

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THE CLASSROOM AND
THERAPEUTIC SERVICES OFFERED
IN ATLAS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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School Social Worker, Team Leader
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TO MAKE A REFERRAL TO
ATLAS

PLEASE CONTACT:

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CREC John J. Allison, Jr.
Polaris Center

ATLAS
ACADEMY FOR
THERAPEUTIC LEARNING
AND SUCCESS

474 School Street
East Hartford, CT
06108

Helping adolescents learn the
skills necessary to be an
integral part of the world.

ACADEMY FOR THERAPEUTIC LEARNING AND SUCCESS

ABOUT ATLAS

The CREC John J. Allison, Jr. Polaris Center's Academy for Therapeutic Learning and Success, ATLAS, is designed to address not only the educational needs of a more fragile student, but also the social and emotional issues that may further hinder a student from reaching their full potential.

PROGRAM DESIGN

- A small, nurturing, and safe environment, located in a separate and independent area of the Polaris Clinical Day School building
- Staffed by an experienced certified special education teacher, an in-classroom certified school social worker and instructional support staff who work together as a team to address the whole child, educationally and emotionally
- Minimal transitions - all students are accompanied to classes by the ATLAS staff
- Highly infused with a strong therapeutic component
- Serving students in grades 9-12

THERAPEUTIC LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Students have the opportunity to:

- Earn credits toward their high school diploma, lessons that are both instructional and experiential
- Learn through structured classroom lessons, hands-on activities both in school and in the community, and involvement in service learning projects
- Attend vocational classes, such as Culinary Arts, Computer Education, Physical Education, and Technology Education.
- Practice adaptive functioning life skills

SPECIALIZED THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

- Intensive individual and group counseling
- 7-12 clinical contact hours per week
- Integrated family component including in home visits, as appropriate
- Comprehensive Treatment Plan that includes weekly goal setting and review
- In-program psychiatric consultations available
- Case management that includes collaboration with outside agencies and other team members (DCF, probation, mental health providers, BRS, DDS and DHMAS)
- Collaboration with the Polaris Center's Outpatient Mental Health Clinic for Children and Families, as appropriate

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Students accepted into ATLAS may:

- Have a significant Axis I mental health diagnosis
- Struggle with self-esteem or identity issues
- Present with social skills deficits
- Present with Average or Below Average Intelligence
- Have major school avoidance issues
- Need extra nurturance and support in the school setting

ATLAS is not designed for students with serious aggressive behaviors related to a diagnosis of Conduct Disorder and/or Antisocial Personality Traits.

