

Choosing with Confidence.

Selecting a school for a child with brain injury is a tremendous responsibility. It is a decision that will have a profound and long-lasting impact on that child's life.

How can you make the best possible choice with confidence? What should you look for as you evaluate and compare programs?

We invite you to learn more about our organization and its services. You will discover what truly sets May Institute apart as a national leader in the field and a renowned provider of exceptional educational programs for children with brain injury and other neurological disorders.



May Institute AND THE May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation

Serving children and adolescents with brain injury

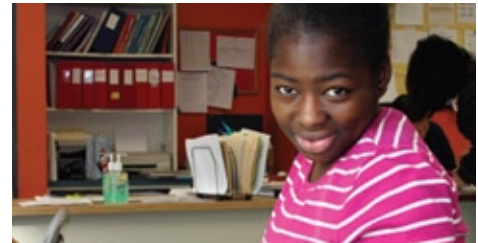


Rating the Indicators of Excellence

To assist you as you make this decision, we have identified some important indicators of excellence that will help you choose the highest quality organization and school program. You can use this checklist to help gather information and compare other brain injury programs to May Institute's program.

It is our hope that this information will give you confidence that you are choosing the best possible educational environment for a child with brain injury.

Indicators of Excellence	May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation	Other Programs
Experience	✓	
Organizational leadership and vision	✓	
Specialization	✓	
Clinical expertise	✓	
Emphasis on training	✓	
Commitment to evidence-based practice	✓	
National awards	✓	
External accreditation	✓	
Quality assurance/family satisfaction	✓	
Affiliations and partnerships	✓	
Commitment to research and dissemination	✓	
Professional advisory board	✓	
System of peer review	✓	



Indicators of Excellence — Choosing a Quality School Program

What to look for –	What May Institute offers –
<p>Experience... Look for a well-established, research-based program with a proven history of success.</p>	<p>May Institute has more than 50 years of experience providing the highest quality services for individuals with brain injury, autism and developmental disabilities, mental illness, and behavioral healthcare needs.</p>
<p>Organizational Leadership and Vision... The highest quality programs are led by nationally recognized leaders whose vision for the future and focus on exceptional care ensure the organization’s continued growth and success.</p>	<p>President and CEO Walter P. Christian, Ph.D., ABPP, ABPP, has led May Institute for more than 30 years. During that time, the Institute has earned an international reputation for providing outstanding services to individuals with special needs. Dr. Christian is a licensed psychologist and is board certified in behavior therapy and behavioral psychology. He received the 2008 lifetime achievement award as a Champion in Healthcare from the <i>Boston Business Journal</i>. Dr. Christian’s vision is shared by a senior management team with extremely strong clinical and professional credentials and backgrounds. Dr. Christian and Chief Clinical Officer Dennis C. Russo, Ph.D., ABPP, ABPP, are two of only 56 distinguished behavior analysis Fellows worldwide.</p>
<p>Specialization... Schools and programs that excel in helping students with brain injury reach their maximum potential are led by experts in the field and staffed by teachers specifically trained in the treatment of brain injury and related disciplines.</p>	<p>May Institute’s brain injury program and school are led by Gary Pace, Ph.D., BCBA, a nationally recognized expert in the research and treatment of brain injury and neurological disorders in children, adolescents, and adults. Dr. Pace is the Senior Vice President of Neurorehabilitation Services for May Institute and Program Director of the May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation. The Center is one of the few pediatric programs in the country focusing on education and rehabilitation of students with brain injury or neurological disorders. Its clinical team includes specialists in brain injury, special education, early childhood development, psychology, and rehabilitation.</p>
<p>Clinical Expertise... In addition to providing doctoral-level senior leadership, exceptional programs employ board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs), associate behavior analysts (BCABAs), and other professionals who have completed competency-based training that covers the most effective methods for working with children with brain injury and related disorders. The best programs also employ professionals who can meet the complex medical needs experienced by many students with brain injury.</p>	<p>Our organization employs more than 40 licensed and credentialed doctoral-level professionals, and more than 60 behavior analysts with BCBA and BCABA certification. With our master’s-level staff, this represents one of the country’s largest concentrations of clinicians with training and expertise in brain injury, autism, and other disabilities. At the May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation, our multidisciplinary approach to the treatment of brain injury includes nursing, special education, Allied Health (PT, OT, Speech), counseling, and applied behavior analysis (ABA).</p>



What to look for –

Emphasis on Training... Professional development and training programs support and strengthen a service-driven organization.

What May Institute offers –

Our highly skilled staff participate in an ongoing system of comprehensive training and professional development. Our intensive training programs extend to all our staff, ensuring continuity of consistent, effective care. The May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation participates in a national certification program for professionals who provide brain injury services. Certified trainers at the May Center offer ongoing classes for staff to receive Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS) certification. As an organization accredited by the American Psychological Association, we also provide placements for the best pre- and post-doctoral interns in the country.

“May Institute’s services are state-of-the-art. Their policies support the continuous education of personnel and adherence to choosing treatment methods on the basis of scientific evidence.”

–Beth Sulzer-Azaroff, Ph.D., BCBA
President, Browns Group



Commitment to Evidence-Based Practice... Look for a program that uses treatment procedures and methods with a documented history of effectiveness—those that have been very well researched and shown to work.

Part of what sets us apart from other organizations is our uncompromising commitment to professionalism and excellence. Our work is grounded in evidence-based practice, and we continually review and measure our results. Our programs are based on applied behavior analysis (ABA), which has been identified by hundreds of scientific studies as the most effective method to teach children and adolescents with brain injury. The academic instruction programs at the May Center are based on published best practice standards for teaching children and adolescents with academic, social, physical, and behavioral difficulties resulting from a brain injury.

National Awards... National honors recognize an organization’s depth of expertise and outstanding contributions to the field. Distinguished awards are an external confirmation of internal excellence, and attest to national leadership and stature.

May Institute is the only nonprofit human services organization in the country to be honored by the two most prestigious national awards in the field. We received the 2007 Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis. In 2005, we received the Outstanding Training Program Award from the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.



What to look for –

External Accreditation. . . External accreditation is an objective, independent measure of quality. Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) confirms that an organization has a proven record of quality, measurability, accountability, and positive results.

Quality Assurance/Family Satisfaction. . . An integrated feedback mechanism is one indication that an organization is hearing and responding to the needs of students and their families.

What May Institute offers –

We continuously seek and receive the highest level of program accreditation. The May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation has earned a three-year accreditation from CARF, the highest level awarded. Over 90 percent of May Institute’s CARF-eligible programs have received three-year CARF accreditation, with the remainder scheduled for review in the immediate future. This constitutes one of the most comprehensive accreditations CARF has ever awarded to a network of behavioral programs.

As part of our dedication to the highest possible standards, our Quality Improvement division works with all programs to measure performance and track progress. Results consistently reveal outstanding satisfaction (95 percent or higher) on the part of individuals served, families and guardians, and affiliated agencies.



“ [May Institute] enjoys a national reputation and serves students from numerous states in the Brockton brain injury program, which is one of a few of its kind in the country.”

—Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities



Affiliations and Partnerships. . . Affiliations with national and international institutions in education, medical, and human services fields increase an organization’s impact and strengthen its clinical foundation.

As an active center of research and training, we maintain affiliations and partnerships with more than 55 universities, hospitals, and human service agencies worldwide.



What to look for –	What May Institute offers –
<p>Commitment to Research and Dissemination. . . Organizations that emphasize research and share their clinical expertise demonstrate a sincere commitment to advancing the field of knowledge and promoting evidence-based practices.</p>	<p>We conduct more applied research than any other human services organization of our kind, and are active in the dissemination of best practices. Our publications since 1978 include more than 340 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and books. In that time, our professional staff have conducted over 1,700 presentations to international, national, and regional audiences.</p>
<p>Professional Advisory Board. . . The best programs benefit from the expertise and guidance of a board of national and international experts from a wide range of disciplines.</p>	<p>Our Professional Advisory Board includes leading authorities in the fields of autism, applied behavior analysis (ABA), brain injury, special education, developmental disabilities, and behavioral health. These experts review May Institute programs and provide guidance on new developments and best practices.</p>
<p>A System of Peer Review. . . Exceptional organizations rely on a system of peer review to ensure that all programs, practices, research, and publications are carefully reviewed and evaluated by colleagues who are experts in the field.</p>	<p>Our clinical experts are constantly evaluating the quality of services we offer; they also mentor and provide guidance and supervision to staff, thereby creating the next generation of highly qualified and dedicated professionals.</p>

“Guided by an outstanding Professional Advisory Board and clinical leadership team, our staff address each child’s individual treatment needs with data-based programs that work. Nearly 80 percent of our students move on to less restrictive settings within 36 months.”

– Gary Pace, Ph.D., BCBA
Program Director





About the May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation

The May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation is one of only a handful of pediatric programs in the United States that focuses on both education and rehabilitation of children and adolescents (ages 5 to 22) with brain injury or neurological disorders. The Center is a Massachusetts Chapter 766-approved school and is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Our full-day, year-round program is based on best practice standards for teaching students with academic, social, physical, and behavioral difficulties resulting from a brain injury. We have extensive experience navigating states' special education regulations and medical care requirements to ensure a child is placed in the most appropriate and least restrictive setting. Nearly 80 percent of our students move on to less restrictive settings within 36 months.

Our school has over 50 highly specialized staff members, including doctoral- and master's-level supervisors, certified brain injury specialists, and

licensed and credentialed professionals. Staff members include:

- Doctoral-level clinical leadership with board certification in behavior analysis (BCBA)
- Certified brain injury specialists (CBIS)
- Master's-level special education teachers
- Highly trained teachers
- On-site nurses (RNs and LPNs)
- On-site physical, occupational, and speech therapists
- On-site licensed, clinical social worker
- Consulting physician and psychiatrist

For families who need more intensive support for their child, the May Center can combine day school services with residential living in either our on-campus residence or in one of our community-based homes. Our highly trained staff provide 24-hour support and supervision to ensure that each child's unique needs are met.

Facility Highlights:

- Large, bright and airy classrooms equipped with computers
- A rehabilitation gymnasium equipped with parallel bars, nautilus, weight area, and swings for PT and OT
- A children's library with hundreds of books, tapes, and other resources
- A full gymnasium, sports field, spacious cafeteria, and vocational training areas;
- A comprehensive medical suite with space for Allied Health services
- An on-campus residence as well as community-based homes
- Therapy rooms for speech/language and communication services

As you make this critical decision, we hope you will consider the May Center as a placement for your child.

“Our interaction with the May Center was a life-changing experience for both our son and our family. We feel that his successes, both current and future ones, would not be achievable without you in his life. Thank you a million times over.”

—Doug and Krista Gantt, Parents



“I have visited special education schools for over 30 years, and none top May Institute for positive energy and enthusiasm in interactions with students and parents.”

—Massachusetts Public School Administrator



About May Institute

May Institute is a nonprofit organization that provides educational, rehabilitative, and behavioral healthcare services to individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and other developmental disabilities, brain injury, mental illness, and behavioral healthcare needs. The Institute also provides training and consultation services to professionals, organizations, and public school systems.

Since its founding more than 50 years ago, May Institute has evolved into an award-winning national network that serves over 25,000 individuals and their families annually at more than 200 service locations in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, and on the West Coast. The Institute has become an active center of research and training, maintaining affiliations with more than 55 universities, hospitals, and human service agencies worldwide.

In addition to the May Center for Education and Neurorehabilitation, which serves students with brain injury, the Institute operates four May Centers that serve children and adolescents with ASD and other developmental disabilities.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact us at **800.778.7601**.

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