



Our Eight Essential Elements for Positive Change

- 1 **STRENGTH-BASED FOCUS:** We help each child discover his or her innate strengths and reinforce those strengths at every opportunity.
- 2 **THERAPEUTIC ENVIRONMENT:** The setting is enriched with high impact and high interest activities; a positive peer culture; strong, positive relationships; small, autonomous, family-like groups; and services provided in a culturally responsive manner.
- 3 **THERAPEUTIC ALLIANCES:** Eckerd Academy staff members promote positive behavior through role modeling, encouragement, positive feedback and goal setting.
- 4 **THERAPEUTIC GROUP LIVING:** The therapeutic group process, in which adolescents live in family-like groups composed of eight to ten youth and two counselors, is the focal point of the Eckerd Academy approach. Living in family-like groups provides children an opportunity to develop a sense of personal responsibility that extends to their family and community.
- 5 **INDIVIDUAL TREATMENT:** An individualized treatment plan is developed for each child that includes individual counseling each week, as well as group therapy and family counseling.
- 6 **SAFETY:** Physical and emotional safety considerations prevail in all aspects of every program.
- 7 **EDUCATION:** Our on-campus schools are nationally accredited, with state certified teachers. Grades, curriculum content and credits are transferable to the home school.
- 8 **FAMILY SERVICES:** Parents are encouraged to be active participants in their child's treatment. Eckerd Academy strengthens the parent-child relationship through one-on-one and group parent coaching that emphasizes communication and relationship-building strategies.



ECKERD ACADEMY

A division of Eckerd Youth Alternatives, Inc.
 Blue Ridge Mountains, Georgia • Brooksville, Florida
 800.914.3937 • www.EckerdAcademy.org

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Troubled Kids Are Special

Helping Them Succeed Is Our Specialty



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“Thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving my son back to me. The son I knew was in there somewhere, I just couldn't find him. Thank you and God bless all of you every day.”
 – Mother of Eckerd Academy graduate



The Eckerd Academy Advantage

Individualized Treatment and Academic Plans to Help Your Child Reach Maximum Potential

Focus on Long-Lasting Changes in Attitudes and Behaviors

Positive, Non-Punitive Approach

40+ Year History of Helping Kids Turn Their Lives Around



Long History of Success

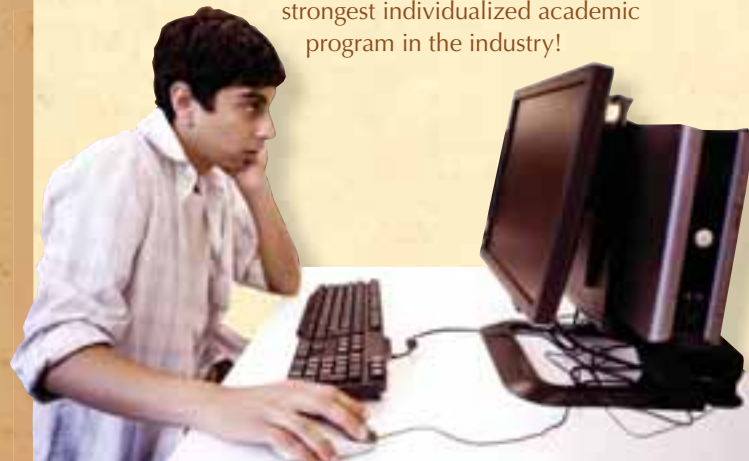
For more than 40 years, Eckerd Academy has helped tens of thousands of kids ages 10 – 18 (17 at our Brooksville campus) discover innate natural strengths and achieve their fullest potential. Eckerd Academy is a nationally accredited, therapeutic boarding school in an outdoor setting that specializes in helping kids who are:

- Having problems in school or with their family
- Defiant of authority
- Exhibiting low self-esteem and/or low motivation
- Making poor peer and relationship choices
- Refusing to take responsibility
- Experimenting with drugs or alcohol

Our outstanding art therapy program at our Blue Ridge campus helps students learn creative self-expression and fosters self-exploration and understanding.



At Eckerd Academy, students learn how to communicate and solve problems effectively, accept personal responsibility and respect themselves and others. In addition, they gain the self-esteem and competence needed to navigate the tough road from adolescence to adulthood. All while attending an accredited, on-campus school that offers perhaps the strongest individualized academic program in the industry!



Encouraging Emotional and Academic Growth

If other schools or community-based counseling programs have failed to help your child, then Eckerd Academy may be the answer. At Eckerd Academy, students receive an individualized academic plan that works hand-in-hand with their treatment plans. Because behavioral problems are intrinsically linked with academic challenges, the entire therapeutic team is integrated to include youth counselors, teachers, program clinicians, and aftercare counselors all focused on one goal – your child’s success.

We help each child understand his or her unique learning style and offer plenty of experiential trips and learning opportunities. We offer a low student-teacher ratio and provide one-on-one tutoring as well. Despite our rural settings, we utilize sophisticated technologies to boost academic achievement:

- Well-equipped online computer labs
- Classworks, an award-winning, diagnostic/prescriptive reading and mathematics tool that assists our teachers in developing individually-tailored lessons for your child whether they are below, above or at their grade level
- Onsite and electronic libraries, giving your child access to hundreds of thousands of online books and publications, plus SAT/ACT testing prep, college prep, career advisor and resume-building resources

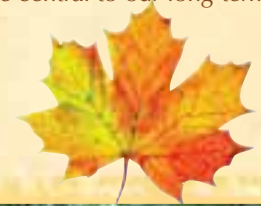
The result? Each child rediscovers academic confidence and excitement for lifelong learning, as well as obtains the courses and credit needed for returning to the home school, or even high school graduation and college entrance eligibility.

Our youth regularly achieve academic gains of more than two years in about six months time as measured by the prestigious Woodcock Johnson III Tests of Achievement.



Focus on Long-Lasting Change

The Eckerd approach is child focused, rather than system focused. We help kids make good choices because they are internally motivated to do the right thing, not because they are coerced through artificial means. Real life demands that young people make sound decisions even when no clear rules or rewards for behavior exist. Helping internalize appropriate coping, self-help, socialization and problem solving skills are central to our long-term success rate.



Learning how to solve problems by themselves and in groups helps teens recapture feelings of self-worth and build social and decision-making skills that will equip them for life.



Licensed and Accredited

All Eckerd Academy campuses are certified by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools - Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children (COA), Praesidium, their state Departments of Education, and are members of the National Association of Therapeutic Schools and Programs (NATSAP), and the National Association of Therapeutic Wilderness Camping (NATWC).

SPECIALIZING IN: Reuniting Parents WITH THEIR Once-Troubled Teen



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ECKERD ACADEMY, OR A FREE PRE-ADMISSION SCREENING, PLEASE CALL THE **Admissions Department** AT **800-914-3937** OR VISIT **www.eckerdacademy.org**.