

Frequently Asked Questions FACE Center-Based Services

What is the schedule of comprehensive center-based program services?

Hours are determined by the local school. FACE operates a full day program four days a week, plus one day each week for staff planning and coordination. The schedule for center-based should include the following hours for the four-day program:

- 3 ½ hours of Preschool Education daily
- 2 ½ hours of Adult Education daily
- 2 hours of Parent Engagement which includes Parent Time and Parent and Child Together (PACT) Time® daily

Most programs operate during the school day, approximately 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

What are the essentials of the four components?

Adult Education includes standardized and ongoing informal assessment; goal setting, both long term and short term; curriculum development based on the adults' needs, goals, and interests; instruction for adult basic education, technology skill development, basic life skills, and/or job training.

Preschool implements *CIRCLES® A Culturally Appropriate Preschool Curriculum for American Indian Children* and utilizes the *BIE FACE Preschool Standards*; conducts assessment using the Work Sampling System, completed fall, winter, spring, including the checklist and parent narrative summary, the *Expressive One Word Picture Vocabulary Test* (EOWPVT) is administered three times yearly on the same schedule. *Children's Progress Academic Assessment* (CPAA) is required for four year old preschool children who will enter kindergarten the following school year at least twice a year, winter and spring. Children with special needs are referred for services.

Parent Time involves discussions and exploration of parenting topics and other topics or issues relevant to the adult learners. The content will be parent/primary caregiver driven and may, at times, include arts and crafts.

Parent and Child Together (PACT) Time® is defined as parent-child interactions, including bringing children and parents together to work, play, read, and learn. Such interactions can take place in the classroom, at home, or in the community and can lead to positive language, literacy, emotional and cognitive development of children (Jacobs, 2005).

Parent Engagement, which includes Parent Time and Pact Time as described above, occurs as parents/caregivers practice parenting skills and also provides guidance for parents in how to best support their children’s academic needs. This time can take place during the day or in the evening, depending on the program and how parents are served. Parent engagement can be counted for all group events for parents where they are learning and practicing how to support their children’s academic progress, including parent-teacher conferences, literacy nights, family fun nights and other approved events.

Can the children come to center-based without the parent/caregiver?

The FACE program was originally designed to provide educational services for children and their parents and/or primary caregivers on-site. This model provides the opportunity for parents and children to work together in the child’s educational setting. There has been a change that now allows parents to enroll their children in FACE Preschool, when the parent/caregiver cannot attend adult classes during the school day. However, no more than 25% of the preschool enrollment should be children whose parents cannot participate at least one full day a week. (See BIE Guidelines for FACE enrollment priorities.)

How can families participate in FACE Center-Based Programs?

- **Full-time** – adults attend class 4 days a week and participate in Parent Time and PACT Time daily
- **Part-time** – adults attend adult learning classes 1 – 3 times a week and participate in PACT time and Parent Time when present
- **Flex-time** – Parents participate in approved and documented weekly PACT Time and Parent Time activities at the school, home, or in the community. (Minimum requirement is 2 hours each week).

Can the parent/caregiver attend adult education classes without a child in that school?

No. A parent/primary caregiver who attends as an adult student must have a child enrolled (three years old to third grade) and participate in the required components of the program.

May children younger than three-years-old be enrolled in the center-based preschool?

No. The center-based preschool environment is developmentally designed and equipped for children ages three to five years old. Home-based services are available and designed for families with children prenatal to thirty-six months of age. During the transition weeks ahead of their 3rd birthday, they can visit with a parent on a modified schedule. There must be a written transition plan agreed to with the preschool teacher.

Do the center-based adults and children in the program receive transportation?

Yes. The school is expected to provide transportation for the family. The adults and children can ride the school bus to come to the program. Every FACE program recruits and serves families residing within the school boundaries established for student enrollment. This is considered to be within a reasonable bus ride from home to the school-based FACE program.

How do we charge for meals for the adults?

Families in the FACE program who are onsite are not charged for their meals. Breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided daily to adults and children participating in the FACE program. Schools may qualify for reimbursement of some of the costs through the federal child nutrition programs. Both children and adults in FACE can qualify as students of the school.

If the family is receiving home-based services, can they also receive adult learning services?

If the adults have a need for adult learning services, the adult learning teacher may provide those. Some FACE programs have arranged for home-based families to attend center-based one day a week. Others have arranged for home-based adults to come to school to use the computers and/or receive individual tutoring. Both of these arrangements are a way to transition home-based families into center-based once the child has turned three years old.

FACE staff members have weekly planning time. What goes on during that time?

Typically, FACE sites choose Friday as their planning day. This is the day other activities seem to be held at the school. The days' activities often include: lesson planning for integration of the components, teamwork building, problem solving, planning monthly group meetings, and other school/community activities or required FACE trainings, family recruitment activities, record keeping and reporting, building integration with the school, building tribal and community connections, and information sharing with the school and community.

Do the FACE staff members have to be certified teachers?

- The coordinator or teacher/coordinator must have a B.A. or B.S. in Education, teacher certification and experience working with children, adults, and families.
- The Early Childhood Teacher must have a B.A. or B.S. degree in early childhood education or elementary education with early childhood endorsement and teacher certification in the state where he/she is teaching.
- The Adult Education Teacher must have a B.A. or B.S. and experience in teaching adult learners is desirable.
- The Early Childhood Co-teacher must meet the requirements of the BIE.

Do home-based and center-based all use the same curriculum?

Home-based: Parents as Teachers National Center (PATNC) developed a curriculum for home-based services which is used by them for training and technical assistance.

Center-based: The National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) developed the comprehensive, four-component family literacy model used as the framework for center-based programs and provides the training and technical assistance for the center-based implementation of FACE.

Why is it necessary to have two teachers in the children's classroom?

FACE adult education teacher and preschool teachers are hired full-time for the FACE program. The ratio may not be lower than 2 adults for 15-20 center-based children and 1 teacher for 15-20 adult students. Children may not be left alone for any reason; that is the need for two adults to be with the children.

Why do the children's chairs need to fit adults also?

FACE is a family program, and parents are frequently in the children's classroom throughout the day and during PACT Time. They need to be able to sit with their children in the various learning centers. Many adults cannot fit in the chairs designed for preschoolers. Having larger chairs available in the early childhood classroom that are comfortable for adults is recommended.

What training is mandatory for FACE staff? If the coordinator is a principal, is she/he still required to attend?

All FACE staff, including the coordinator, must attend all required BIE trainings – both regional and online - provided by the FACE technical assistance service providers, in order to implement the model. The required trainings for a staff person working with the FACE program are Implementation Training (for new administrators and teachers), annual Regional Technical Assistance Training, with webinars and multi-media follow-up by NCFL and PAT consultants. All FACE staff members should attend the regional trainings. If the coordinator is also the school principal, he/she is required to attend FACE "regional" trainings, and participate in specific administrator/coordinator trainings that are delivered online.