



PRINCIPLES OF GOOD COUNSELING PRACTICE

The Learning Studios aims to promote and maintain the highest standards of academic tutoring, test preparation and college counseling. These principles are intended to guide our ethical practices and policies. The Learning Studios believes in the worth, dignity, and potential of each student and is dedicated to the pursuit of higher education.

Core Values:

Trust: Our academic tutoring and college counseling is based upon trust, mutual respect and honesty among our colleagues, families, and students.

Education: We are committed to educating students, their families, and ourselves about the transition to and within secondary and college education.

Collaboration: The Learning Studios teachers/consultants work together and with frequent communication to promote and protect students and their best interest.

Fairness and Equity: Our teachers/consultants have a responsibility to treat one another and students in a fundamentally fair and equitable way.

Social Responsibility: The Learning Studios is committed to serving students responsibly, by safeguarding their rights and their access to and within secondary and college education.

Competency:

A. The Learning Studios strives to be aware of practice within boundaries of his/her competence based on relevant education, training, and/or experience. Relevant education refers to English language and literature, history, science, math and language, and other associated courses. Experience may include standardized test preparation and college counseling.

B. A Learning Studios teacher/consultant only represents her/himself as dealing with those areas in which she/he has competence. A Learning Studios teacher/consultant acknowledges when a situation is outside the scope of her/his knowledge or expertise, and will seek – respectively – to consult with or refer to colleagues possessing specialized knowledge or expertise.

C. Learning Studios teachers/consultants know and understand the philosophies, values, missions, goals, approaches and methods of the schools, universities, programs and therapeutic institutions they recommend.

D. A Learning Studios teacher/consultant participates in ongoing professional development.

Relationship with Students and Families:

A. The Learning Studios strives to discern and recommend options and opportunities that will serve the best interest of the student. Families participate in the process and are valued as vital contributors.

B. The Learning Studios respects students, recognizes their dignity, and shows sensitivity to their strengths, values, and needs.

C. The Learning Studios teachers/consultants' primary obligation is to assess, make recommendations for, and represent each student accurately and fairly based upon a professional evaluation of the circumstances, requirements of the case, and needs of the student.

D. The Learning Studios teachers/consultants does not write application essays or any portion of an essay for students. Their role is to serve as advisors, to coach, question and encourage students to fully and honestly express themselves.

E. The Learning Studios teachers/consultants provide consistent information to the student and family members.

F. The Learning Studios maintains confidentiality of records, notes, and student information and discloses confidential information only with written consent (see Confidentiality Disclosure Form).

G. The Learning Studios teacher/consultant presents the fees and possible financial arrangement for services to the parent or guardian of each student.

Relationship with High Schools, Colleges and Other Programs:

A. The Learning Studios neither solicits nor accepts compensation from any school, college, institution, or special program for placement of a student. The Learning Studios avoids actions that would suggest our participation in such arrangements to parents, schools, or other professionals.

Relationship with other Educational Consultants and Vendors of Client Services:

The Learning Studios teachers/consultants accept payment only for work performed. They do not receive commissions or other payments for enrollment in or referrals to programs or vendors; nor do they accept remuneration for referring clients to other consultants or other related professionals.

Advertising and Public Statement:

A. The Learning Studios strives to create a calm and rational environment around which educational planning takes place, and refrains from statements that increase anxiety around academic or application processes.

B. The Learning Studios teacher/consultant does not convey, either directly or indirectly, that she/he has any special influence with schools, colleges, or programs.