TARGET AUDIENCE
This program is delivered to parents with children who are 0 to 5 years old and is intended to impact the parents and their children.

SUMMARY
Parents as Teachers (PAT), a community-based home visitation program to be used by individuals who work with families of young children, is designed to increase healthy pregnancies for participants; improve parenting knowledge, parenting practices, family functioning, school readiness, and parent involvement in children's education; and reduce child abuse and neglect.

EVIDENCE
One peer reviewed evaluation was identified that has examined the PAT program since the curriculum underwent a major revision in 1999. A quasi-experimental, post-test-only evaluation found that individuals who participated in the PAT program were more involved in their child's kindergarten or pre-kindergarten school activities, which included requesting conferences, communicating with the teacher, volunteering at the school, attending parent meetings, and providing supplies or help to the teacher. In addition, PAT participants engaged in more home-learning activities, which included reading to their child, telling stories, going on outings, discussing daily events, displaying art or school work, and providing structure. However, due to the design of the study, firm conclusions cannot be drawn regarding the effectiveness of this program.

COMPONENTS
PAT operates within the context of four services that focus on parent knowledge, detection of developmental delays and health concerns, child abuse and neglect, and child development and school readiness.

- Personal Visits: Involves monthly home visits with PAT-certified parent educators that focus on parent-child relationships, family functioning, and developmentally suitable parenting.
- Group Connections: Involves meetings in which program parents hear from PAT parent educators, outside professionals, and peers on topics related to the development of their child/children.
- Child Screenings: Monitors child development in areas, such as language, hearing, and vision, and, in the case of developmental delays, actively assists parents with identifying available and suitable interventions.
- Resource Network: Assists parents with finding resources and overcoming barriers to access specific resources, such as speech and hearing clinics or programs for children with special needs.

PREVIOUS USE
PAT was first implemented in 1981, and has been used at program sites in the United States, Australia, Canada, Germany, Singapore, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. In 2009, the U.S. Army Child, Youth and Services partnered with PAT and offered Parents as Teachers Heroes at Home at 36 garrisons. Heroes at Home customizes PAT to meet the needs of military families.
Parents of Children  
Community-Based  
Parenting  
School Readiness  
Parents as Teachers (PAT)

Parents as Teachers (PAT)

TRAINING

Parent Educators facilitate this program. It is recommended that Parent Educators have a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education or related field, or they must have at least a high school diploma or GED plus 2 years of supervised work experience with young children and/or parents. Parent Educators and supervisors are required to attend a 3-day Foundational Training, followed by a 2-day Model Implementation Training that costs $960 per person. An Affiliate Plan, located at http://parentsasteachers.org/getting-started-1/, must be completed and approved by the national PAT office before registering for training. Please contact the developers using details in the Contact section for additional information on training and costs.

CONSIDERATIONS

Considerations for implementing this program include recruiting and training Parent Educators and supervisors; acquiring funding for program implementation, fees, and renewal fees (i.e., please visit the website listed in the Training section to download a Funding Guide); understanding program coordination, which includes personal visits and screenings, could be extensive; and meeting program requirements.

The Clearinghouse can help address these considerations. Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

IMPLEMENTATION

If you are interested in implementing PAT, the Clearinghouse is interested in helping you! Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

The program is intended to be implemented for at least 2 years but, ideally, for 3 years or more. Personal visits last 1 hour per family each month. Families with greater needs may require a second monthly visit. Other time commitments, which can include attending group meetings and developmental screenings, will vary.

The affiliation fee is $3,850 for the first year and $1,650 for every year thereafter. Parent Educator renewal fee is $150 per person. Please visit http://parentsasteachers.org/pricing-structure for more information on costs.

EVALUATION PLAN

To move the PAT program to the Promising category on the Clearinghouse Continuum of Evidence at least one well-designed evaluation should be performed demonstrating positive effects lasting at least six months from program completion.

The Clearinghouse can help you develop an evaluation plan to ensure the program components are meeting your goals. Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

CONTACT

Contact the Clearinghouse with any questions regarding this program.
Phone: 1-877-382-9185 Email: Clearinghouse@psu.edu

You may also contact Parents as Teachers National Center by mail 2228 Ball Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146, phone 1-314-432-4003 or 1-866-728-4968, email info@parentsasteachers.org, or visit http://parentsasteachers.org/contact/

SOURCE

www.parentsasteachers.org and legacy.nreppadmin.net/ViewIntervention.aspx?id=221

www.militaryfamilies.psu.edu