



Admissions to Serendipity Center Fact Sheet

As the guiding philosophy for our therapeutic school, Serendipity embraces the principles of Re-Education. These focus on the strength inherent in each child, employing a variety of perspectives and experiential approaches to thoughtfully move students towards independence.



Admission decisions require an exploration of each student's history, personal goals, strengths, and challenges in order to offer an appropriate placement and entrance.

Serendipity's Core Beliefs, drawn from the Principles of RE-Education:

- Trust is essential.
- Feelings should be nurtured.
- Groups are major sources of instruction.
- Community must be experienced to be learned.
- Intelligence can be enhanced.
- Competence makes a difference, especially with schoolwork.
- Self-control can be taught.
- Physical experiences help us define ourselves.
- Now is when life is to be lived.
- Time is an ally in support of positive changes
- Ceremony and ritual give order, stability, and confidence.
- Joy should be built into each day.

Serendipity utilizes a thoughtful two-part intake process. The first involves an initial screening to explore the current needs of the referred student. The second involves a clinical intake.

Services are initiated for admitted students in a timely manner, working around issues such as school calendars, transportation availability within school districts, and planned discharge from more restrictive settings.

- Referring school districts provide academic records, discipline and behavior records, and mental health documentation from previous treatment settings or schools, attached to a Serendipity referral application.
- Upon receiving the referral, Serendipity's admissions manager conducts a review of records. The school districts are contacted within a week

of receiving the referral packet to schedule an initial screening meeting.

- In addition to a parent or guardian and a school district representative, pertinent team members for that student may be invited to the initial screening meeting. Participants may include professionals from community mental health, special education, Department of Human Services, Department of Community Justice, CASA, Developmental Disabilities, Juvenile Rights Project, and natural helpers involved in the students' life.
- Initial screening meetings take place on Serendipity's campus or virtually on Microsoft Teams. In addition to our admissions manager, a Serendipity clinical case manager and a Serendipity special education coordinator also

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Serendipity Center Admissions



Supporting prospective students and families to feel knowledgeable and comfortable with Serendipity's program and setting is a primary goal of the intake process.

- take part in the meeting and gather information pertinent for the beginning stages of her/his/their admission and assessment process.
- Topics addressed in the initial screening meeting include an exploration of history, presenting difficulties, and the collection of necessary demographic information.
 - The student's current IEP is reviewed to determine if it can be implemented within Serendipity's therapeutic school setting.
 - Following an Initial Screening, a team meeting takes place with the Admissions Manager, Case Manager, Treatment Director, and School Principal, to review information gathered in the meeting and determine appropriateness of the placement.
 - Once a student is accepted into the program, the second required meeting is the Clinical Intake. Family members, the student, and the assigned clinical case manager meet to complete the interview on which the Mental Health Assessment is based.
 - Written informed consents for services are reviewed with and signed by parents or guardians during the clinical intake.
 - Written authorizations for the release of confidential information are also obtained from parents or guardians during the mental health intake.
 - Once the intake process is complete, an entry date will be set allowing time for an assessment and treatment plan to be written and for the classroom staff to prepare to welcome the new student.
 - An IEP review will be scheduled at least six

weeks into a student's enrollment to give the team an opportunity to review and discuss the student's transition into our program. At this time, discharge criteria for the student will be determined.

- Registration and enrollment forms are completed by the parent/guardian through our online student information system.

All students at Serendipity Center are referred for therapeutic school services by their respective school districts. Serendipity does not base admission on consideration of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender presentation, sexual orientation, religion, creed, national origin, age (other than age restrictions created by Serendipity's approval through the Oregon Department of Education as a site for students ranging in age from 5 to 21), familial status, marital status, source of income, and/or disability.

For more information, please contact:

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