



## Pyramid Certification Program

The Pyramid Certification Program combines comprehensive training and consultative guidance to support educational teams in building effective learning environments using the Pyramid Approach to Education® (PAE). The PAE provides an organized framework that focuses on teaching teams how to meet students' individual learning needs by combining a unique blend of functional applied behavior analysis (ABA) and evidence-based strategies. This consultation and training package begins with a focus on the structural base elements of the Pyramid including implementation of functional activities, powerful reinforcement systems, functional communication/social skills, and addressing challenging behaviors. The latter portion of the program focuses on the instructional elements that form the top of the Pyramid and include generalization, lesson formats, teaching/prompting strategies, error correction, and data collection/analysis.

Pyramid Certification Program completion is achieved once all aspects of the Pyramid are in place within the educational setting, as determined by passing scores on all components detailed within the PAE Checklist. To ensure maintenance and expansion of skills taught, programs are also encouraged to select a Pyramid Leadership Team. Leaders will receive additional training and guidance to then assist other team members within their program or school district to implement the PAE. This model helps to ensure maintenance of skills over time.

All training and consultation is led by our team of expert consultants and held onsite over the course of a school year.

### Training

Trainings consist of lecture, discussions, video review, team planning, group activities, practice, and role-play. Training can be scheduled prior to the start of the school year or presented at various points throughout the year. All team members must attend a total of five training days to include the following:

- ***Pyramid Approach to Education Training***
- ***PECS Level 1 Training***
- ***Teaching Critical Communication Skills***

### Consultation

Team members will be guided by one of Pyramid's expert consultants to implement all components of the Pyramid. A minimum of ten consult visits will be scheduled throughout the year. Observations, modeling, and feedback will be provided onsite during each visit. Teams will meet to discuss recommendations that will be implemented prior to the next consult visit. Written recommendations are provided to both the classroom/program and administrative team.

### Leadership Training

The Pyramid Certification Program provides Leadership Training to support participants in sustaining their progress on meeting program goals. Leadership Team members are provided with an additional four days of intensive training regarding skills implementation, providing feedback to peers, and documenting recommendations, with one day of refresher training annually.

### Key Benefits

- **Decrease challenging behaviors**
- **Increase learners' communication skills**
- **Improve classroom organization**
- **Provide a common language for all staff**
- **Boost staff morale**
- **Identify leadership team to sustain skills**

For more information about setting up a Pyramid Certification Program, please contact David Battista at [david@pecs.com](mailto:david@pecs.com) or call 1-888-732-7462.