

Severe Behavior Day Treatment Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the Severe Behavior Day Treatment Program?

The program focuses on finding treatment to reduce dangerous or disruptive behaviors and increase appropriate behaviors.

When are the services provided?

An admission to the program lasts an average of 12 weeks, but is dependent on your child's problem behavior and progress during the program. Your child will come to the center from 9:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Where are services provided?

Services take place at Marcus Autism Center. Once we identify an effective treatment, we will train parents, teachers and other care providers to use the treatment. You will be able to use the treatment in many places including:

- Marcus Autism Center
- Your Home
- Your child's classroom
- Other public settings such as grocery stores and restaurants.

What must be completed prior to services?

Pre-Admission Orientation:

It is mandatory that at least one caregiver attend a pre-admission orientation once your child is on the Day Treatment Program wait list. Pre-admission orientation must be completed for your child to be eligible for an admission to the program.

Parent Workshop:

Parent workshops are offered every other month. It is mandatory that at least one caregiver completes the workshop before OR during your child's admission to the program. If you plan to attend a workshop during the time in which your child is participating in the program, you must register prior to the first day of the admission.

Who must be present during services?

Your child must be present each day, Monday through Friday. You and other primary caregivers must be present for:

- Assessments and paperwork the first two days of admission
- Other admission meetings and training sessions as needed

Start of admission assessments: The first day of the admission takes place at Marcus Autism Center. A caregiver must be present for the admission meeting. The second day of the admission typically takes place in the home. At least one primary caregiver must be present for the home visit.

Mandatory meetings: We will have three main meetings:

1. Beginning of Admission
2. End of Assessment or Mid-admission
3. End of Admission

We will try to be flexible in scheduling on a weekday when you are available.

Mandatory caregiver training: Caregiver training typically starts about six weeks after the program starts, but is dependent on your child's progress. We also conduct training during the last two weeks of admission. Training for caregivers and teachers is conducted in appropriate settings

What is the attendance policy?

Treatment can work only if you and your family participate regularly in assessments and treatment sessions. We will re-evaluate your child's admission if you cancel too many sessions. The policy defines excessive cancellation as five absences. We will notify caregivers once their child has been absent three times. During that time, we will discuss this policy and see if there is a better time to complete the admission. We will also discuss available days or times.

If 24-hour notice of a cancellation is not provided, an absence is counted as a missed appointment.

What will services look like?

We will review behaviors using an assessment called functional analysis. This assessment will happen during the first few weeks of the admission. It helps us learn:

- The reason for your child's problem behavior
- The best treatment for your child's problem behavior

We will assess several treatment options. We want to reduce problem behavior and increase appropriate behaviors such as communication.

Treatment goals typically focus on reducing problem behavior and increasing appropriate behaviors such as communication. Treatments are matched to the needs of the child and family. We will focus on reinforcing positive behaviors to replace the disruptive ones.

Questions

Email marcusbtctake@choa.org or call 404-785-9311 for more information.