



Aphasia Resource Center



person.

online

in

in person

The **Aphasia Resource Center** is pleased to announce the Fall 2026 Program. This semester we offer **both in person and online sessions**.

Enrollment

You may request enrollment by completing the separate registration form.

If you are new to groups, please see the section *"New Referrals"* below.

- Forms can be completed and sent by email to aphasiacenter@bu.edu
- You may also register by phone at (617) 353 - 0197
 - Please leave a message with your name, contact information and group selection(s).

****Requirements for Participation****

For **online** participation, group members must zoom into group from **within the state of Massachusetts**. Recent changes in telehealth legislation now prevent us delivering **therapy** across state lines unless the SLP holds a current license in that state. All ARC clinicians hold MA state licenses; thus, all weekly group participants, must also participate from MA. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Adequate internet access is also necessary to ensure audio and video connection.

Deadline

Registration request forms **MUST** be received by **Monday, August 31st, 2026**, to receive full consideration.

Placement and Confirmation

Group enrollment numbers will be strictly limited to preserve the quality of the treatment, and to maintain safety regulations. Requests will be reviewed to determine appropriateness of everyone for the requested group(s). Registration requests received after the deadline will be assigned on a first come, first served basis while space is available.

If you wish to enroll in more than one group, please **RANK** the groups according to your preference. Please also indicate the **TOTAL** number of groups you would like to take. Places will be assigned based on your preference.

We encourage you to request as many groups as you wish; however, **registration requests are not a guarantee of enrollment**. You will receive confirmation of enrollment with your group placement no later than **September 9th, 2026**. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact the center.

New Referrals

To help us provide the best possible care, we ask that all new referrals send a recent evaluation report from another facility along with your application.

Faculty

Elizabeth Hoover, PhD., CCC-SLP, BC-ANCDs
Anne Carney, M.S., CCC-SLP
Jerome Kaplan, M.A., CCC-SLP

Sarah Vitale, M.S., CCC-SLP
Elisabeth Russell, M.S., CCC-SLP
Emily Senecal, M.S., CCC-SLP
Craig Slater, PhD, MPH, OT

Note about Online and In Person Groups

Information about joining online groups with Zoom will be shared after group confirmations have been sent out.

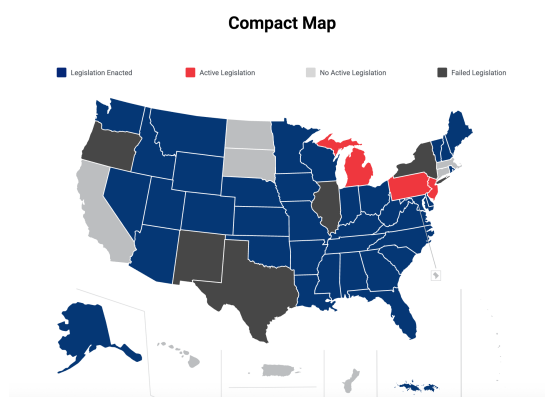
Please note that **in person** groups and **online** groups will be held separately. For example, you may not attend a specified in person group online.

Descriptions below will indicate if the group will be held **in person** or **online**.

Important Update:

For **online** participation in ARC programs, group members must zoom into group from **within the state of Massachusetts**. Saturday ACG sessions and Tuesday Family Support Group sessions do not require Massachusetts state residency.

Emergency laws instated during COVID have now expired. Current laws restrict telehealth across state lines. Therapy may only be delivered by SLPs licensed and practicing in Massachusetts to individuals who are within the state. We are prohibited from delivering therapy across state lines unless the SLP *also* holds a current license in that state. All ARC clinicians hold MA state licenses; thus, all weekly group participants, must also participate from MA.



Many states have joined the Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact

This compact facilitates the interstate practice of speech-language pathology while maintaining public protection. This compact allows for practice across state lines. Unfortunately, Massachusetts has not joined this compact. However, if you live in a state within the compact you may have telehealth options in other states. If your state is listed below in blue, you can join groups in other blue states. Please contact us if you need help finding other groups

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Parking

If you require parking close to the building, please indicate this on your registration form with the make and model of your car as well as your license plate number.

Limited space is available in our new parking area located behind the building. Instruction on how to access the lot will be sent via email prior to the start of the program. Otherwise, there is a drop off location at the front of our building at 635 Commonwealth Avenue as well as metered parking along Commonwealth Ave.

Monday Groups

Monday Morning Groups

Toastmasters

Online

This group will focus on communicating effectively when speaking in groups. It is modeled after Toastmasters International, whose philosophy is to learn by doing in a supportive environment. Group Members will share stories and experiences on a variety of topics and will provide feedback to each other. Specific strategies in areas such as organization, eye contact, use of notes, and visual materials will be provided. The goal is to enable the storyteller/speaker to more effectively communicate in group speaking situations.

Meeting time: Mondays, 10:30–11:45 am

Faculty: Jerry Kaplan

Conversation

In Person

This group will address functional communication through talking, gesturing, drawing, and writing. Drawing upon our experiences and interests, participants will practice using effective strategies to exchange ideas and develop connections through communication.

Meeting time: Mondays, 10:30–11:45 am in **Room 236**

Faculty: Emily Senecal

Monday Afternoon Groups

Storytelling

Online

We all have stories to share. Aphasia should not be a barrier to sharing them. The Storytelling Group is for people who want to share personal stories. You are welcome to have a "co-storyteller" assist you. Your motivation, enthusiasm, and commitment are the essentials to successful storytelling. Join us!

Meeting time: Mondays, 1:00–2:15 pm

Faculty: Jerry Kaplan

Language Games

In person

This group will focus on different aspects of language (naming, discourse, gestures, reading and writing) through involvement in different types of age-appropriate games. Games will be chosen on a weekly basis by group consensus to facilitate group members' communication goals. Group members will also be encouraged to suggest and teach favorite games.

Meeting time: Mondays, 1:00–2:15 pm in **Room 236**

Faculty: Emily Senecal

Wednesday Groups

Wednesday Morning Groups

Cooking Group

In person

Would you like to be more active in meal preparation, gain more independence in the kitchen or learn new healthy recipes? If yes, join us for an aphasia friendly "hands-on" cooking group. Group members will work with speech therapy, occupational therapy, and nutrition students to follow recipes, use adaptive cooking tools/strategies and discuss health promoting modifications. Group members will also participate in conversations about healthy eating at home and while dining out.

Meeting time: Wednesdays, 10:30–11:45 am in **Room 610**

Faculty: Anne Carney & Craig Slater

Aphasia Book Club (Fiction)

Online

This group meets to discuss the content and ideas generated through reading a text. The “book” is ~300 pages in length and is chosen by the group members from a choice of 4-5 offered texts. Group members may read the text or listen to an audio version.

Meeting time: Wednesdays, 10:30–11:45 am

Faculty: Elizabeth Hoover

Music Appreciation

Online

The Music Appreciation Group will gather via Zoom Video to listen to and discuss songs from a variety of genres and time periods. Participants will be encouraged to share favorite songs or music videos and reflect on how this piece evokes different emotions and memories. Each week we will select music related to a specific concept or prompt to allow a mix of genres each session.

Meeting time: Wednesdays, 10:30–11:45 am

Faculty: Emily Senecal

Wednesday Afternoon Groups

Canine Assisted Aphasia Group

In person

This group will feature BU’s comfort therapy dog, “Bean.” The format is an adaptation of the program “people with aphasia training dogs” (PATD). Group members will learn and practice the basic training techniques of Canine Good Citizenship with Bean within therapy room and then “walk” Bean in the BU/ Sargent community to engage with new communication partners. We hope working with Bean will provide comfort, increase confidence in working with dogs and facilitate introductions to speaking with new people!

Meeting time: Wednesdays, 1:00–2:00 pm in **Room 200**

Faculty: Elizabeth Hoover

Movie Group

Online

This group will feature both classic and contemporary movies and documentaries, including silent movies. Participants will receive links to movies and documentaries to watch at home. During each session, we will watch specific scenes and discuss the plot, characters, relationships, and other aspects of the movie. Movie suggestions from group members are encouraged.

Meeting time: Wednesdays, 1:00–2:15 pm

Faculty: Sarah Vitale

Thursday Morning Groups

Community Connection

In person

This group uses structured activities to focus conversation on central themes or ideas and will end with a community-focused activity. In each session, we will work hierarchically through the chosen theme allowing group members to build on vocabulary and increase their communicative effectiveness. In the last week, we will plan an event to celebrate the theme for the semester. Our aim is to keep each session meaningful and interesting, creating opportunities to share ideas, experiences and have fun.

Meeting time: Thursdays, 10:30–11:45 am in **Room 220**

Faculty: Sarah Vitale

Talk of the Town!

Online

Many of us enjoy reading or watching the news. In this group, we will practice sharing thoughts and ideas as we discuss current events taking place locally as well as around the world. Together, we will read and/or watch news articles and discuss these current events. Each meeting, we will also focus a portion of the discussion on at least one positive news story. Participants should understand spoken or written language at a paragraph level.

Meeting time: Thursdays, 10:30–11:45 am

Faculty: Anne Carney

Thursday Afternoon Groups

Wellness Group

In person

In this group, members will discuss and share ways to support wellbeing. Drawing inspiration from the field of positive psychology and the PERMA Theory of Wellbeing, group members will explore strategies such as deepening or expanding social connections, gratitude journaling, meditating, setting goals and volunteering, among others, to increase wellbeing.

Meeting time: Thursdays, 1:00–2:15 pm in **Room 236**

Faculty: Anne Carney

Non- Fiction Book Club

In Person

This version of book club will meet to discuss the content and themes from a non-fiction text. The book will be selected by the group members from several current best-seller choices. Group members may read the text or listen to an audio version.

Meeting time: Thursdays, 1:00–2:15 pm in **Room TBD**

Faculty: Elisabeth Russell

Monday Groups Meeting Dates

September 28 (<i>First day of Monday groups</i>)	November 9
October 5	November 16
No class October 12: Indigenous People's Day	November 23
October 19	November 30
October 26	December 7
November 2	

Wednesday Groups Meeting Dates

September 23 (<i>First day of Wednesday groups</i>)	November 4
September 30	November 11
October 7	November 18
October 14	No class November 25: Thanksgiving
October 21	December 2
October 28	

Thursday Groups Meeting Dates

September 24 (<i>First day of Thursday groups</i>)	November 5
October 1	November 12
October 8	November 19
October 15	No class November 26: Thanksgiving
October 22	December 3
October 29	

Now in its 37th year, the Aphasia Community Group provides education, support, socialization, and resources for those whose lives have been touched by aphasia and related disorders.

Presentations on treatment, recreation, community and family support are offered by group members and guests. In the last portion of each session, the group is divided into smaller "breakout" sessions to share ideas, feelings, and concerns.

Faculty: Jerry Kaplan

Saturday Meeting Dates

Sat, September 12	Zoom 11am-12:30pm EST
Sat, September 26	Zoom 11am-12:30pm EST
Sat, October 10	Zoom 11am-12:30pm EST
Sat, October 24	Zoom 11am-12:30pm EST
Sat, November 7	Zoom 11am-12:30pm EST
Sat, November 21	Zoom 11am-12:30pm EST
Sat, December 5	Zoom 11am-12:30pm EST
Sat, December 19	Zoom 11am-12:30pm EST

Tuesday Family Support Group

with Celina Mark

The Family Support Group with Celina Mark is an ongoing support group which meets online on Tuesdays at 11am. Family members of loved ones living with aphasia meet to discuss concerns & offer support to each other. Those who are interested should contact Celina directly at sheila.correemark@gmail.com.

Aphasia Resource Center

Fall 2026

Times	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
10:30am-11:45 am	 Toastmasters (Jerry Kaplan) Online	 Aphasia Book Club (Fiction) (Elizabeth Hoover) Online	 Talk of the Town! (Anne Carney) Online	Aphasia Community Group 
	 Conversation Group (Emily Senecal) In Person	 Music Appreciation (Emily Senecal) Online  Cooking Group (Anne Carney) In Person	 Community Connection (Sarah Vitale) In Person	
11:45am-1:00 pm	 Lunch Break			
1:00pm-2:15 pm	 Storytelling (Jerry Kaplan) Online	 Canine Assisted Group (Liz Hoover) In Person *1-2 pm	 Wellness Group (Anne Carney) In Person	
	 Language Games (Emily Senecal) In Person	 Movies (Sarah Vitale) Online	 Non-Fiction Book Club (Elizabeth Russell) In Person	

