



## Group Excellence, Ltd.

### Contact Information:

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### Description of Services:

Group Excellence, Ltd. (GE) is a mentoring and tutoring company dedicated to equipping students with the tools necessary to excel on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills. Group Excellence offers many instructional programs, in which students may participate based on individual needs:

(1) Group Excellence offers interactive online tutoring, which allows students to practice TAKS skills from any computer with an internet connection. Students receive unlimited access to this resource upon enrollment in our program.

(2) Group Excellence provides students with instructional materials in subjects approved for SES tutoring, including workbooks, interactive DVDs, and other related resources.

(3) Group Excellence offers after-school and Saturday tutoring programs called Smart Sport in select cities. Visit [www.groupexcellence.org](http://www.groupexcellence.org) to determine if Group Excellence can tutor on your campus.

Trained GE tutors, who we call Life Coaches, will work with students individually and in small groups, not only in a tutoring capacity, but also in a mentoring role.

### Description of Instructor Qualifications:

All instructors must either be certified teachers, have a bachelor's degree or be current college students who maintain both a 3.0 GPA and good standing with their institutions.

All instructors must complete the Group Excellence Certification Program including training in (1) mentoring, (2) TAKS curriculum, (3) classroom management and (4) procedures. The GE Certification Program combines research in educational psychology with the best practices of professionals in the education field, including learning and subject specialists, counselors and teachers.

All Group Excellence executives and research/curriculum team members must have a graduate or bachelor's degree in fields related to their responsibilities.

### Description of Evidence of Effectiveness:

For the past three years, Group Excellence has partnered with the Texas Instruments Foundation, Advance Placement Strategies, and Dallas Independent School District (DISD) to provide tutors/mentors for the Texas Instruments Algebra Initiative. The Algebra steering committee named Group Excellence "the most valuable part of what we are doing." In 2006, the TIF commissioned a report by an independent third party on the effectiveness of the GE program. The report compared students in the district who received tutoring from GE to those who did not and used TAKS raw score gains to measure GE's impact. At Samuell High School in Dallas, 9th grade GE students made average gains at a rate of 23 times the rest of the district (GE, 4.6 compared to DISD, 0.2). At Florence Middle School, 8th grade GE students made average gains at a rate of nearly 3 times the rest of the district (GE, 5.1 compared to DISD, 1.8) and 7th grade GE students made gains while the rest of the district saw decreases in raw scores (GE, 0.5 compared to DISD, -2.3). At Titche and Runyon elementary schools, 6th grade GE students made average gains at a rate of 1.6 times the rest of the district (GE, 2.9 compared to DISD, 1.8), and 5th grade GE students made average gains at a rate of 2 times the rest of the district (GE, 5.8 compared to DISD, 2.9). Visit [www.groupexcellence.org](http://www.groupexcellence.org) to download the full report. Furthermore, GE was also awarded the Pinnacle Award from the Dallas County Peace Officers Association in March 2007 for outstanding achievement in the community for excellence in education.