



ACES Learning Center

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****ACES Chinese School 2026-2027 Enrollment Announcement****

Dear Parents,

Our fall semester enrollment is about to begin. To ensure that all school operations are completed on time and to improve our service and teaching quality, we need to arrange teachers, books, facilities, transportation, and other matters in advance. We are now beginning enrollment for the **2026–2027 school year**. Please read the information below and register promptly. We also encourage you to forward this notice to friends who may need it. **Register early to receive a registration fee discount.**

ACES Chinese School After School Program Introduction

The ACES After School Program was founded in 2004. For over twenty years, we have dedicated ourselves to research and experience, creating a complete and unique teaching system that focuses primarily on Chinese language instruction while also covering mathematics, logical analysis, English reading, and various interests and skills to help children develop comprehensively. The results have been outstanding.

Every day, our children read aloud with beautiful rhythm and accurate pronunciation. Their faces shine with smiles. Their cheerful laughter, along with our annual Chinese recitation competition and an increasingly wonderful Chinese New Year Gala, have become beautiful hallmarks of our school and timeless classics in our hearts.

Learning Chinese from Elementary School – Brain Development & Practical Benefits

Learning a language is not easy, and learning Chinese is especially challenging for North American children. **Why must we encourage our children to learn Chinese?**

Developing children's intelligence starts with learning Chinese. The main driver of human 后天智力 development is language. Children raised by wolves have lower intelligence than gorillas. Child education research shows that a lack of active language environment directly lowers IQ by 10% or more. A multilingual environment raises IQ, and children who learn a challenging language like Chinese see a 5% IQ increase. As parents, you may pursue piano or chess for brain development, but learning Chinese is the best universal brain exercise. Learning Chinese is the best activity for children aged 5–15 to develop intelligence and fundamentally strengthen their brains. At the same time, Chinese may very well be a powerful tool for your child's future career and a booster for their professional life. Another important aspect is that Chinese allows the next generation to inherit your family culture and build ethnic confidence and pride.

Learn Chinese at ACES

There are thousands of Chinese schools in North America, but very few have been evaluated and certified by a national educational accreditation agency. ACES Chinese School has been operating for over twenty years with high standards. After several years of evaluation, **CEA, a certification agency authorized by the U.S. Department of Education, awarded ACES its Youth Chinese Language Education Certificate**, and we renew our qualifications each year through ongoing evaluation. CEA has established ten advanced accreditation standards, each with multiple sub-standards, to comprehensively evaluate whether a school meets certification requirements. These standards include educational mission, curriculum, faculty, facilities and equipment, management and finance, student services, enrollment, academic record management, student feedback management, and follow-up improvement plans. **ACES is a U.S. Department of Education accredited institution.** You can find our school on the U.S. Department of Education website.

Since our first day of operation over 22 years ago, ACES After School Program has consistently adhered to the following educational philosophy:

Chinese First, Balanced Curriculum, Cultural Heritage, Comprehensive Development

A common sentiment among ACES students and parents over the years: **Monday through Friday, two hours after school, seriously learn Chinese, solidly practice math, develop interests through enrichment classes, then go home to relax, exercise, play, enjoy happy parent-child time, and go to bed early.**

ACES promotes efficient learning, making full use of time to reduce the burden on students and parents. Over the past twenty years, we have developed our own unique teaching system: focusing on Chinese while also covering mathematics, logic, analysis, English reading and vocabulary, and various interests and skills. We emphasize that elementary school is a critical period for education – children must build a solid foundation and develop efficient study habits. Looking at our graduates over the past ten-plus cohorts, this educational philosophy has achieved remarkable results, earning us the reputation as a "gifted child cultivation base." Without exaggeration, ACES students show clear advantages in high school, are multi-talented, and our six-year elementary program helps them set sail for life.

ACES Educational Advantages

- **Significant Chinese Learning Results:** Children study in an all-Chinese environment for one hour daily, with focused attention and strong interest, reinforcing the day's content immediately. Learning outcomes are naturally solid and stable, fundamentally improving the "pick-and-drop" phenomenon of North American children learning Chinese.
- **Efficient Use of Time:** American elementary education has become increasingly relaxed, with much coursework pushed to middle and high school. Children have plenty of playtime at school. Your child can efficiently use two hours after school at ACES to build a solid foundation in Chinese, math, CogAT, and English – truly achieving more with less effort.
- **Reduced Parental Burden:** ACES manages Chinese learning and other supplementary exercises, making parents feel significantly more relaxed. They rarely need to worry about Chinese learning at home, and families regain precious weekend time for rest and enjoyment.
- **Increased Sense of Achievement in Using Chinese:** Research shows that children around ages 8–9 begin transitioning to adult-style comprehension and memory learning. By ages 11–12, their comprehension and logical thinking have advanced significantly. Written language becomes a tool for acquiring information and self-improvement. If they struggle with simple Chinese passages filled with unfamiliar characters, Chinese becomes a roadblock rather than a tool, leading to frustration and resistance. Fortunately, most of our after-school students (especially those who started learning Chinese in Kindergarten) do not experience this frustration – they read, listen, and speak Chinese with ease, developing natural pride and a sense of achievement.
- **Professional Team:** ACES relies on a very stable, excellent, and dedicated team of teachers. They are experienced, caring, meticulously prepare lessons, teach vividly, and design precise homework assignments, ensuring our high teaching quality.
- **Cultural Heritage:** The goal of learning Chinese is not simply to learn a language. Helping children understand traditional Chinese culture is a very important aspect. We hope they can inherit the essence of Chinese culture – respecting elders, loving the young, practicing courtesy and filial piety, being diligent and hardworking, and persevering through difficulties. This builds a solid Chinese language foundation for their future academic and professional lives and provides a powerful combination of Chinese and Western strengths for their spiritual world.
- **Community Core:** ACES students and parents are part of a large family. Our annual Chinese New Year Gala, Chinese recitation competition, and graduation ceremony are classic Austin events. When children join ACES, they integrate into the Asian community, supporting and encouraging each other throughout their lives.

After School Program Schedule

1. Curriculum Content

- **Chinese:** Teaching Chinese listening, speaking, reading, and writing. We use the Chinese textbook compiled by the Stanford Chinese School in California (Ma Liping Chinese Textbook) and incorporate extensive audio, video, and other supplementary materials to enhance children's comprehensive Chinese ability and learning enjoyment.
- **English Reading, Vocabulary & Writing:** The goal of our English Reading, Vocabulary & Writing class is to steadily improve students' English vocabulary, reading speed, comprehension, and writing ability. **Class dates: 8/25 – 12/10/2026 (Fall); 1/12 – 5/20/2027 (Spring)**
- **Mathematics:** Math class focuses on math problem practice, with teachers providing appropriate guidance and explanation. Math problem types include: basic concepts (Kumon type) to solidify concepts and improve calculation speed; logical analysis type, which is very helpful for children interested in joining TAG; and math competition type, which greatly helps students interested in participating in MathCounts, AMC, and other math competitions.
- **Cognitive Training (CogAT):** Mainly for elementary students interested in joining TAG. CogAT is an abstract thinking and cognitive ability test often used to evaluate elementary students' cognitive levels. We also include other cognitive test preparation training to help more children enter the TAG Program. RRISD holds TAG student nominations and recommendations in November each year, with TAG selection tests in January. Main content includes: Verbal Comprehension, Verbal Reasoning, Pictorial Reasoning, Figural Reasoning, and Quantitative Reasoning.
- **Enrichment Classes:** To provide more convenience for parents, we offer various enrichment classes, including Jazz Drums, Art, Robotics, and Mad Science. Enrichment classes meet once a week for one hour and require an additional fee (see enrollment form for rates).
- **Advanced Math Enrichment Class:** Math class meets twice a week for one hour, with an additional fee (see enrollment form for rates). Detailed introduction is provided in the appendix.
- **Other Activities:** Chess, crafts (Chinese knots, paper cutting, origami, etc.), and more.

2. Daily Schedule (2026–2027)

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Chinese Class	Chinese Class	Chinese Class	Chinese Class	Chinese Class
4:30 PM – 4:35 PM	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
4:35 PM – 5:30 PM	Math / CogAT / English Reading & Vocabulary Practice	Math / CogAT / English Reading & Vocabulary Practice	Math / CogAT / English Reading & Vocabulary Practice	Math / CogAT / English Reading & Vocabulary Practice	Chinese Movies / Free Activity
5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Pickup	Pickup	Pickup	Pickup	Pickup

- School provides snacks. Students should bring their own water bottles.
- If a student chooses an enrichment class on a particular day, teachers will adjust the schedule for math and CogAT accordingly.
- The above schedule is subject to minor adjustments.

- **Late pickup fees begin at 6:00 PM. Late pickup fee: \$5 per 15 minutes.**
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After School Program Enrollment Information (2026–2027)

1. Textbooks

We use the Chinese textbook compiled by the Stanford Chinese School in California, supplemented with extensive audio, video, and other materials.

2. Fees

See enrollment form.

3. Tuition and Payment Policies

- **Tuition is charged monthly, not daily or hourly. No prorated rates.**
 - **Semester Payment (Recommended):**
 - Fall semester \$1,630
 - Spring semester \$1,775
 - **Monthly Payment:** \$365 per month (10 months, August through May).

Late fees: a \$10 late fee applies, plus \$1 per day after three days. We encourage parents to pay online via Zelle – it's fast and convenient. You will receive an invoice before the beginning of each month. Please check your email promptly.

- **No refunds for mid-month withdrawal.**
- **Re-Entry Fee:** \$130 for students who withdraw mid-year and later return (see enrollment form). To maintain class teaching quality and teacher scheduling, students who withdraw for a cumulative period exceeding one month will be considered permanently withdrawn.

4. Withdrawal Policy:

We understand that schedules change. To withdraw your child from the ACES program:

- **Written notice required** – Email infoACES4Kids@gmail.com. Verbal requests will not be accepted.
- **Deadline** – Cancellation requests must be received by the **15th of the current month** to avoid billing for the following month.
Example: Cancel by October 15 to avoid November charges.
- **No mid-month prorating** – If notice is received after the 15th, tuition for the next full month will be charged.
- Students withdrawn for more than one month are not recommended to return during the same school year.

4. Transportation

ACES currently provides bus service for students from multiple schools, including: Laurel Mountain, Caraway, Spicewood, Canyon Creek, Patsy Sommer, England Elementary, Brushy Creek, Great Oaks, Rutledge, Cox, BASIS Cedar Park, Challenger Avery Ranch, Reagan, and Challenger Pond Springs. **Transportation fees are additional.** Parents from other schools are encouraged to carpool. If four or more students need bus service from your school, please contact us to request service.

5. Enrollment

Grades K–5 (**Pre-K: interview required**)

6. Class Placement

Chinese classes are placed according to students' Chinese proficiency levels. English, math, and other subjects are provided according to students' current school grade level.

7. Registration

- **Current ACES students** must still complete the after-school program enrollment form.
- **New students:** Please register online on the ACES school website first, then bring your child to the school so we can assess their Chinese level for proper class placement.

In summary, learning Chinese is a very challenging task for overseas Chinese children. ACES's successful track record over the past ten-plus years proves that our children can learn Chinese well and use it effectively. As long as we create a sufficient language environment and allow time for accumulation, we can ensure that children learn, master, and excel in Chinese.

We sincerely hope that you will seize this golden period of language learning during your children's elementary school years (especially by making full use of after-school care time to achieve two goals at once). Let your children learn Chinese, master Chinese, integrate into our community, and inherit our ethnic culture and ethics. Ten years, twenty years from now... we and our children will reap the benefits. We are certain of it!

Appendix: ACES Advanced Math Enrichment Class Introduction

To better help children improve their math skills, ACES continues to offer the Advanced Math Enrichment Class for the **2026–2027 school year**. Based on experience and parent feedback from our in-person and online after-school programs, we have made some improvements to the curriculum. We are pleased to share with parents our thinking and goals for the math class curriculum design.

Math Foundation Education – Self-Reliance

As those with experience, we deeply understand the importance of math foundation education, especially elementary math education. Today, American public elementary schools strive for equal outcomes, and math foundation education has become a primary casualty – lowering standards, reducing content, devaluing training, turning simple and necessary math reasoning problems into verbose, nonsensical paragraphs. At the same time, today's and tomorrow's job markets highly value mathematical ability. Data science and artificial intelligence are transforming every industry. In the future, every profession will rely on a math foundation. Math is a cornerstone of children's education. ACES is committed to exploring a method and path for math foundation education suitable for our children's community, strengthening training, and laying a good foundation for our children's future development.

The Role and Impact of Elementary Math Training

Misleading articles are everywhere these days: claiming traditional Chinese math education constrains children's creative thinking, or that a famous educator and mathematician once said basic math education is no longer important. But in real life and work, each of us has personal experience with the importance of basic math. When facing a glib car salesman, your numerical sensitivity will not allow you to be fooled by their installment payment schemes. In meetings, at negotiation tables, in conversations requiring quick reactions, you cannot pull out a calculator or open Excel. Most calculations in high school and college biology, chemistry, and economics are elementary math. On the SAT, GRE, and GMAT exams, calculation speed determines scores. Good elementary math training plays an important role in these tests. Parents of middle and high school students may be familiar with American math competitions, including MathCounts, AMC8, AMC10, AMC12, AIME, and USAMO. In reality, to achieve good results in these competitions, elementary math training must be solid and second nature.

Using Chinese to Master Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication & Division

People around the world wonder: Why are Chinese children's addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division skills far superior to everyone else? Any credible research shows that the single-syllable Chinese number system greatly improves children's basic math skills. Reciting the Chinese multiplication table takes only three days. In contrast, students from many other countries struggle with the multiplication table their entire lives. ACES insists on teaching addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division in Chinese – effective, efficient, children benefit greatly, and parents are relieved. After mastering the basics, ACES's advanced elementary math uses Singaporean word problem tutorials and Beast Academy, seamlessly connecting to subsequent middle school math curriculum.

Math Training vs. Piano Training

Many of our children undergo training in piano, violin, and other instruments from a young age. This training integrates their eyes, brain, body, and hands. Music flows through their fingers. Math is also a basic skill. It can also become second nature, flowing from your pen and rolling off your tongue. Daily training is the only path.

**ACES Math After-School Program Curriculum
Basic Operations Training & Math Competition Class**

ACES Basic Math Operations Training courses are modeled after piano training. We know that any ordinary school-age child, after several years of piano training, can master piano playing techniques and reach a certain level of performance without innate musical talent. Any ordinary school-age child, after systematic swimming training, can master correct swimming techniques, learn four swimming strokes, and reach a certain speed without being a natural athlete. Any ordinary school-age child, after several years of systematic chess training and active effort, can reach a near-expert level chess rating without extraordinary chess talent. The same is true for basic math operations ability. After a period of basic operations training, the mathematical neural networks in children's brains can connect, allowing them to calculate quickly and accurately without exceptional mathematical intelligence.

Our basic operations courses are divided into four levels based on students' ages and abilities. After completing Level IV and passing an exam, students can enter the Math Competition Class. Classes meet twice a week, Tuesday and Thursday, for one hour each session. This helps children master the skill of quick and accurate basic operations, benefiting them for life. Considering the content of each level and to achieve the desired training results, each level's course lasts a full school year – meaning spring courses are a continuation of fall courses. To ensure teaching quality, transfer students must pass a placement test to enter the appropriate level.

Class dates: 8/25 – 12/10/2026 (Fall; 30 classes); 1/12 – 5/20/2027 (Spring; 34 classes)

Course	Grade & Content	Class Time	Class Size	Tuition
Basic Operations I	K-1 grade. Addition/subtraction of single and multi-digit numbers, mental math, speed calculation (Chinese instruction, key terms in English)	Twice weekly: Tuesday 4:30-5:30 PM, Thursday 4:30-5:30 PM	15	Fall: \$495/semester Spring: \$510/semester
Basic Operations II	1-2 grade. Multiplication, division, four operations, mental math, speed calculation (Chinese instruction, key terms in English)	Same as above	15	

Course	Grade & Content	Class Time	Class Size	Tuition
Basic Operations III	3-4 grade. Fractions, decimals, percentages, mental math, speed calculation (Chinese instruction, key terms in English)	Same as above	15	Fall: \$495/semester Spring: \$510/semester
Basic Operations IV	4-5 grade. Efficient calculation with addition/subtraction/multiplication/division and fractions/decimals. Positive/negative numbers, ratios, squares, exponents, order of operations (Chinese instruction, key terms in English)	Same as above	15	
Math Competition Class	4-5 grade. AMC8, Challenging Word Problems (English instruction)	Same as above	15	