

Summit Preparatory School

(Therapeutic Boarding School)

CONTACT

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PROGRAM OUTLINE

Gender: Coeducational
 Ages: 14 to 17
 Grades: 9 to 12
 Enrollment: 60
 Duration: 12 to 18 months
 Founded: 2003



NATSAP

Member Since: 2003



Airport: Kalispell or Missoula

“Growing up” involves learning to navigate and successfully structure one’s own life through mastering a series of psychosocial skills that progressively build upon one another. Due to the stress of adolescence and emotional or psychiatric problems, teens get “stuck” in this developmental process and end up on a downward spiral of social or academic failure, conflict with parents, dangerous behavior, emotional instability and loss of direction. Our Summit Model™, developed by Exec Director Rick Johnson, is specifically designed to promote psychosocial maturity. In turn, the three main aspects of our program are interwoven to facilitate the development of our model’s key psychosocial skills:

Professional therapeutic programming is provided by licensed therapists, psychologists and staff child and adolescent psychiatrist whose purpose is to reinforce psychosocial maturity and actively treat emotional or psychiatric problems that inevitably interfere with normal development. Clinical services include individual, group, cognitive, DBT, and experiential therapies; med management, and intensive family program (family therapy, parent assignments tied to student advancement, and experiential workshops).

Residential life/emotional growth is designed to gently yet firmly teach students how to live within structure and gradually become self directed in creating their own positive structure in life. Healthy relationships with positive staff are the primary catalyst for this process as well as a student’s engagement in the program. Located near Kalispell and Whitefish on 500 wooded acres, healthy engaging activities are available to all students when they demonstrate they are ready to safely participate. We have a campus swimming pool, gym, weight room, and climbing wall. Students are involved in individual and team sports, cultural events, community service, hiking, wilderness camping, mountain biking, and skiing. Our dress code reflects typical yet appropriate “teen” attire, so even “out of the box” teens can thrive with their sense of individuality intact.

Excellent accredited college prep academics are designed to re-engage students. Our teachers are passionate about working with teens in a therapeutic setting and certified in the areas they teach. We have low student-teacher ratios, challenging academics that can accommodate mild learning issues, and have a fully-equipped science lab, photo darkroom and arts area for drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery and portfolio preparation. Our MT accreditation allows students with a Summit Prep HS diploma eligibility for in-state tuition at U of M and MSU.

Individual Psychotherapy Available: Yes

Accreditation, Licensure: State of MT OPI Academic Accreditation as a private non-public; NW Association of Accredited Aschools (NAAS); State of MT Board of Private Alternative Adolescent Programs; SEVIS, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Professional Affiliations: NATSAP-Full Member; CWLA; PNAIS; SBSA