Mission
At Kennedy Krieger School: Southern Maryland Campus, our mission is to educate students in an accepting and supportive environment using evidence-based interventions and a collaborative approach.

Who We Are
We are an 11-month, nonpublic special education day program approved by the Maryland State Department of Education, with students referred and funded by their local school systems. We offer an array of educational and therapeutic services for students with a spectrum of special needs, ranging from mild to severe. We maintain a low student-to-teacher ratio, which allows us to implement individualized education programs (IEPs) that meet the diverse needs of our students while offering the highest quality of education. Our parents and families play a primary role in our team approach, which is a key component of all Kennedy Krieger School Programs and our students’ success.

Who We Serve
We provide education and related services to students with developmental disabilities, such as autism spectrum disorder and intellectual disabilities. Our program is certified for students in kindergarten through age 21.

Our Team
We maintain a strong interdisciplinary team approach. Our team includes highly trained special educators, curriculum specialists, related service providers and paraprofessional staff members. Services provided may include:
- Assistive technology
- Behavioral supports
- Counseling and mental health services
- Music therapy
- Nursing
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Special education
- Speech-language pathology

Instructional Program
Our curriculum focuses on building essential skills through access to standards and curricula identified by the Maryland State Department of Education and evidence-based interventions. We provide instruction in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, art, media, physical education, health, life skills, social skills, community awareness and career exploration. Work-based learning is incorporated in the school schedule through a variety of activities, beginning in high school.

Our instructional methods are supported by research and use the principles of Universal Design for Learning. We select instructional methods to meet each student’s individual needs. Using the principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA), our team addresses sensory, communication and behavior needs by providing structured routines, visual supports and positive reinforcement.
Classrooms are well equipped with interactive technology, including smart boards and iPads. Materials are selected specifically for motivational appeal to students. Teachers and related service staff members maintain ongoing systems for evaluating the progress of each child, and work in concert to decide the direction and pace of instruction for each student.

Positive Behavioral Supports

We provide a continuum of positive behavioral supports that encourage students to maintain their focus on cooperation, completion of tasks and appropriate social interactions. Board-certified behavior analysts oversee a highly structured schoolwide behavior management system with predictable routines, rewards and consequences. When needed, functional behavioral assessment (FBA) and analysis are conducted to develop an individualized behavior intervention plan (BIP), which focuses on the development of adaptive skills in place of problematic behaviors. Crisis intervention is available to students who experience behavioral difficulties. All school staff members receive extensive training in positive behavior management techniques to provide support for students.