



## School Age Accreditation

### Introduction

Since 1999, APPLE Accreditation has been providing Early Learning Centers with the necessary tools to achieve a level of quality to assist them in improving outcomes for the children and families they serve. By meeting accreditation standards, Centers have the opportunity to improve the health and safety of the children, advance learning outcomes through teacher interactions and research-based curriculum, and strengthen communication with staff, parents, and the community. APPLE Accreditation has offered a School-Age component to Early Learning Centers, but for the **first-time** APPLE's School Age Accreditation is now authorized to issue accreditation for stand-alone afterschool care programs

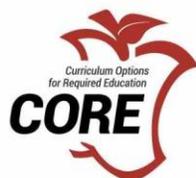
This is a voluntary accreditation process with the enticing benefits of receiving Florida's Gold Seal Quality Care Program designation. By becoming accredited with APPLE's School Age Accreditation, it entitles the program to an ad valorem waiver (no property tax), up to 20% increase if your program serves school readiness children, and if your organization provides health insurance, you do not pay sales tax. But, the greatest benefit is letting your parents and community know that your program is committed to quality.

We are elated to bring you this exciting new afterschool accrediting program and we will help you every step of the way. Here is how to get started:

### Getting Started

- 1) Call to schedule a phone consultation with APPLE School Age administrator.
- 2) Review manual, timelines, and fee schedule. Create a dedicated team of staff members to assist with the process. There is a standard process that is outlined in this document. There is an advanced program that is even faster!
- 3) Submit application and application fees. The program will receive a member ID number. Now you are ready to begin your accreditation journey.

Note: The APPLE Accreditation School Age office provides guidance and technical assistance every step of the way. On-site technical assistance is available for a fee. Our goal is to work with every program to achieve this high level of quality, safety, and security.



908 S. Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316  
FACCM: ☎ 800-322-2603 📠 954-767-4701  
APPLE: ☎ 877-634-9874 📠 239-561-7545  
[www.faccm.org](http://www.faccm.org)



## Accreditation Journey

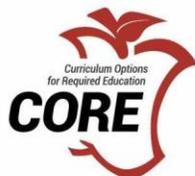
4) Begin the self-study process and work to bring the operations into alignment with the standards. There is a portfolio self-evaluation checklist that walks you through every accreditation standard.

5) Submit the portfolio electronically via FACCM website.

## Verification

6) Get ready for the final step in the process. A verifier will visit your location and tour your facility. The verifier will conduct an exit interview with your Director or program contact. The verifier submits the documentation to the APPLE Commission for final determination.

That's it! Process is complete. **Call us today to get started.**



908 S. Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316  
FACCM: ☎ 800-322-2603 📠 954-767-4701  
APPLE: ☎ 877-634-9874 📠 239-561-7545  
[www.faccm.org](http://www.faccm.org)