



# Albuquerque Reads FAQs

**Q: What is Albuquerque Reads?**

**A:** Launched in 2003, Albuquerque Reads is a partnership between the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce and Albuquerque Public Schools (APS). The program is dedicated to supporting the development of literacy in underprivileged kindergarten children in three Title 1 Albuquerque public schools.

**Q: How does the program work?**

**A:** Individuals from area businesses and the local community, including retirees and college students, are invited to commit an hour and a half each week to tutor kindergarteners. Volunteers will meet with two different kindergarteners for two 30 minute sessions.

**Q: What is required to get started?**

**A:** Register at [www.abqreads.com](http://www.abqreads.com), successfully pass a background check through APS, attend a three-hour training session, and a willingness to commit 90 minutes each week for the school year (September-April).

**Q: What if I can't commit to an hour each week?**

**A:** You can still make a difference! An option popular with busy professionals, is to form teams of up to four tutors, lessening the time commitment to one and half hours per month.

**Q: Does the program make a difference?**

**A:** In 2015-2016 the three ABQ Reads schools improved their reading proficiency stats for students "at or above benchmark" by 24%. Their average for students at "well below benchmark" decreased by 29%. Both of these numbers are better compared to district-wide statistics!\*

\*Drummond, M. (2016, June 02) (unpublished). DIBELS Analysis Notes for ABQ Reads. APS Office of Accountability and Reporting: Research & Evaluation, 1-4.

**Q: Is a background check required to volunteer with ABQ Reads? Is there a fee associated with that?**

**A:** Yes, a background check is required through Albuquerque Public Schools for \$12.

**Q: Do I have to commit to an entire school year? What if I have a vacation planned?**

**A:** In your absence, fellow tutors and substitute tutors may fill in for you. However, we do ask that you commit for September through April at your time slot. You have the opportunity to substitute for other tutors as well!

**Q: Which schools have the ABQ Reads program?**

**A:** Right now, the ABQ Reads program is at Atrisco Elementary, Bel-Air Elementary, and Wherry Elementary.

**Tutoring Days:**  
**Atrisco Elementary: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Mornings, 8:45-10:15am**  
**Bel-Air Elementary: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Mornings, 9:15-10:45am**  
**Wherry Elementary: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Mornings, 9:30-11:00am**

## Come Make a Difference with Us!

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