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# A Research Study Offering Free Speech Therapy for Children with Speech Sound Disorders

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This research study at Syracuse University is exploring the effects of different types of treatment that have shown to help children with speech sound disorders, including childhood apraxia of speech. Different teaching methods and different therapy schedules are being tested.

## Who is Eligible?

Children ages 9 - 17 years. We are recruiting children who have been diagnosed with having, or who are suspected to have childhood apraxia of speech (CAS). Children with hearing loss, cleft palate, autism, or other developmental disability are not eligible at this time. Not all children may qualify; eligibility will be determined based on a phone screening as well as an initial visit.

## What Will Happen?

Children will be screened during a 2-hour long visit at Syracuse University. During this session, several speech and language tests will be administered. If the child is eligible, he/she may be invited to participate in follow-up speech therapy sessions.

Children eligible for the speech therapy lessons will be *randomly* assigned to receive one of 4 different types of treatment. The treatments differ in the scheduling (two visits per week for 10 weeks vs. more intense treatment) and in the use of the teaching procedures (with or without visual feedback of the tongue during speech). All children who are eligible will receive 20 hours of free speech lessons, along with assessments tracking progress.



## What Does it Cost?

There is no cost to participants. Families will be compensated \$20/hour for testing plus \$5/session for travel costs. \$5/session for travel costs will be provided during speech therapy sessions.

## Where will the study take place?

Syracuse University's South Campus at 621 Skytop Rd, Syracuse NY 13244 OR for participants who live more than approximately 45 minutes from Syracuse (e.g., Binghamton, Rochester, Oswego, Utica regions), a neutral location may be sought for some sessions.

## How Do I Find Out More?

Email the Speech Production Laboratory (Dr. Jonathan Preston, Director) at [speechproductionlab@syr.edu](mailto:speechproductionlab@syr.edu) or call 315.443.1351