

# What is a Center of Excellence (COE)?

An autism Center of Excellence (COE) is a primary care provider, psychologist or psychiatrist that has received the COE training authorized by the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) and has been judged by the HCA to be qualified to diagnose autism and write a prescription for Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) services if appropriate.

## Become a COE!

If you are a care provider in Grays Harbor or Pacific County and would like more information about how to become a Center of Excellence, visit  <https://medicalhome.org/state/initiatives/centers-of-excellence/> or send an email to Kate Orville at [orville@uw.edu](mailto:orville@uw.edu).

## CONTACT US

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Grays Harbor County Public Health  
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**In Pacific County**  
Pacific County Public Health  
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Find all of our forms and additional information at The Arc of Grays Harbor website by clicking on SMART Autism Screening under the Community Resources tab. [arcgh.org](http://arcgh.org)

Be sure to check out the Community Resources Guide while you are visiting the Arc website!



Pacific and  
Grays Harbor Counties  
**SMART  
Team**

School Medical  
Autism Review Team

Information for Providers

# What is the SMART Team?

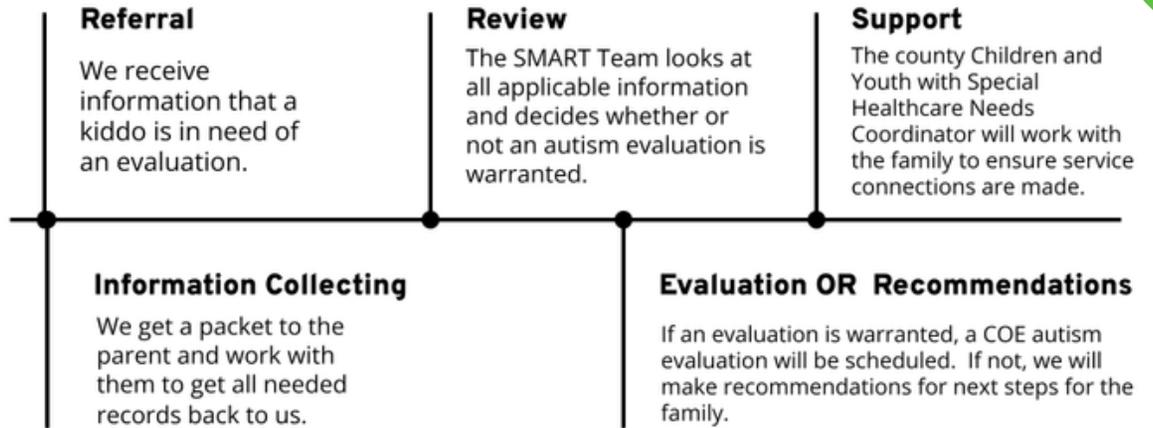
The Pacific and Grays Harbor Counties SMART (School Medical Autism Review) Team is a multi-disciplinary team of community service providers who have the experience and passion for supporting local families. We meet virtually once per month to make recommendations or referrals to a Certified Center of Excellence (COE) Provider who is able to evaluate and provide an autism diagnosis if one is warranted.



# What is our purpose?

It can take months or years to get into one of our area's regional autism centers. Our goal is to get kiddos **10 years old and younger** connected to the services they need more quickly and with improved accessibility.

# The SMART Team Process



# Get involved!

- Print out the SMART Team paperwork packet and send it home with families at the same time you fax their referral form to us. (Provider referral form and family paperwork are available online using the QR code on the back of this brochure.)
- Pre-screen referrals that might be a better fit for a regional autism center. (Referrals to these centers must be made by the kiddo's primary care provider.)
- **If you are interested in joining the Pacific and Grays Harbor Counties SMART Team, please contact Stefani Joesten at 360.660.5024 or sjoesten@graysharbor.us.**

**Due to their complexities, some kiddos are a better fit for our regional autism centers like Mary Bridge or Seattle Children's. This would include:**

- Kiddos with multiple diagnoses such as oppositional defiant disorder, conduct disorder, disruptive mood dysregulation disorder, etc. or kiddos with extensive trauma.
- Families requesting a "rule-out".
- Kiddos who have had previous evaluations for autism.

