



CORE Academy

CORE Academy is a program of The CORE Project, Inc. that provides individualized educational needs for students with special needs. Each of our students are provided with a CORE educational plan (CEP) in addition to Reading, Math, and Language Arts instruction that meets the student where they are academically. Various methods of instruction utilized in the Academy include one on one instruction (if necessary), social skills groups, and direct instruction (teaching model that focuses on small learning increments and clearly defined teaching tasks). Instruction is provided by both the Director of Elementary and Secondary Education who are highly qualified special education teachers. In addition to the special education teachers, we are staffed with trained paraprofessionals and behavior technicians who assist in carrying out the goals and objectives of each child.

We believe that an effective academic environment begins with positive behavior interventions to enhance the opportunities for learning. Our teachers and paraprofessionals are thoroughly trained in applying ABA principles in order to manage maladaptive behaviors in the classroom. BCBAs (Board Certified Behavior Analysts) work closely with CORE Academy staff to provide effective Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs) for students in the Academy as needed.

CORE Academy is a tuition-based private school program located at The CORE Project West Mobile location in Mobile, AL. While our special education teachers are certified teachers through the State of Alabama, we are not affiliated with the Alabama State Department of Education and do not currently offer an option for the Alabama High School Diploma. However, we do utilize the Alabama Alternate Achievement Standards for composing CEPs. As educators, we take pride in our CEPs and strive to only choose goals that will benefit our students to live a more independent life. In addition, we recognize that as a parent or caregiver, you may have certain goals for your child. Our teachers are experienced in incorporating any goal that you may have into a student's CEP.

If your child has been learning through the general Course of Study (on grade-level with typical peers) and/ or your child would like to earn a certified high school diploma for post-secondary goals, please contact our office to see if the CORE Academy is the most appropriate placement. Our teachers are certified to modify and make accommodations for children with significant learning and behavioral needs. However, they are not certified to provide first instruction for the general curriculum standards. If your child needs a more individualized approach to the general education curriculum in which they participate with their typically developing peers, we will be happy to refer you to programs in our area which may be the best fit.



CORE Academy FAQ

- **Can my child still receive both clinic services and school services at CORE?**
 - Yes, all of CORE's programs run simultaneously. We take a collaborative approach which focuses on each child's individual needs. If your child needs full time clinic, but you would still like school services, we specialize in providing adequate educational goals inside of the child's clinic goals.
- **Will my child still have a CEP if in clinic?**
 - Yes, if you also enroll in CORE Academy services.
- **What does combined services of clinic AND school look like for my child?**
 - A school/clinic combo will first depend on your child's needs. However, if this is what's best for him/her, the clinic hours approved will be examined. For example, if your child needs 40 hours of clinic a week (full time), school services can be provided inside of clinic with a CORE Educational Plan (CEP) that is also tailored to their clinic program. If your child only needs part time clinic (20-25) hours, school services will be provided outside of clinic in a classroom setting.
- **Will my child still have a teacher if receiving school services inside of clinic?**
 - Yes, the Academy Directors are certified special education teachers and hold certifications as RBTs as well. They work closely with the BCBAs in clinic. The teachers train each BCBA and RBT in clinic on the student's CEP to insure appropriate instruction.
- **How is progress measured?**
 - Behavior data is taken daily and graphed monthly. Progress data is also taken on CEP and educational goals. These are also examined regularly to ensure progress and modified if no progress had been made.
- **How is CORE Academy different from a traditional school?**
 - CORE Academy is not affiliated with the State Department of Education and does not offer a high school diploma option at this time. Our CEPs focus on the child's individual learning and behavioral needs. All learning happens in a small group or 1:1 setting. Our curriculum is based in direct instruction, and focuses on math, reading, and social skills. We do embed instruction in history and science, but these are not the primary focus.
- **Can my child get a diploma with CORE Academy?**
 - Not at this time. Our program is a specialized, therapeutic educational setting and is not currently accredited through the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE).



The CORE Project, Inc.

- **What is the curriculum used in CORE Academy?**
 - We use the *Connecting Math Concepts* and *Reading Mastery* curriculum by McGraw Hill
- **What grade levels does the Academy serve?**
 - K-12
- **Are there parent meetings?**
 - Yes. We strive to have monthly parent meetings or as requested.
- **Do I have to pay tuition or fees?**
 - Yes. Refer to the tuition/fees page for details.
- **What does the “school year” look like?**
 - While we are in session year-round, our “school year” begins in August and ends in July.
- **Is there a summer break?**
 - No. We believe consistency is what works best for our students. Therefore, our school is open all year round except for listed holidays (see Program Calendar).
- **Is attendance taken daily?**
 - We only take attendance for staffing and safety reasons. However, if your child misses unexcused days regularly, it will be addressed in a parent meeting with the program director.
- **What if my family is going on a planned vacation, how far in advanced should I notify the school?**
 - Due to staffing needs, please notify us within 2 weeks of going on vacation or as soon as possible.
- **What time do I drop off and pick up my child?**
 - Drop off is 8 a.m. and pick up is at 3 p.m.
- **Is there before school and after school care?**
 - Before school care begins at 7:00 a.m. If you would like your child to come at any time between 7:00 a.m. and 7:55 a.m., it is \$5 per day. You must also notify the office manager weekly that you would like this service so we may plan for staff accordingly.
- **Is lunch/snack provided?**
 - At this time lunch and snack must be provided from home. We do have a microwave and refrigerator if needed.
 - There are 2 snack times per day: 9:30 am and 2:30 pm
 - Lunch is 12pm-1pm.



CORE Academy Tuition and Fees

Fee	Due times	Cost
Full time Tuition	Monthly	\$1050
Registration**	Upon Enrollment, then annually (August)	\$200
Supply**	Upon Enrollment, then semi-annually (August and January)	\$100
**These fees are in addition to copays if your child is also in clinic.		