



**Title:** The Impact of Handwriting on Written Language Expression

**Audience:** All educators, administrators, OTs, and parents

**Course Description:**

The act of handwriting engages and integrates the visual, motor, and oral language systems and handwriting is related to language and literacy development. Research supports an important role for handwriting in the development of reading and spelling skills.

**Key Benefits of Attending:**

Attend this webinar and you will:

1. *Understand the role of handwriting in functional brain development.* Become familiar with brain-imaging research which demonstrates the role of handwriting for recruitment and integration of brain regions that underlie successful reading and spelling.
2. *Acquire knowledge and skill in developing students' foundational skills for handwriting.* Gain insights into the importance of gross motor, fine motor, and oculomotor skills and acquire ideas for related instructional activities.
3. *Learn how to apply principles of handwriting development in word study instruction.* View demonstrations of activities that facilitate integration of motor, visual, and oral language systems and receive answers to commonly-asked questions including, "Should my student say the letter names or phonemes when writing letters? How do I help a student who reverses letters such as b/d? Should my student use manuscript or cursive?".



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**Learning Objectives:**

1. Describe brain-based models of written language development and the rationale for using a speech-to-print (vs. print-to-speech) approach to instruction and intervention.
2. Outline the cognitive processes of spelling and handwriting.
3. Describe the research-documented impact of handwriting on reading and on spelling.
4. Identify the gross motor, fine motor, and oculomotor skills that underlie handwriting and describe activities for the development of these foundational skills.
5. Demonstrate and explain rationale for activities that integrate principles of handwriting with word study instruction.



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