

Specialized Education Services, Inc. ♦ 45-Day IAEP Program

AN ALTERNATE SOLUTION

As one of the leading and most innovative providers of alternative education in the country, SESI is committed to supporting our nation's public schools by positively impacting the most challenging student populations, particularly those who have had little or no success in the traditional school setting. Accordingly, the company's 30+ High Road Schools/Academies and Sierra Schools/Academies strive every day to build student competence and confidence through highly personalized academic and behavioral interventions. Our shorter-term Interim Alternative Education Placement (IAEP) and Alternative Learning Center (ALC) programs are a natural outgrowth of our permanent programs, offering school districts an immediate, targeted solution to appropriately educating and treating behaviorally challenged students in an alternative setting that ultimately works to return them to their local public schools with the tools necessary to achieve academic gains and healthy social integration.

Nationwide, the number of students requiring alternative placements is increasing — students with weapons violations or drug problems, chronic truancy or juvenile delinquency records, undiagnosed or undertreated learning and emotional disabilities ... in other words, "difficult to educate" youth. Just one of these students acting out can completely disrupt a classroom, which is why the zero-tolerance policy in effect requires that school districts provide IAEPs for challenging students.

Segregating these students is easy. Remediating their behaviors, reversing their academic failures, and preparing them for successful return to their home schools is hard. But that's precisely what SESI specializes in, and it's precisely what we offer districts seeking either "step-up" or "step-down" transitional programs for students who neither function adequately in the traditional classroom nor require a more restrictive day school or residential placement.

PROGRAM ADVANTAGES

SESI's 45-day transitional IAEP program is a fully developed behavioral and academic intervention plan that expertly meets all district needs for interim placements. With the end goal of reintegrating participating students into their public school special education classrooms, our program provides:

- ♦ 20-year track record in successfully reaching and improving the prospects for special education students
- ♦ Consistent application of an individualized instruction model
- ♦ Functional behavioral assessments
- ♦ Advanced behavior improvement plan
- ♦ Cost-effective, turnkey solutions to educational dilemmas, with program start-up available in as little as 30 days, including site location and lease, outlay of up-front costs/capital, and integration of district's existing curriculum into IAEP model and student IEPs
- ♦ Hiring and training of all staff, including qualified full-time certified teachers specially trained to educate and nurture troubled youth
- ♦ Flexible programming for elementary, middle school, and high school students in pre-purchased slots of full-day or half-day programming during regular school hours
- ♦ Warm, positive, proactive learning environment
- ♦ Formation of strong bonds between teacher and student
- ♦ Maintenance of constant communication among district administration, school principals and school staff, parents, guidance counselors, and work transition coordinators
- ♦ Attendance monitoring and truancy follow-up
- ♦ Monthly reports and presentations to district
- ♦ Discharge protocols
- ♦ Firm adherence to established set of reintegration criteria
- ♦ Integration support services for district
- ♦ 45-day placement evaluation, review, and recommendations

PRIMARY COMPONENTS

With over two decades of applied experience in serving vulnerable, challenging K-12 students with significant emotional, behavioral, and social deficits, SESI specializes in determining what is and is not effective in dealing with each individual student. Over the years, we've tailored our program to optimally deliver the most productive services and we've streamlined our approach to best attain specific student objectives in three primary areas.

- 1. Intensive Academic Intervention:** a time-proven academic program based on a unique educational model that uses a rotational system of personalized, interactive instruction, featuring:
 - ♦ Maximum 8:1 student-to-staff ratio
 - ♦ One-on-one math and language arts tutorials in the morning ; experiential group instruction in history, science, health, and other core areas in the afternoon
 - ♦ Computer-enhanced instruction – state-of-the-art technology and tracking software programs, with a minimum of 1 computer for every 3 to 4 students
 - ♦ Heavy emphasis on community involvement and guest lectures to supplement classroom learning
- 2. Comprehensive Behavior Management:** a highly motivational, rewards-based system implemented in a structured, stable setting, featuring:
 - ♦ A positive reinforcement driven behavioral model
 - ♦ Schoolwide token economy system, with accompanying levels of student privileges corresponding to displayed behaviors
 - ♦ Level system of points and rewards, including fulfillment of discharge criteria
- 3. Treatment & Counseling:** an essential complementary support service, designed to provide discharge options, featuring:
 - ♦ Daily small group counseling sessions
 - ♦ Biweekly individual counseling sessions
 - ♦ Emergency intervention services
 - ♦ Family and parental support counseling
 - ♦ Post-program discharge support services

FOCUS ON RESULTS

Because SESI is fully aware of what school districts need and expect when identifying the most suitable placement for any given “in-between student” — that is, a student who must temporarily be removed from the public school but who does not and hopefully will not need a more restrictive, more expensive, and longer-term assignment — our IAEPs and ALCs have been customized to offer a real, viable solution for transitional alternative education placement. Basically, we serve as a bridge between the district’s special ed classrooms and higher-intensity non-public school settings.

Districts are looking for effective and expeditious options for expelled, suspended, or simply misplaced students — in a word, they are looking for results. That’s why we concentrate all our efforts on yielding the best possible outcomes for all concerned parties.



Students experience success like never before. Parents are comforted in knowing that their children are receiving personalized attention. Public classrooms can return to a state of non-disruptive productivity. And districts benefit especially, by expanding their continuum of services, by reducing the referral rate to costly out-of-district programs, by fulfilling zero-tolerance policy requirements, and by receiving all of the support necessary to collaborate with IAEP personnel in giving challenging students a fresh start, a fitting home, and a real chance to stay in school and stay on course for a better, healthier, more fulfilling life.

SAMPLE OUTCOMES

One of SESI’s hallmarks is taking accountability for outcomes. Here are some sample statistics produced from a previous 5-year IAEP contract in Atlantic City, NJ:

- ◆ Over whole 5-year span, 85% of students remained at “average” or “above average” behavior levels
- ◆ Academic gains: 78% of students earned a C or higher in the four main subject areas
- ◆ 57% of 4th–8th graders returned to district regular education; 65% of high schoolers returned
- ◆ By last year of contract, only 3 of the 97 enrolled students were recommended for a more restrictive placement
- ◆ Average attendance rate for length of contract: 90%
- ◆ Special ed referral rate for this student population decreased from 50% to under 3%, saving the district approximately \$800,000 annually

For Further Information

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Building Confidence & Competence through Personalized Academic Interventions

