



School-Based Recovery Support: Characteristics

This analysis is intended to assist families, professionals, researchers and policymakers with understanding the differences between school choices for students in recovery from a substance use or co-occurring disorder.

	A. Primary Purpose	B. Educational Focus	C. Recovery Focus	D. Student Eligibility
Recovery Schools	To educate students in recovery from substance use or co-occurring disorders.	Meet state requirements for awarding a secondary school diploma, i.e. school offers credits leading to a state-recognized high school diploma, and student is not just getting tutored or completing work from another school while there.	Intend that all students enrolled be in recovery and working a program of recovery for substance use or co-occurring disorders, as determined by the student and the school.	Available to any student in recovery from substance use or co-occurring disorders who meets state or district eligibility requirements for attendance, i.e., students do not have to go through a particular treatment program to enroll and the school is not simply the academic component of a primary or extended-care treatment facility or therapeutic boarding school.
Therapeutic Boarding Schools	To provide emotional growth through designated therapeutic programs.	Grant high school diplomas or award credits that lead to a secondary school diploma.	Therapeutic boarding schools with a substance abuse recovery emphasis typically provide primary or extended care treatment and have specific services available for substance use and co-occurring disorders. The school likely will not intend that all students enrolled be in recovery and working a program of recovery for substance use or co-occurring disorders. Students will usually be co-mingled with many students not in active recovery from a substance use disorder.	The school is usually only available to students who have participated in a particular treatment program, and the school is essentially the academic component of a primary or extended-care treatment/therapeutic program.
Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center Schools	To provide clinical treatment and/or extended care with included academic and behavioral support.	May request homework from the student's school to keep the student on-track academically or, in the instance of long-term treatment or extended care, the treatment center may have a school on-site that provides academic instruction leading to credits awarded by the school, a local district or the student's home district. Some on-site schools may have authority to grant diplomas as well.	Facilities provide individual, group and family therapy sessions. Specialty residential treatment centers can include psychiatric and behavioral hospitals that will provide a description of their services.	The school is not available to any student in recovery from substance use or co-occurring disorders who meets state or district eligibility requirements for attendance, as students must go through a particular treatment program to enroll, and the school is the academic component of a primary or extended-care treatment facility.



<p>Non-Traditional Schools of Choice</p>	<p>To provide options for parents desiring an alternative to their school-of-zone.</p>	<p>Meet state requirements for awarding a secondary school diploma, i.e. school offers credits leading to a state-recognized high school diploma.</p>	<p>Non-traditional schools may include a therapeutic component, which may or may not emphasize substance abuse recovery support. Most of these schools will not require that all students enrolled be in recovery from substance use or co-occurring disorders. Working a program of recovery as determined by the student and the school is likely not the intention for all students.</p>	<p>The school is open to any student who qualifies for enrollment at that school, and most non-traditional schools are not exclusive to students in recovery from substance use or co-occurring disorders.</p>
<p>Traditional Secondary Schools</p>	<p>To prepare students for post-secondary careers and education.</p>	<p>Meet state requirements for awarding a secondary school diploma, i.e. school offers credits leading to a state-recognized high school diploma.</p>	<p>School staff (such as counselors, chemical health specialists and social workers), community agencies with school contracts and peers provide recovery support services. The intensity of recovery support may vary and might include a recovery classroom or homeroom or dedicated chemical dependency counselor. Students in recovery are blended with students actively using and/or not in recovery for most, if not all, of the school-day.</p>	<p>The school is open to any student who qualifies for enrollment at that school, and most non-traditional schools are not exclusive to students in recovery from substance use or co-occurring disorders.</p>