

## Approved Provider List

### **Ace It/Sylvan Learning Center**

Ace it! Tutoring is an education model, developed by Sylvan Learning, Inc., the parent company of Sylvan Learning Center. Ace it! Tutoring offers individual instruction to meet individual student needs. The programs start with a criteria-referenced assessment to identify each student's specific learning needs. Ace it! Tutoring uses the results to create a learning plan to guide each student's reading or math instruction. Ace it! tutors provide individual instruction on learning objectives, motivate students and reward them for their achievements and efforts. Students completing an entire level of the Ace it! Tutoring Reading or Math Program demonstrate academic improvement through testing. Evidence of past students' performance is available upon request.

Ace it! Tutoring's motivational program is designed to maximize student participation. The motivational program can lead to students' increased self confidence, consistent attendance and program completion. To maintain the high quality associated with the Ace it! Tutoring programs, instructors must possess minimally a Bachelor's degree. It is preferred that instructors have previous teaching experience, and/or specialized educational certifications and membership in professional educational organizations. The Ace it! Tutoring program for NCLB includes: a minimum of 30 hours of instruction per subject area. Parents need to choose one subject, because we do not offer a student two subjects at the same time. 8:1 student-teacher ratio (Kindergarten and 1st grade levels have a smaller ratio), all textbook and classroom materials, motivational program and incentives for performance and attendance, snacks, ongoing communication with parents and district educators. A tutoring session may vary in length from 1-3 hours according to what is appropriate for the child. Normally, two sessions for one and a half hours each per week. These timeframes can be adjusted to accommodate daily school schedules and/or student needs. Tutoring will take place at schools or community facilities typically after regular school hours; tutoring is also available on weekends and during the summer break. Transportation may be provided by Ace it! Tutoring based on number of students participating in each school; when such transportation is not available, parents will be responsible for transporting the students.

Ace it! Tutoring reading and mathematics programs are tied to Illinois State and district standards to help students learn skills that are on standardized tests. Prior to accepting a child for tutoring, KCI Enterprises management visits with school personnel and/or parents to determine if the Ace it! Tutoring program is appropriate for meeting LEP students and/or students with disabilities' needs. While all of our materials are in English, Ace it! hires teachers who speak fluent Spanish to assist students' learning needs. For students with disabilities we offer shorter assignments, more time to finish assignments and changes to the physical setting in which the tutoring takes place. Each child's placement is reviewed by management to provide appropriate accommodations or modifications.

### **Applied Scholastics International**

We use our own curriculum called Applied Scholastics Achievement Program (ASAP). This is an individual program which (1) first fills in learning gaps in the subject so the student can function more successfully at his appropriate grade level; (2) empowers the student to be a more independent and strategic learner by teaching him the fundamental tools of learning and (3) working with his classroom teachers, help the student apply the learning techniques to classroom instruction and at a point worked out with his teachers his homework as well. Results of our tutoring program have shown students have increased one grade level in either math or

reading with as little as 20 hours of tutoring in our curriculum. This is face-to-face, direct tutoring with a student/teacher ratio of 3:1.

### **ATS Project Success**

ATS Project Success offers students in grades K-12 tutorial services in reading and mathematics. We offer services online with one of our pre-programmed computers and dial-up Internet service at no cost to parents. Students work from the comfort and safety of their own home, and families choose a schedule that meets their needs.

Students in grades K-8 use SuccessMaker by Pearson Digital Learning, and students in grades 9-12 use our Odyssey software by CompassLearning. Once the student begins our program, he/she is assessed by our software to determine the student's functioning instructional level. The math portion of the test generally takes approximately 1 ½ hours to complete and the reading portion takes approximately ½ hour to complete. By determining the student's instructional level with the assessment, we can set and adjust the curriculum to provide activities at the appropriate level. We initially assign the student to a specific course for each subject. We monitor students daily and track the student's performance percentage by strand. We are capable of adjusting the student's curriculum based upon his/her successful or unsuccessful performance. Activities are then continually modified in order to determine the student's optimal instructional level. The post-test is the ending instructional level based on gains from the initial assessment.

Our staff monitors the student's progress online and follows-up with e-mails to the student and calls to their parents once each week. We also furnish parents with monthly written reports (English/Spanish) and work with schools and teachers to make sure the student's efforts in our program are helping them succeed in the classroom as well. All tutorial staff meets the qualifications for paraprofessionals to comply with NCLB. Paraprofessionals under the NCLB definition must possess a high school diploma and have one of the following: an Associate's degree, 48 college credits, or successful completion of an assessment measuring knowledge of reading, writing, and math. Most tutorial staff are degreed and certified in the subject area being taught or have passed the Michigan Subject Area Test for Teacher Certification. The ratio of staff to students is 1:1.

### **Babbage Net School**

The educational program consists of an instructional management system supported by standards-based assessment tools for grades 1-12. The program begins by with an assessment in each subject area. After the assessment's scoring, an individual learning plan is created and from that the results are used to compile a set of lessons that will meet the targeted educational needs of the individual student. Each lesson is built on a three tier system: guide, practice, and assessment. Students read through the guide a specific subject and then use that information to work through sets of practice problems. After they feel proficient, they take the lesson's assessment. The post-assessment takes the form of a composite of the achievement of each individual lesson and assessment.

We offer a minimum of 30 hours per subject in reading and/or math. The ratio of instructors to children is 1-to-1. Ours is a computer-based tutoring program, therefore the tutoring program is available to the student at any time they care to log in to their computer. However, students who have questions can contact a live tutor via our toll-free Hotline from 12pm to 8 pm Monday through Friday. Any lesson may be revisited at any time to increase a student's mastery of that subject or skill. There is no set time a student must work on their lessons. If they have something else to do or get tired of working, they can log off the system. When they return to the program, they will be able to continue from the same place they left. The whole system of

computer and tutor operates year-round. All of our tutors have a minimum of a bachelor degree and are retired or current teachers.

For our LEP students, we prefer for tutors who have experience and certification with ESL populations. We have tutors who are fluent in Spanish. Our teaching materials provided on the laptop are only available to students in English; therefore, a student should have some knowledge of English.

The program is provided on a free pre-installed laptop to the student at the beginning of the program. No internet access is required. To access the toll-free hotline, the student only needs access to a phone. Since the services are provided on a pre-installed laptop, no special transportation is required for participation.

### **Brain Hurricane**

Brain Hurricane's program is different because Brain Hurricane uses hands-on activities to teach both math and reading. The best way to keep students interested is to make learning relevant and fun! We help improve student test scores and develop problem-solving skills for all, including students with disabilities and English Language Learners.

We provide 30-60 hours of tutoring. Our maximum group size is 12 students, but typical groups are between 3-5 students. We typically provide service two days per week for two hours at school sites. Our staff members meet the requirements of paraprofessionals under NCLB, and many of our instructors have advanced degrees and/or teacher certifications.

### **Brilliance Academy of Math and English**

Brilliance Academy offers programming to students in both communication arts (reading and writing) and mathematics. Students have been successfully learning in our program for several years and have significantly improved their standardized test and in-class scores. The program that we use is designed by Brilliance Academy, is aligned with state and national standards and has been endorsed by the National Tutoring Association. Brilliance Academy uses the Basic Achievement of Skills Inventory (BASI) standardized test for purposes of pre-testing, diagnosing, assessing and post-testing. This is also used to monitor progress and provide objective percentile increases or variances for each skill tested. Our program ranges from 30 to 60 hours per subject, based upon available funding, each student's needs and the customized nature of our curriculum. In cases where there is not enough funding for both subjects (Reading and Mathematics), the parent would be asked to determine which program should be followed.

Our maximum ratio of instructors to student is 1 to 8. Typically, sessions are 1 to 2 hours long, and we offer 1 to 4 sessions after school (Monday through Friday) per week yielding 4 to 8 hours of tutoring weekly. Services are ideally provided at the local school facilities where possible to allow the students to attend their lessons in a comfortable, safe and secure environment. Plus, this eliminates the need for transportation to the program. Parents would only be responsible for pick up at the conclusion of the program unless the school offers an after-school bus program. If necessary, services can also be provided at local non-public schools, libraries, community center and business. In these cases, transportation to and from the facility may be provided by Brilliance Academy, based upon local circumstances. In addition to the after school program, Brilliance also provides services on weekends and over the summer.

Our staff members are carefully selected, and our tutors are first and foremost chosen for their ability to effectively communicate information and positively relate to our students.

For our LEP students, we prefer for tutors who have experience and certification with ESL populations. We have tutors who are fluent in Spanish, French, Urdu, Gujarati, Malagasi and Hindi. Our teaching materials are available to the students in English and Spanish. Students who speak other languages will receive their materials in English, but we will provide a tutor who is fluent in the above language to assist.

All tutors have previous public school teaching experience. Tutors must also be certified by the National Tutor Association (NTA), which we provide at our own expense. We look for tutors who have experience and certification with ESL populations and/or experience with students with physical disabilities. Additional quality training is provided by us through annual training and ongoing workshops. Each student is provided with their own training materials, including their own workbook, and any additional study and lesson materials are provided by the tutor. No additional material or equipment is needed by the student.

### **Chi Tutorsz**

Chi Tutorsz offers online tutoring through laptops we provide. Students who complete the program at home earn the right to keep the computer. Our fun and engaging sessions are proven to work for student grades 1-12. We start with a test, after which we create a learning plan that is unique to your student's academic strengths and specifically targets their individual weaknesses. Students are also provided additional support from live tutors available by phone and internet to help make sure they are prepared for homework, and upcoming classroom assignments and tests.

### **Educational Essentials**

Corrective Reading Curriculum is an intensive intervention program for reading remediation. It uses a SRA research based and validated program. It is designed for students in grades 3 and higher to close the achievement gap for students who are performing below grade level. Children who do not learn to read early may never become skilled readers unless focused and intensive reading intervention is provided.

This intervention program utilizes a scripted presentation approach, implementing carefully chosen exercises and examples, and other presentation techniques to engage even reluctant learners. Placement tests are administered to develop a student learning plan, determine where students will enter the program, and measure their progress at the conclusion of the program. All materials for program implementation are provided which include student books, workbooks, teacher presentation books and guides. Lessons are structured so students know how to learn as they master increasingly complex skills and strategies. The model includes fully integrated assessments to monitor student progress, assess teacher implementation and facilitate appropriate pacing of an effective program.

The Corrective Reading Program uses decoding to focus on word attack skills and include isolated sound/word practice, group reading activities to develop accuracy and oral reading fluency, workbook exercises, and opportunities to enrich reading with comprehension activities aligned with program levels. We offer only instruction in reading and students will be offered a minimum of 30 hours of instruction and possibly more dependent on funding. Typically the program design is 4 sessions per week of one hour per session after school; we also offer services during the summer.

The Corrective Reading Program uses phonemic awareness to accommodate the learning styles of special needs students. Other accommodations used in the program include the setting and alternate methods for students to respond as opposed to just written responses to demonstrate competency. The pace of presentation may need to be varied to accommodate the

needs of Spanish, Polish and French speaking students and students with disabilities. The instruction of the program, however, is in English and helps learners with special needs build reading fluency.

The ratio of instructors to students will vary depending upon the levels of the population served as identified by the placement tests. However, Educational Essentials will offer its services at a particular location for no more than 10 students assigned to a teacher. The program services are offered at local schools Mondays through Fridays to make the location accessible and minimize the need for any special transportation.

All instructional staff must have obtained an associate's degree. In addition, they are required to pass a reading, writing, and oral presentation assessment to ensure readiness to be an instructor with Educational Essentials. They are required to attend a mandatory 4-hour initial training session to become familiar with the program and its components and 2-hour review training for returning instructors to enhance implementation.

### **Educational Tutoring Centers of Illinois**

#### **READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS (1-5)**

Our technology enhanced reading and writing program is a 34-hour readiness program taught by individuals trained to deliver systematic and direct instruction to a small group of mixed-ability learners. Students typically work in a small group two days/week for 45-60 minutes/day, with a maximum student teacher ratio of 5:1. Students dive into core reading and writing instructional routines such as phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension skills and strategies designed to develop competent readers. Students are also provided with developmentally appropriate writing experiences such as, alpha-knowledge, print knowledge, penmanship and progression towards shared, independent, and interactive writing, all within a flexible environment that utilizes students' interest and strengths to build weaker areas. Expected gains are one – three grade levels. Materials Supplied: Paper, pencil/pen, and curricular materials.

#### **MATHEMATICS (1-5)**

Our technology enhanced mathematics program is a 34-hour readiness program taught by individuals trained to deliver direct, systematic, and explicit instruction to a small group of mixed-ability learners. Students typically work in a small group two days/week for 45-60 minutes, with a maximum student teacher ratio of 5:1. Students build and/or reinforce basic math skills and concepts to build a strong number sense. Regular instructional routines teach students to problem-solve using a variety of strategies to solve real-world math questions. Expected gains are one – four grade levels. Paper, pencil/pen, and curricular materials.

**Program Delivery:** All services are delivered during non-school hours and summer. Services are best served within our learning centers, but can be adapted to be delivered at alternative locations as the need arises.

Educational Tutoring Centers of Illinois will provide all necessary curricular materials and supplies. Student is required to provide any other student desired materials.

**Evaluation of Program Effectiveness:** Effectiveness is evaluated using outcomes-based evaluation ie. attendance rates, school grades, class participation, parental satisfaction, teacher evaluations and assessment results.

**Qualification of Instructors:** All instructors meet or exceed the state's minimum requirements for paraprofessionals.

Transportation is not provided.

### **Empowerment Learning Services, LLC**

Empowerment Learning has been providing SES since 2006. We provide high quality instruction in generally in either reading or math to students in grades K-12; however, both may be offered if funding is available. Where one subject is available, parents will decide, which subject their child will be tutored in. Our program helps students improve academically. In the 2007/2008 school year, our Reading students showed an average gain of 75% and our Math students showed an average gain of 35%.

All instruction takes place in person and instruction never takes place via a computer. We tutor in small groups and one-on-one (parents choose). We administer a pre-test and a post-test to measure program effectiveness. As well, our trained instructors monitor students daily and create monthly progress reports. We offer 30-100 hours per subject. Typically, 1 instructor for no more than 8 students (Small Group) or 1 instructor to every 1 student (Individual Tutoring, parents select either small group or individual instruction. WE PROVIDE ALL LEARNING MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR PROGRAM; STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES NEVER HAVE TO SUPPLY ANY MATERIALS OR EQUIPMENT. Material is provided in Spanish for Spanish speaking students along with Bilingual tutors. Students with disabilities will be provided with extended time to complete assignments, shorter lessons, modified lessons, non-written materials and responses, specialized equipment, and alternative physical settings.

We ensure our services are available to students with working parents by offering year-round instruction before school, after school, on Saturdays, and during the summer. Depending on students' scheduling conflicts and developmental considerations such as student age, our students typically receive tutoring twice a week in 2-hour sessions. Empowerment Learning seeks to minimize the need for transportation by providing services at students' schools. When no space is provided at students' schools, we provide tutoring at nearby non-public schools, places of religious worship, community centers, and libraries. We are sensitive to students' transportation challenges when we are selecting a tutoring site; we attempt to find places that are within walking distance from students' schools and/or on mass transit routes.

Effective educators are at the core of our successful model of instruction. We only employ trained educators who are committed to providing individualized instruction to meet students' educational needs. We employ tutors who hold, at a minimum, a Bachelor's degree. Empowerment Learning administrators hold, at a minimum, a Bachelor's degree and some hold Master's degrees in Education. The CEO holds a Master's degree in Special Education and Education Administration and has taught students with disabilities.

### **Growing Scholars Educational Center**

Growing Scholars Educational Center, LLC (GSEC) provides researched-based instruction that is aligned with the state standards and benchmarks of Illinois. Certified teachers and /or highly trained tutors deliver a comprehensive program designed to increase student achievement. Supplemental Services are provided before and after school during the school year, Saturdays when needed, and during the summer. Each student will receive approximately 60-100 hours of tutoring in reading and math. Classes are held twice a week in two hour sessions in small groups of 1:4 (teacher/student ratio). Summer hours are up tot four hours per session for 4 to 5 days per week. All tutoring sessions are held in safe, clean and convenient locations. GSEC provides services for regular education, special education, and ESL students. All instructional materials are provided and are available in Spanish.

## **L.E.A.P.S. Learning Services**

L.E.A.P.S. Learning Services makes learning FUN in Language Arts or Math. We work with students grades K-12, including English Language Learners and students with disabilities. The services are direct instruction and we offer tutoring in small groups, with groups being smaller than 10 students. Our tutors are credential teachers, paraprofessionals or college graduates. We provide outstanding curriculum and dynamic tutors. Our services are offered at the School Sites and the Public Libraries. Students who are tutored in our program increase their test scores by up to 20%. Students also improve their overall performance in mathematics and their reading scores. With our highly trained staff and quality curriculum aligned with educational standards, students are sure to reach their desired level of achievement. Sign Up today and we will make a difference in your child's education.

## **Tutor Owl**

Tutor Owl provides a high quality, research-based online program proven to increase students' math skills. Using Brainchild ISAT Achieve! we tutor students in 2nd through 12th grade in Math with a minimum of 30 hours of instruction. (Please note we are not a test preparation program. Although we reference "ISAT," we are an academic achievement program.) During tutoring, students interact with tutors on a 1:1 ratio via computer communications in "real time" – they can hear each other and see what each one is doing on the computer screen. Students communicate with tutors through a headphone and microphone and on the cyber whiteboard, provided without charge by our company. Since there is no in person contact with Tutor Owl and the student, the student can log into the computer program from anywhere at the prearranged time.

Tutor Owl has been providing online tutoring in mathematics since 2007. During this time, we have provided services to over 700 students, most of whom were low-income students performing below grade level. We have worked with students of varying ethnicities, students with a disability, and English Language Learners. During the 2007-2008 school year, our students' average overall academic increase was 26%. Our curriculum is researched-based and aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards. Our program starts with an online assessment to determine students' math skill gaps. From the pre-test, we work with parents and school to create an individual learning plan, which tutors use to provide targeted instruction. At program's end, students take a post-test that identifies the precise skills and subject areas of student growth attained during our program.

Typically, tutoring takes place in students' homes. This eliminates the need for parents to transport students to and from a tutoring location. In addition, parents are encouraged to observe the tutoring session, and a tutoring session maybe arranged by working parent(s) to take place with an adult member of the family present. For students who do not have a computer and/or internet service at home, Tutor Owl will attempt to make arrangements with the student's school or a local community site, such as a library, place of religious worship, and non-public schools to get the student access to a computer. Tutor Owl provides all materials needed for our services to include if needed, a computer and internet service. Our lessons and tests are available in both English and Spanish. In addition we modify our instruction to accommodate students with special needs and/or disabilities.

Tutor Owl hires only tutors who have a minimum of a college degree. Many of our tutors have a Master's degree. Most of our tutors have experience teaching Title I, low achieving, English Language Learners, and/or disabled students. Our tutors are trained in Tutor Owl policies, procedures, and our curriculum. Tutors are also trained in methods of instruction and teaching culturally diverse students.

## **Young Men's Christian Association of Southwest Illinois (YMCA)**

The YMCA of Southwest Illinois offers tutoring to children in kindergarten through twelfth grade in both Reading/Language Arts and Mathematic instruction. As part of our broad, fun program, our curriculum will focus on grade level objectives specific to the student's needs based on assessment tests. Our teachers, who meet the minimum educational requirements to be tutors but are often certified, complete an initial, mid-point, and final assessment to each child in order to focus instruction on specific skills each child needs in order to succeed.

Instruction takes place in small group settings. We offer tutoring afterschool. The program will be conveniently located at the school site. Communication is extremely important to us, so monthly progress reports and conferences share the progress of each child with teachers and parents.

- Total program hours per subject per student is 30 minimum and 100 maximum per subject.
- Ratio of instructors to students: 1 tutor to 8 student maximum. (1:8)
- Schedule for delivery of services: typically a student will receive 1 hour of tutoring per day Monday – Thursday, for 4 hours per week, immediately after the school day ends. We are also approved to offered SES during the summer. The summer schedule will vary from district to district.
- The YMCA will provide all materials, including an instructor manual, activity books and all supplemental literacy materials.

The hours offered is determined by the subjects offered and availability of the school district. Our program will not provide transportation. We will work with the school districts to help with transportation when possible, but parents may need to take children home from the tutoring sessions.