



Victor Cullen Academy

Victor Cullen Academy

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Executive Director - John Johnson

Residential Capacity: 184

YSI has a five-year contract with the Maryland Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to operate the Victor Cullen Academy in Sabillasville, Maryland, a secure residential facility for 184 adjudicated males from age 14 to 20 (under 18 at the time of offense). Youth placed at Victor Cullen are primarily conduct-disordered offenders who have committed serious offenses, but excludes first-degree rapists and murderers. The Victor Cullen student's individualized development plan is expected to be completed in a maximum of six months. Victor Cullen opened in September 1992.



The on-grounds school at Victor Cullen was the first school in a juvenile justice setting in the state of Maryland to become fully accredited by the Maryland Department of Education. The success of the Victor Cullen education program is demonstrated by the fact that a Wide Range Achievement Test taken by 62 students after seven and one-half months in the program showed a 4.1 grade level improvement in reading, a 3.6 grade level improvement in math, and a 2.1 grade level improvement in spelling.



Victor Cullen offers a full range of intramural sports and six varsity interscholastic sports, including full-contact football. A member of the Maryland Public Secondary School Athletic Association, Victor Cullen students participate in sporting events throughout the state of Maryland, as well as in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia. The Academy also features a fine arts program including a choir which has performed for a variety of audiences on and off campus (e.g., the Maryland General Assembly). These and other activities provided by YSI promote teamwork and individual responsibility.

Victor Cullen Academy also has developed a strong [World of Work](#) curriculum which includes a for-profit gourmet catering business called The High Rise Bakery. Students at VCA work on and off campus in paying jobs, and last year the program was the largest recipient of Job Training Partnership Act (JPTA) funding in the local program region. Lessons of thrift and budgeting are important parts of the educational experience. The students are also responsible for restitution and child care payments prior to earning money for their own use. The students' treatment programs, which include anger management, victim awareness and other cognitive-behavioral programming, are also included in the accredited course work.

Victor Cullen accepts male juveniles who exhibit conduct disorder, socialized delinquent gang affiliations, and a history of aggressive behavior. These youths also lack leadership potential, maturity, and the ability to set goals.

Programs:

- [Residential and Fully Contained](#)
- [Residential and Partially Contained](#)
- [Violent and Aggressive Behavior](#)
- [Substance Abuse and Chemical Dependency](#)
- [Educational/Vocational Development](#)
- [Developmental Support](#)

[Facilities and Locations](#)