as available.

The Linguistic Genius of Babies – Impact of a One Day Learning Conference

On March 7, attendees to The Linguistic Genius of Babies heard Dr. Patricia Kuhl discuss cutting edge research on infant brain development. The one-day conference, preceding the 2020 EHDI Annual Meeting, was a collaborative effort between the National Center for Hearing Assessment & Management (NCHAM), Hearing First and the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AG Bell). The event organizers recently gathered to reflect on Dr. Kuhl’s presentation and the far reaching impact conferences like this can have on fully supporting early intervention services for infants and children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Read the full interview.

2020 AG Bell Global LSL Symposium

The AG Bell staff are monitoring restrictions being placed on travel to and within the United States as well as restrictions on meetings and large gatherings of people. We are closely following the guidelines and updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Maryland Department of Health. Recognizing that our conference draws individuals from around the world, we are also following communications from the World Health Organization.

Currently, AG Bell will continue moving forward with preparations for the 2020 AG Bell Global Listening and Spoken Language Symposium on July 9-11 in Baltimore, Md. We assure you that the safety and security of attendees remains our top priority as the world navigates through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please continue to follow AG Bell’s communication channels for further developments, as well as the AG Bell Global Symposium website for updates. We welcome any questions you have to 2020symposium@agbell.org.
LSLS Scholarships Help Achieve Certification Requirements

The AG Bell Academy for Listening and Spoken Language is pleased to offer two scholarship opportunities for professionals seeking certification as a Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) Specialist. The Doreen Pollack LSLS Cert. AVT Scholarship and the LSLS Cert. AVEd Scholarship each assist one professional per year in fulfilling the requirements for certification as a LSL Specialist.

The scholarship will financially support the recipient’s qualification and examination through the AG Bell Academy and enable the recipient to fulfill requirements such as mentoring and continuing education credits. This scholarship is available to LSL professionals who are nearing their final year of mentoring to qualify for certification by the AG Bell Academy. Applications are due April 30.

Catch Up on Past Issues of The Volta Review

Looking for new reading material? Catch up on past issues of The Volta Review. Your professional membership in AG Bell includes exclusive access to The Volta Review. Current issues as well as fast tracked article are available as a member benefit via IngentaConnect. Past content is also available, for free, on the AG Bell website.

Claiming your subscription today will ensure easy access and instant notifications when new research is available. Accessing The Volta Review requires a one-time registration on our publishing partner’s platform, IngentaConnect. You will need your member ID in order to register. Please follow these instructions to claim your subscription and start accessing the latest research on listening and spoken language development. (Not sure if you’re a member or need your ID number? Please contact AG Bell’s member services department.) The journal staff is available to troubleshoot any issues you may have accessing The Volta Review.
Continuing Education Opportunities

The AG Bell Academy provides opportunities for certified Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) Specialists and those seeking certification to earn continuing education credits (CEUs) toward recertification or certification. The number of organizations providing CEU opportunities continues to rise every year. For those organizing professional development training and courses, the application process to gain approval to provide Academy CEUs is straightforward. Visit the AG Bell Academy website to learn more about applying to provide Academy CEUs for your next educational event. Current approved CEU opportunities are available across the United States, internationally and online.

Share Your Story with the AG Bell Community

As the world adapts to ever-changing circumstances, it is more important than ever to stay connected to each other. That’s why we want to hear from you! Have an interesting coping strategy? A funny story about tele-therapy? Sharing your story on one of AG Bell’s blogs (Cradle to Career or our Professional Blog) will help others navigate life at home.

To contribute, please contact us at editor@agbell.org with your story or idea. Images are highly encouraged (along with a completed copy release form). Taking 10 minutes to write your story can make a huge difference in someone else’s isolation experience. We look forward to hearing from you!
COVID-19 Status Updates Regarding CEUs and Testing

The AG Bell Academy is receiving a higher volume of communication than usual due to cancellation of some LSLS-approved continuing education offerings and questions related to LSLS Certification Exam test centers around the globe secondary to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For questions/concerns related to informing the Academy about a cancelled event, please email the Academy at academy@agbell.org.

For questions/concerns from candidates related to the exam schedule at one of the 1,100+ test centers, please refer to our test vendor, Kryterion Online, and read the “Test Candidate Alert” information. If after reading that information, you have additional questions or concerns, please email the Academy at academy@agbell.org.

Please refer to the AG Bell Academy website for updates as needed.

LSLS Certification Exam Length Adjusted

The AG Bell Academy launched a new Listening and Spoken Language Specialist (LSLS) Certification Examination in 2018. The new exam consisted of 200 questions (175 exam questions and 25 beta exam questions) that queried examinees in areas specific to the Nine Domains of Knowledge for LSLS Certification. As of April 1, 2020, the LSLS Certification exam now consists of just 175 questions. As in the past, qualified examinees have up to 4 hours to take the exam at one of 1,100+ test centers in 120+ countries. Visit the AG Bell Academy website for more information about LSLS certification.