

**Literacy, Language, & Communication for Students with Significant Developmental
Disabilities: Reaching Potentials through Systemic & Sustainable Statewide
Professional Development
Years 4 and 5**

This 2-year project continues the State of Iowa's effort to form strong relationships among the Iowa Department of Education, Area Education Agencies, Local Education Agencies, Institutes of Higher Education, and Iowa families in order to promote the development of communication and literacy in students with significant developmental disabilities. Three goals guide this project: (1) developing an accessible, multimedia, web-based collection of professional materials for educators; (2) increasing the capacity for schools, districts, and AEAs to provide professional development in literacy and communication to their constituents; and, (3) increasing the number of interdisciplinary teams across the state with the knowledge, skills, and disposition to provide rich, comprehensive literacy programs to their students with disabilities and serve as leaders for other educators.