

Title 1 Guidance & Classroom Academic Intervention Program

Students grades K-8 at or below the 40th NCE in reading or math



A three-phase K-8 academic counseling program intervention.

- *Successful classroom implementation*
- *Prepares students to focus academically*
- *Integrates violence prevention and reduces behavior problems*
- *Long-term counseling linked to learning*

Results



- *Program participation improves students' basic skills (reading and math) achievement.*
- *Nearly 2/3 of students do not need to be referred for a second year of counseling or concentrated services.*

The Program

This academic intervention program successfully meets the needs of at-risk students with social, emotional, and academic difficulties. Emphasis is placed on school adjustment and student emotional and learning strategies. Through participation, students achieve significantly higher achievement scores and low re-referral rates after addressing at-risk factors in their lives. The program has received recognition as a United States Department of Education National Program of Excellence.

Key program features include:

1. Significant achievement gains and improved school adjustments
2. Highly successful best practices and metacognitive strategies
3. Eight strands for classroom and guidance use
4. At-risk assessment and action plan that develop student competencies
5. Coordination with school staff, parents, and community services
6. Easy to replicate program systems and modules
7. Long-term classroom, small group, and individual counseling

The three-phase guidance and classroom plan is as follows: **Phase One:** A holistic student needs assessment is completed, involving consultation with numerous adults active in the student's life. The assessment includes records of student achievement; deportment; health and social history; grades failed; the number of schools attended; social, emotional, and academic adjustment; student strengths and talents; multiple intelligences; and home factors. Initial counseling with the student begins during this phase. **Phase Two:** A Personalized Student Guidance Plan is collaboratively developed with school staff and parents. It sets individual student objectives; builds on student talents; links the guidance program to student classroom needs; and records actions taken by the counselor, school staff, parents, and agencies. Eight program strands for classroom and counseling include crisis intervention, study and academic and emotional metacognitive skills, career awareness, communication and interpersonal skills, personal goals and safety, and conflict resolution. **Phase Three:** Individual guidance sessions are used to have closure with the student, review student progress, conduct parent conferences, and complete end-of-the-year documentation.

Professional Development

The program system and eight guidance/instructional strains are easy to implement in part or as a whole. Training builds on the skills and talents of school counselors and teachers and includes the inclusion of best educational practice research: emotional intelligence strategies and new brain-based learning strategies findings. There is a 3-day training fee. A 1-day follow-up session is recommended at the end of the implementation year, and consultation services are available.

Costs & Funding Options

A program handbook operationally defines the program. Start-up materials cost \$100 per site. A curriculum budget of \$1,000 to \$3,000 per site is recommended for purchases of puppets, kits, manuals, and videotapes.

Learning Standards

The program provides a plan to enable students to develop skills to meet the learning standards.

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