



What is ATTEND Program?

The IU13 ATTEND Program is a comprehensive, evidence-based program that includes assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of school-aged students (age 5-21) with school refusal behaviors and related anxiety problems. The ATTEND Program is designed to address habitually truant behavior 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
- Intensive collaboration between the ATTEND school team 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. Early identification of excessive absences in a student provides us with an opportunity to address whatever issues may be causing a child to miss school. The ATTEND program will:

- Identify why students are missing school
- Access resources to help students make it to school
- Maintain regular school attendance
- Collaborate with students and families involved in formal child welfare services and aid in the efficient communication of information

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