## Family Engagement Requirements

**Preschool program staff are required to document 90 hours of Family Engagement.**  
(Information found in FOCUS criteria)

### Allowable Activities

- All time allotted for home visits and family-teacher conferences (e.g., Two 6-hour days, not including lunch, are set aside for home visits, so count as 12 hours.)
- Contact time for family activities (e.g., A family literacy night is from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, so count as two hours.)
- Family engagement activities that occur during the day, either during classroom time or at another time, when children are not usually present (e.g., during a fifth day for a four-day week program or during early dismissal days), provided all parents are invited and there are specific activities related to one or more NM Early Learning Guidelines essential indicators
- Field trips that all parents are asked to attend and that have at least one academically focused activity for families to complete together while on the trip
- Kindergarten visits that all parents are asked to attend
- Potlucks and holiday meals with a specific instructional focus linked to an essential indicator
- School-wide activities, like science fairs or school plays, that incorporate a specific time just prior to the event to which the preschool teacher invites the families to the classroom for an activity related to the school-wide event. For example, the 5th grade is putting on a play based on a children’s book. The preschool teacher invites the families to the classroom 30 minutes prior and reads the story aloud, modeling questions that build comprehension. He then provides a handout of suggestions for families to discuss with their child after the event. The additional preschool activities allow the school to count the entire evening as part of the required family engagement hours.

### Unallowable Activities

- Take-home activities, reading logs, newsletters, etc.
- Individual family volunteer time in the classroom
- Field trips with only a limited number of parents invited
- School events without a Pre-K connection activity
- Holiday meals or potlucks

References: