

Parents Of Autistic Children – Northern Virginia (POAC-NoVA)

What are the goals of Parents Of Autistic Children of Northern Virginia (POAC-NoVA)?

1. Serve as a clearinghouse for research-based methodologies for instructing students on the autism spectrum
2. Training public and private school educators and parents in ABA/VB and other research-based instructional methodologies
3. Advocate for and influence the successful implementation of ABA/VB and other research-based instructional methodologies for students on the autism spectrum.
4. Advocate for improvements in the services delivered to students on the autism spectrum

POAC-NoVA and its predecessor organization have worked since 1996 to improve the quality and quantity of education for students with autism within the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). These successful efforts culminated in the School Board's approval of the enhanced autism program for the students with autism in the pre-school and elementary school grades starting with the 2004-2005 school year. In the end, an unprecedented \$3M was allocated for hiring and training additional educators specifically for this new program. Since then, we have had a number of POAC-NoVA parent representatives at each of our quarterly working meetings with the FCPS staff to ensure that parental concerns for this program continue to be sufficiently addressed and understood.

POAC-NoVA holds a monthly parent support group and information meeting to provide to parents a forum to frankly talk to other parents who have been dealing with this condition for some time. We have found that one of the best sources of information have been other parents, who truly understand how autism affects not just one child, but the entire family. We also normally invite speakers to each meeting to cover some sort of topic on education or autism issues.

Our meetings are normally on the third Saturday of each month from 1 to 4:30pm. Please contact us or visit our website at <http://www.poac-nova.org> for the exact location of each meeting in Fairfax County.

We would be happy to meet you at one of these meetings!

For further information, please contact:

Much more information is available at the web site of <http://www.poac-nova.org>.

Or leave a phone message on POAC-NoVA's voicemail at (703) 391-2251.

POAC of Northern Virginia



<http://www.POAC-NoVA.org/>

Parents Of Autistic Children – Northern Virginia Membership Form

Member Status -- Please check one:

- Full, voting member. Full, voting members must be a parent; adult relative or guardian of an individual with a diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder; or an adult with a diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder.
- Associate member. Associate members can be anyone with an interest in autism spectrum disorders.

Membership name(s): _____

Mailing address: _____

Home phone number: _____

Work phone number (Optional): _____

Cell phone number (Optional): _____

All email addresses to be used for POAC-NoVA correspondence:

Please Note: All email addresses must be listed on this form for access to the moderated, internal email list service for POAC-NoVA at the web page at www.POAC-NoVA.org. The Secretary is responsible for maintenance of the master email address list for this organization and should be notified of any email address additions or deletions. Email addresses not on the master email address list will not be permitted access to the email list service for POAC-NoVA.

Child's name (Optional): _____

Child's age/ grade and school (Optional): _____

Child's present educational program (Optional): _____

Topics interested in: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail your completed form with the membership fee of \$5 (spouses are included at no extra charge) payable to POAC-NoVA to:

POAC-NoVA
c/o Secretary
P.O. Box 1839
Vienna, VA 22183