# School Programs at Kennedy Krieger Institute

# An Overview

Kennedy Krieger Institute is a nonprofit education and healthcare organization that serves more than 27,000 students and patients with neurodevelopmental diseases, disorders and injuries each year. Kennedy Krieger School Programs provide education and related services for students with a variety of disabilities in locations throughout Maryland.

Our nonpublic special education day schools are approved by the Maryland State Department of Education to implement each student's individualized education program, with the goal of preparing students to lead fulfilling lives and be productive members of their communities. Students are referred to our schools by their local school systems.

The four (soon to be five) schools comprising Kennedy Krieger School Programs are leaders in providing model programs of innovative education for children ages 5 to 21 who have a wide range of learning, emotional, physical, neurological and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder. The school programs are accredited by the National Commission for the Accreditation of Special Education Services (NCASES).



# Kennedy Krieger School Programs

## Fairmount Campus Kindergarten–Grade 8 1750 East Fairmount Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21231

Our Fairmount Campus school provides comprehensive special education and related services to approximately 165 students with developmental disabilities in kindergarten through the eighth grade. The school program's goal is to prepare students to pursue a diploma or certificate at the high-school level in the future. The school addresses the unique educational and therapeutic needs of each child through integrated, evidence-based instructional practices.

We focus on building essential foundational skills. Subjects include reading/language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, art, health, technology and physical education. We align our curricula with Common Core State Standards.

All of our classrooms are staffed by certified teachers and trained paraeducators. In addition to special education staff members, we have a full team of related service professionals, including speech-language pathologists; occupational, physical, mental health, art and music therapists; and behavior analysts and technicians who collaborate to meet the needs of each student.

Staff members meet regularly to update each other and discuss each student's goals, objectives and design programming. Together, they make program modifications for each student, as needed, to help students reach their educational goals. Staff members are highly trained in providing positive behavioral support and interventions, and in responding effectively and therapeutically to behavioral crises. They place emphasis on shaping and reinforcing socially appropriate behaviors and decreasing behaviors that can interfere with learning and daily life.

## **Greenspring Campus**

## Kennedy Krieger High School 3825 Greenspring Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21211

Kennedy Krieger High School is a special education program serving students ages 14 to 21. Approximately 180 students attend this day program, each working toward earning a diploma or certificate of completion and an industry certificate. We offer a rigorous academic program for students seeking to pursue postsecondary education, as well as core academics and functional skills to support those for whom a vocational path is desired. The program focuses on content-area instruction, with necessary accommodations and adaptations to the curriculum to ensure that all students can achieve their educational goals.

The program is guided by the Maryland State Curriculum in the areas of English/language arts, math, science, social studies, art, music and physical education, and includes functional life skills development. Intensive related services are provided in the classroom whenever possible and through group or individual services, as needed. The school provides support to students to help them remain on task and uses a positive behavior management system that emphasizes positive behaviors, while preventing disruptive behaviors that interfere with learning.

All students participate in industry training that prepares them for careers in one of the following industry clusters: information technology, horticulture, hospitality and tourism, manufacturing and construction, and retail and consumer services. Instruction through industry clusters and work-based learning enables students to learn about their career interests in real-life settings. The coupling of classroom and workplace experiences gives students the opportunity to understand and attain the skills necessary to be successful in the workplace. All students are eligible to participate in on-campus and off-campus internships with a variety of business partners. This strategy ensures students' successful transition from school to work.

#### **Greenspring Campus**

## LEAP Program 3825 Greenspring Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21211

While all of our programs serve students with autism spectrum disorder, our LEAP (Lifeskills and Education for Students with Autism and Other Pervasive Behavioral Challenges) Program is an intensive, yearround special education program serving students ages 5 to 21 who are more severely impaired and require a higher degree of structure and support. The current program capacity is 65 students in 10 classrooms.

LEAP's programming increases a student's independence in communication, activities of daily living and functional/vocational skills, while decreasing the amount of one-to-one assistance required. It is a functional life skills program that provides students with access to the general education curriculum, referencing both the Maryland State Curriculum and the state's Core Learning Goals. To this end, LEAP implements evidence-based practices for students with autism spectrum disorder when providing individualized instruction in academic and functional life skills. These methods include the TEACCH<sup>®</sup> Autism Program, applied behavior analysis (ABA), discrete trial training (DTT), pivotal response training (PRT) and the Picture Exchange Communication System<sup>®</sup> (PECS).

The program uses a combination of one-to-one and group instruction in a highly structured environment. Functional behavior assessment and individual behavioral plans address challenges that interfere with learning. Related services are interwoven within the instructional program. An interdisciplinary team approach ensures that communication among all teaching, related services and therapeutic staff members occurs daily.

## **Powder Mill Campus** Grade 2–High School 4600 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD 20705

Our Powder Mill Campus school serves students ages 7 to 21 with mild-to-moderate—and in some cases, severe autism spectrum disorder who require a highly individualized educational program. Approximately 80 students attend this day program, each working toward earning a diploma or certificate of completion. The school offers numerous programmatic supports, including small class sizes, a high staff member-to-student ratio, comprehensive and integrated related support services, and individualized behavior management and environmental supports, while providing instruction using evidence-based practices. Students also participate in work-based learning opportunities and other community activities in Prince George's County and the surrounding area. In addition to serving students from Prince George's and Montgomery counties, this school also serves students from other nearby Maryland counties, as well as from Washington, D.C., and northern Virginia.

## COMING SOON Southern Maryland Campus Kindergarten–High School 44219 Airport Road, Building 1, California, MD 20619

At capacity, the Kennedy Krieger School: Southern Maryland Campus will serve approximately 45 students ages 5 to 21 with autism spectrum disorder who require a highly individualized educational program. Each student will work toward earning a diploma or certificate of completion. The school will offer small class sizes, a high staff member-tostudent ratio, comprehensive and integrated related services, and individualized behavior management, while providing instruction using evidence-based practices. The school will serve students from St. Mary's County, in which the school is located, as well as from Charles County, Calvert County and other surrounding Maryland counties. Students will participate in community-based activities in the area.

## CONTACT KENNEDY KRIEGER SCHOOL PROGRAMS Admissions

Parents, guardians, advocates and others interested in learning more about enrolling a student in one of our schools, please contact our admissions team at ACTOffice@KennedyKrieger.org or 443-923-4589.



