



Aphasia
Community
Center

P.O. Box 693 Sarasota, FL 34230
(941) 500 – 4748
aphasiasarasota.org

**Member
Application** please print

Name: _____ Today's Date _____

Date of Birth: _____ Nickname or preferred name _____

Florida Address: Circle one PERMANENT SEASONAL (List dates in FL) _____

FL Address: _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Other Address: _____

E-Mail _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone _____

Emergency Contact E-Mail: _____

Do you live alone? YES If NO, who do you live with? List names and relationship:

Is English your native/first language? YES NO

What other languages do you speak? _____

Education: Highest grade/degree completed _____

Medical History

Aphasia Onset Date: ____/____/____

Is your aphasia related to a stroke? YES If no, what caused your aphasia?) _____

Do you have a history of ...

Diabetes? NO YES Dementia? NO YES Mental Illness? NO YES

Seizures: NO YES Other Medical Diagnoses? _____

Does the applicant have behavioral, emotional, attention/concentration, memory, impulsivity, sleepiness, or other conditions/concerns that might impact attendance and/or participation?
NO YES (please list and describe) _____

What hobbies and activities do you enjoy? _____

Handedness Prior to aphasia: RIGHT LEFT

After aphasia onset, can you use your dominant hand to write? YES NO

Mobility Do you use a **wheelchair**? YES NO **Cane**? YES NO **Walker**? YES NO

Can you walk everywhere without assistance? YES NO

Do you need assistance to **Stand**? YES NO

Do you need assistance with **Transfers**? (e.g., getting out of car, moving from sofa to chair) YES NO

Do you need assistance with **Toileting**? YES NO

Vision: Do limitations in vision affect your ability to be independent in all situations? YES NO

Communication Devices Do you use a device to assist with communication? NO YES

(describe) _____

What would you like to achieve during participation at the Aphasia Community Center?

What else should we know about you or your communication?

I have read the program eligibility information, and the information I provided is accurate.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date _____

Applicant's Name (Print) : _____

Do you have a legal guardian? NO

YES....Name of Guardian _____

Name of Person Completing This Form: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

Thank you for completing this form.

Please mail this form to: Aphasia Community Center, P.O. Box 693, Sarasota, FL 34230-0693

OR...scan this form & e-mail it as an attachment to: aphasiacommunitycenter@gmail.com

Once we receive the application, we'll contact you to schedule an in-person meeting at our Center. The meeting is required before attending any sessions. We look forward to meeting you!

*Persons with primary progressive aphasia or those with co-existing dementia are typically not eligible to attend member classes; however, we welcome you to participate in the Suncoast Aphasia Support Group and social activities/events offered in our aphasia community.



What is Aphasia?

Aphasia is a loss of language due to injury to the brain. Stroke is the most common cause of aphasia in adults; however, aphasia may result from a traumatic brain injury, tumor, disease, or neurological condition.

Aphasia affects the ability to communicate. One or more language modalities are affected: speaking, writing, reading, understanding spoken language, or gestural communication. Approximately 400,000 strokes occur every year in the U.S. and 90,000 of these result in aphasia. More than two million people in the U.S. have aphasia according to the National Aphasia Association. <https://www.aphasia.org/>

There is no cure for aphasia, but speech-language therapy and communicating with others can help improve communication and reduce feelings of isolation for persons with aphasia and co-survivors.

Good news....the prognosis for improvement in aphasia after stroke is typically good for persons who are medically stable and generally in good health to participate in speech/language therapy and stimulating communication activities at home and in the community.

Because aphasia limits successful communication, aphasia impacts daily living in many ways: relationships, work, recreation, and family life.

Eligibility for Members Attending Aphasia Community Center (ACC) sessions

1. Participants must be adults with aphasia after stroke; medically stable to participate in a community-based program; independent in eating and toileting or accompanied by a care provider who is responsible for toileting the member and providing assistance during eating or other activities.
2. Participants are cognitively and physically able to safely and actively participate in group sessions for a full hour or more.
3. Participants and their supporters must demonstrate appropriate behaviors without disruptions to others.
4. Participants may range in aphasia severity from very minimal to severe.
5. Participants typically have chronic aphasia. Chronic aphasia is aphasia that continues for more than 6 months.

Member and Caregiver Responsibilities

We understand that some members may require assistance due to physical, visual, cognitive or other limitations; the Aphasia Community Center and persons associated with the ACC cannot provide this assistance.

The member and caregiver responsibilities listed below also apply for all aphasia community social events.

1. Members are responsible for transportation to the Aphasia Community Center and other locations where aphasia community events are held. If you use transportation services (bus, Uber, taxi), please ensure that your ride is coming on time and aligns with the class/event schedule.
2. Members must independently and safely navigate to/from the parking lot, the ACC classroom, or event location.
3. Members are responsible for transporting, setting up and using any assistive devices. These may include but are not limited to mobility devices such as electric or manual wheelchairs, walkers, canes, splints, prostheses, etc. Care providers may also be needed to assist members in using communication devices.
4. Persons with visual impairments including left or right spatial neglect or blindness, may need to bring someone to assist them during ACC classes.
5. Persons may not use cell phones or other electronic devices during classes **EXCEPT** when needed for communication with others in the group or group activities.
6. Persons with aphasia are encouraged to attend the Suncoast Aphasia Support Group and social events first before applying for ACC membership to attend classes. Aphasia can be overwhelming for individuals and their communication partners. It may be a good idea to take time to adjust before applying for ACC membership.
7. If you have confusion, orientation problems or other cognitive deficits, you may not qualify for ACC classes; however, you are welcome to attend aphasia community social events.

Your safety and the safety of everyone associated with the Aphasia Community Center are of paramount importance.