



HELPING ADOLESCENTS WITH AUTISM DEVELOP THEIR SOCIAL THINKING AND SOCIAL PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS THROUGH SERVICE LEARNING EXPERIENCES



The Experience Learning Project (ELP) seeks to help youth with HFA or Asperger’s Syndrome understand their place within the larger communities in which they live, as well as discover ways

in which they may fully participate in those communities, with special emphasis on how they can give back to others.

Because adolescents with HFA or Asperger’s Syndrome often experience significant difficulty understanding and navigating social interactions, the ELP uses the context of service learning to help its participants improve their social thinking and social problem-solving skills. Thus, the main clinical objective of the ELP involves helping its participants improve their social competence.

- reforestation projects
- removal of invasive plant species
- adopt a park
- forest stewardship project
- kayaking
- canoeing
- rock climbing



Families for Effective Autism Treatment
FEAT of Washington

For enrollment and application information, please see attached forms >>>

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FEAT of Washington

Experience Learning Project

Program Description:

The Experience Learning Project (ELP) is a summer program that builds on the success of FEAT's school year-round Transitions for Teens program. ELP is specifically created to provide adolescents with high functioning autism or Asperger's Syndrome and their typically developing peers with a coordinated and targeted set of summer experiences related to both service and experiential learning. In addition to allowing teens the opportunity to give back to their local communities through service learning experience, the ELP program also seeks to help adolescents develop their social thinking and social problem solving skills.

Enrollment Process

1. Fill out and submit the application form, together with **all** necessary documents and a **\$100 non-refundable application fee**. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed and will not be given priority. Please indicate N/A ("not applicable") if a required document does not apply to your student (e.g., student does not have a school IEP and/or diagnosis).
2. Application must be postmarked on or before **June 4, 2009**. **No applications will be accepted via e-mail or fax**. Please note that FEAT will not send any acknowledgment of receipt of applications – this should be arranged with your local post office, if so desired.
3. All applications received by the deadline will be considered. Priority will be given to the following: (a) FEAT members residing in Washington state, (b) students with participating typically developing siblings as peer mentors, (c) students currently enrolled in Transitions for Teens (if still age eligible). In the event that there are more qualified applicants than available admissions, a random selection process will be used.
4. A program orientation meeting will be held on June 11, 2009 for those interested in learning more about the program. If necessary, either the ELP Program Director or Assistant Director will conduct participant interviews after June 11th to further assess the student. Admissions will be announced June 15 **via e-mail**.
5. We may maintain a waitlist. Once a student is admitted, at least 50% of the program tuition is expected no later than June 19, 2009 to reserve the spot. If payment has not been received by FEAT by June 19, 2009, then FEAT reserves the right to release the student's spot and contact the next student on the waitlist. The balance for the full tuition is expected by June 30, 2009. A purchase order from the school district will suffice.

Dates & Times

June 29 – July 3, 2009 July 20 – July 24, 2009

	<p style="text-align: center;">July 6 – July 10, 2009 July 27 – July 31, 2009</p> <p>*Location are being determined based on best fit for program participants and community service needs. Locations are limited to Bellevue/Redmond and East Seattle sites.</p>	
Location	<p>You will be advised by the program director before the start of the program where each week's location will be.</p>	
Dates	<p>(Choose between two and four weeks...please note: participating teens <u>must</u> enroll for at least two weeks of the program)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> June 29 –July 3 (9 AM – 3 PM) Goal Setting & Communication <input type="checkbox"/> July 6- July 10 (9 AM – 3 PM) Empathy & Perspective Taking <input type="checkbox"/> July 20 – July 24 (9 AM – 3 PM) Emotion Management <input type="checkbox"/> July 27 – July 31 (9 AM – 3 PM) Problem Solving 	
Tuition—private pay	<p>For families who pay the costs of the ELP program out of their own pockets, FEAT of Washington will subsidize the cost of the ELP tuition and charge families the following fees:</p>	<p>2-week enrollment = \$100.00 application fee + \$1,100.00 tuition (\$550.00 per week)</p> <p>3-week enrollment = \$100.00 application fee + \$1,525.00 tuition (\$508.33 per week)</p> <p>4-week enrollment = \$100.00 application fee + \$1,875.00 tuition (\$468.75 per week)</p>
Tuition—3rd-party pay	<p>For families who receive funding through third-party payers such as school districts, private insurance companies, or the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), FEAT will not be able to subsidize the cost of ELP tuition, and will charge those third-party payers the following fees:</p>	<p>2-week enrollment = \$100.00 application fee + \$1,320.00 tuition (\$660.00 per week)</p> <p>3-week enrollment = \$100.00 application fee + \$1,980.00 tuition (\$660.00 per week)</p> <p>4-week enrollment = \$100.00 application fee + \$2,640.00 tuition</p>

		<p>(\$660.00 per week)</p> <p>FEAT will accept both respite care funding and/or behavior management funding through the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) for enrolling students who are pre-approved for these services.</p> <p>FEAT's ELP program is approved for reimbursement of up to 80% of the program's costs for Microsoft employees under their ABA/Autism benefit administered through Premera.</p>
Related Policies:		
Absences	Absence for any reason, does not affect tuition.	
Withdrawal	<p>In the event of the parents' decision to withdraw the child(ren) before June 20, 2009 then FEAT will refund their deposit.</p> <p>There will be no deposit refunds should a student withdraw after June 20, 2009.</p>	
Admission Criteria	<p>Up to 16 youth with either HFA or Asperger's Syndrome may enroll in the ELP. The youth must be between the ages of 13 and 19 as of July 1, 2008 and their families must be members of FEAT of Washington. Program participants may choose from either 2- week, 3-week or 4- week enrollment options. The program will offer preferential enrollment to youth who participate in 1 of FEAT's school-year programs.</p> <p>Youth on the autism spectrum must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have an IQ of at least 80 (or comparable performance on similar tests), • have receptive and expressive language scores at or above the 25th percentile when compared with typically developing peers, • receive majority of their academic instruction within a group setting with minimal to no support. <p>In addition to students with HFA or Asperger's Syndrome, up to 8 typically developing students (called peer mentors) may participate in the ELP per week. Peer mentors in the program may participate for between 1 and 4 weeks of the program, but must commit to attend the program in week-</p>	

	<p>long units of time. Thus, a peer mentor can participate for 1, 2, 3, or all 4 weeks of the program.</p> <p>The leadership team of the ELP (FEAT's Director of Transitions Services, Associate Director of Transitions Services, and Clinical Services Director) may, at their discretion, restrict enrollment according to participant needs and interests.</p>
Non-discrimination	<p>FEAT of Washington strongly values diversity and engages in equal enrollment practices in all of its clinical programs. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for admission without regard to their race, color, ancestry, gender, religion, national origin, and without regard to their family's marital status, citizenship status, or sexual orientation.</p>