

# Santa Fe Public Schools

## Parent Academy

### *Educación Gratuita Para Adultos*



G.E.D. in Spanish	Computer Basics	Spanish for Beginners
<p><u>Overview of Services provided:</u></p> <p>GED academic tutoring hybrid support (in person with online option), and in Spanish for low-socioeconomic adults who struggle to navigate the online processes of registering, accessing materials, studying the content, and signing up for four G.E.D. assessments</p>	<p><u>Overview of Services provided:</u></p> <p>Computer classes for low-socioeconomic adults/parents so that they can have equal access to the workforce. Some skills the adults learned are the following: Google Suite, Word documents, and Spreadsheets, building their resumes and accessing websites to post them, using emails and attachments, etc.</p>	<p><u>Overview of Services provided:</u></p> <p>Spanish for Beginners help parents and adults connect with other Spanish-speaking parents and students in their children's schools, improve school climates, foster acceptance of diversity within the school district, and assist with jobs and employment opportunities where Spanish is needed, including at hospitals, grocery stores, courts, restaurants and many other organizations and companies.</p>
<p><u># adults (18+ living in Santa Fe)</u>            Fall registration: 28      Fall Attendance: 21            Spring Registration: 38      Spring Attendance: 20  <span style="float: right;">Total: <b>41</b></span></p>	<p><u># adults (18+ living in Santa Fe)</u>            Fall registration: 24      Fall Attendance: 13            Spring Registration: 13      Spring Attendance: 4  <span style="float: right;">Total: <b>17</b></span></p>	<p><u># adults (18+ living in Santa Fe)</u>            Fall registration: 27 (10 in waiting list)      Fall Attendance: 14            Spring Registration: 23      Spring Attendance: 12  <span style="float: right;">Total: <b>26</b></span></p>
<p><u>Impact of services provided:</u></p> <p>Six adults have completed their GED between January and May. This is the highest number in the last few years for the Spanish GED program in our White Tigers elementary (formerly known as Cesar Chavez) in collaboration with SFCC. The adults will be recognized at our SFPS Board of Education Meeting in June 11. GED offers better job opportunities, which impact the adults and their families.</p>	<p><u>Impact of services provided:</u></p> <p>Adults via surveys reported learning how to use a computer for the first time, which is a big accomplishment, the opportunity to apply new skills at their job (ex. insurance industry and hospitality), and skills to help their children.</p>	<p><u>Impact of services provided:</u></p> <p>Adults via surveys reported more confidence in their conversational Spanish, working with Spanish speakers, learning important phrases and vocabulary, being able to connect more with their students at the school by reading books and singing songs, ability to learn to read Spanish signs around town, ability to communicate with clients,</p>

# Successes



- **Positive Feedback for Instructors:** Adult learners shared that the instructors are incredibly knowledgeable and patient, which kept the classes both engaging and productive.
- **G.E.D. Completion:** A total of **10 adults** successfully completed their G.E.D. between October and May 2026. These graduates are being formally recognized and celebrated at the SFPS Board of Education Meeting on June 11.
- **Community Building:** The classes helped adults build meaningful relationships around town. Several learners exchanged phone numbers to stay in touch—either because they formed a personal connection or wanted to continue practicing together (especially for the Spanish class).
- **Family Impact:** All the free classes received by the adults offer significantly better employment opportunities, creating a direct, positive ripple effect for the adults and their entire families.

# Challenges



## 1. Fall Semester Scheduling Constraints

- **Delayed Timeline:** The Purchase Order (P.O.) from the HSC grant was received on September 9, 2025. However, the Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) fall orientation had already taken place during the week of August 10, with classes scheduled to begin on August 17, 2025.
- **Internal Approval Delays:** Because the internal SFPS Facilities Agreement must be finalized three weeks prior to the start of any classes, the district had to wait for the subsequent SFCC cycle. Consequently, the G.E.D. classes—which rely on instructors and materials provided by SFCC—could not begin until October 14, 2025.
- **Staggered Start Dates:** While the *Spanish for Beginners* class launched on September 23, the *Computer Basics* class was the only session to start on time (September 10). This punctual start was possible because the independent contractor has a long-standing partnership with the district, meaning all necessary prerequisites were already on file.
- **Future Recommendation:** Ideally, adult education classes should begin in mid-to-late August. This timeline allows programs to maximize the full semester and conclude before the Thanksgiving and winter breaks, which are traditionally hectic periods for families.

## 2. Registration and Attendance Consistency

- **Enrollment vs. Retention:** Initial registration numbers showed maximum capacity across classes. For instance, the *Computer Basics* class was fully capped at 22 students to match the number of available workstations. However, a noticeable trend emerged after January, where registered adults either dropped out or stopped attending regularly, despite multiple reminders sent via email and flyers.
- **Community Factors Affecting Attendance:** Feedback from adult learners who completed the spring *Computer Basics* course indicated that heightened anxieties regarding Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) significantly impacted attendance. Many community members actively avoided public spaces, opting to shop online and, in some cases, bypassing workplace attendance—particularly within the hospitality industry. This trend mirrors broader patterns observed across other local industries.
- **Impact of Delivery Formats:** G.E.D. course attendance remained consistently stable because it utilized a hybrid model (offering both in-person and online options). Conversely, this flexibility could not be extended to the *Computer Basics* course, as hands-on, in-person instruction is essential for mastering foundational skills like logging in and typing.
- **Future Recommendation:** Offer, when possible, hybrid options for adult learners who cannot attend for various reasons, and continue with the incentive to offer certificates for adults with 80% or plus attendance during the semester.



Computers  
Fall 2025

Spanish  
Spring 2026



Computers  
Spring 2026



Spanish  
Fall 2026

G.E.D.  
Fall 2025

