



# ATTEND Program

A School Refusal  
Intervention Service

## What is ATTEND Program?

The IU13 ATTEND program is a comprehensive, evidence-based program that assesses, diagnoses, and provides cognitive behavior therapy (CBT) supports for school-aged students (age 5-21) with school refusal behaviors and related anxiety problems. The ATTEND Program is designed to address attendance concerns and their related behaviors in school-aged students. The goal of the program is to work with students in combination with their family in order to address barriers to school attendance and increase the amount of time a student attends school.

## What is School Refusal Behavior (SRB)?

A student who demonstrates:

- Refusal to attend school
- Chronic tardiness
- Difficulty remaining in class the entire day
- Great distress when attending school

## Program Features:

- Psychological evaluation by a certified school psychologist to address underlying mental health condition(s)
- Functional behavioral assessment in the home and school settings to evaluate the environmental variable(s)
- Positive behavior support plan (PBSP) designed to address identified needs
- Support by a social worker and mental health specialist (MHS) to assist with implementation of the PBSP in the home and school
- Intensive collaboration between the ATTEND team, the student's home district, and the family in order to identify and address student needs and cohesively implement the interventions

The reason(s) behind excessive absences vary greatly among children. Identifying and addressing the function for school refusal behaviors guides interventions. The ATTEND program:

- Identifies reasons for missing school
- Accesses resources to help students attend school regularly
- Helps to maintain regular school attendance
- Collaborates with students, families, and service provider personnel
- Aids in the efficient communication of information

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