



ACES Program Grades 1-6

Frequently Asked Questions

What is ACES?

The ACES program is an intervention and remediation service that supports the district's Response to Intervention (RtI) model. ACES instruction occurs outside of the general education classroom, in a small group instruction classroom. (Sixth grade ACES math instruction is held within the regular education classroom.)

What is RtI?

Response to Intervention (RtI) is a multi-tiered approach to the early identification and support of students with learning needs. The RtI process begins with high-quality instruction of all students in the general education classroom. Struggling learners are provided with differentiated learning by the classroom teacher to ensure viable instruction for each child is being afforded. If classroom intervention strategies have proven unsuccessful, ACES intervention and remediation services, at increasing levels of intensity, can be offered through the appropriate referral processes. These services may be provided by a variety of personnel, including general education teachers, ACES teachers, and specialists. Progress is closely monitored to assess both the learning rate and level of performance of individual students. Educational decisions about the intensity and duration of interventions are based on an individual student's response to instruction.

For example, if a classroom teacher believes a student is struggling with a particular skill, the teacher will begin intensive instruction on that skill for that student for 4-6 weeks. If the student does not respond, as expected, the teacher will refer the student for Tier II services, known as ACES.

Can I request that my child receive ACES?

No. RtI requires high-quality, scientifically-based classroom instruction to support and differentiate for all students prior to a more formalized intervention program being provided. The classroom teacher is responsible for collecting data for 4-6 weeks to show that a student would benefit from receiving ACES intervention and remediation. Therefore,

only a classroom teacher can request ACES intervention through the proper documentation and referral procedures.

Can I refuse ACES services for my child?

No. Once a student has been identified through the ACES referral process, the district is required to provide intervention through ACES.

Will my child receive ACES all year?

No. ACES intervention runs on 4-6 week cycles. Depending on a student's need(s), he/she can be in ACES for as little as 4 weeks. If the student needs additional intervention, he/she may be eligible to receive additional sessions of ACES instruction.

How much classroom time will my child miss due to ACES?

To minimize the loss of instructional time within the classroom, students are only taken out the classroom for 4-6 weeks, rather than an entire year. ACES intervention and remediation sessions can be held as little as one time per week, or up to five times per week, depending on the level of intervention and remediation required.

As a parent/guardian, will I receive notification that my child is being referred to ACES?

Yes. If a student is being referred to ACES, the classroom teacher will notify the parent/guardian. Additionally, once the I&RS Committee approves a student for ACES services, the ACES teacher will notify the parent/guardian, as well.