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Florida Youth Challenge Academy
5629 State Road 16 West
Bldg. 3800, Camp Blanding
Starke, Florida 32091
904-682-4033

To: Whom It May Concern

Subject: Highlights for the Florida Youth Challenge Academy

The Florida Youth Challenge Academy (FLYCA) is a Quasi-Military Challenge Academy (Alternative High School 0020) located at Camp Blanding within School District of Clay County. The program is for “At Risk” Youth 16-18 years old (males and females). In 2001, the Governor of Florida and the Florida National Guard joined 28 other states to address the educational needs of high school dropouts across the country. The mission of the academy is **“To empower at-risk youth to become successful productive citizens by leading, training, and mentoring them through a highly disciplined and motivational environment, free from outside distractions.”**

FLYCA is a “voluntary residential and post residential” program. **Students must have the desire to attend the academy on their own free will, and cannot be court ordered.** We are a “hands off” residential program and have 24 hour supervision. Students from the entire state of Florida who are eligible may attend this outstanding program at **no cost** to the participant or their families.

FLYCA is a 17 1/2 month program with a 5 1/2 month residential phase, on Camp Blanding in Starke Fl.

There are two phases to our program; Residential and Post Residential

1. Acclimation Phase - the first two weeks is designed to establish and rebuild physical and mental discipline for success in each student (residential phase).

Also in the residential phase the youth are taught the importance of our Eight (8) Core Components: Academic Excellence, Service to Community, Job Skills, Leadership/Followership, Life-Coping Skills, Physical Fitness, Health & Hygiene, and Responsible Citizenship (all classes provided during the residential phase).

2. Post Residential Phase - Students and their mentor will work together over the next 12 months to ensure their successful transformation back into their communities.

Note: There are many different terms for “At Risk”. FLYCA views “At Risk” to mean individuals who are distracted at home, school or in their community and are “At Risk” of not graduating high school.

We are asking for your support to ensure that school resource officers, guidance counselors, dropout prevention coordinators and other youth programs and community leaders throughout the state of Florida are aware of our program and are willing to work with us by identifying eligible “At Risk” students. Together we can make a difference and save the lives of our Florida youth who otherwise would become a statistic within their families and communities.

Admissions Department 1-866-276-9304.



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Track 1 Credit Recovery

What program does the Track 1 use?

We use Edgenuity for the students to achieve credits through Clay County Schools.

What type of student is a good candidate for Track 1 Credit Recovery?

A student who is a year or less behind in school.

A student who needs to bring up their GPA in order to graduate.

How many credits are earned through the Track 1 Credit Recovery?

A student is expected to earn 3 to 5 credits while at FLYCA.

What is required from the home school?

FLYCA requires that students receive a letter from their school stating that they can return after completing the 5 ½ month program at FLYCA. This letter should also include the classes that the student should complete while at FLYCA as well as any state tests needed.

How does the classroom operate?

Student work at their own pace. There is a certified teacher in the classroom to assist students. Classroom is set up to be free of distractions.



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Track 2 GED

What classes will the student take?

The students will take classes in Reading/Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science. These classes prepare the student to successfully pass the GED (General Education Development) test.

What type of student is a good candidate for Track 2 GED?

A student who is a more than year behind in school.

A student who has dropped out of high school.

A student who is in danger of not graduating.

A student who just doesn't fit in a normal High School environment.

What is required from the student applying?

Transcripts and withdrawal form.

How does the classroom operate?

GED classes are taught by State Certified Teachers provided by Clay County School District. GED classes use a variety of methods to include classroom instruction and small group instruction. In addition, tutoring is available to all students.

What is needed in order for a student to achieve a GED?

The student must first pass the TABE in Reading, Language Arts and Math in order to take the GED tests. Student will need to pass each of the four GED tests in Reading/Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science in order to achieve their full GED.



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Florida Youth Challenge Academy Enrollment Process

Go to <https://www.floridayouthchallengeacademy.org/> and click on "APPLY" scroll down to the "Apply Now" button to complete each screen to submit in the Pre Application Screening.

Things for a Completed Package

- Cadet Application
- Mentor Application to include a Local Background Check and 2 Fingerprint cards.
- Florida DL / State ID
- Social Security Card
- Birth Certificate
- Shot Record DH680
- Physical Examination (FLYCA Form)
- Medical Insurance Card (Back / Front)

Mentor Qualifications

- A Mentor is a person of the same gender as the Cadet
- Mentor must be 23 years of age or older
- A Person that does not reside in the same household
- Mentor must attend a one-day training class in Starke Florida on Camp Blanding.
- Mentor will receive a monthly report to complete each month
- Mentor application must be COMPLETE before they can attend a mentor training class
- Mentor must be able to clear an FBI back ground screening
- Mentor must be a resident of the State of Florida and a citizen of the United States
- Mentor CANNOT be a parent, step-parent, sibling, step-sibling, boyfriend/girlfriend, or challenge staff or spouse

Role of the Mentor/Cadet Relationship

The Mentor must have a willingness to share skills, and knowledge in order to assist the Cadet while attending the program. The Mentor must demonstrate a positive attitude and acts as a positive role model for the Cadet. Mentor takes a personal interest in the Mentee completing the program by assisting the Cadet through the process of completing the program with behavior and school work. The Mentor and Cadet will build a relationship on trust and honesty. The Mentor can write encouraging letters/emails to his/her Cadet through the Cadet's Case manager. Both Mentor and Cadet will work hard to make

the relationship and bonding experience a great one and to help the Cadet become a successful citizen.