



Frequently Asked Question Regarding Virtual Learning in Logan County Schools

Updated on 8/5/2020

Platform: Logan County Schools will use the WVDE WV Learns Platform.

Courses:

What online courses are currently available?

Courses are available for grades K-12. The West Virginia Department of Education reviews courses for quality in instructional design and alignment with the West Virginia Content Standards and Objectives. These reviews, facilitated by West Virginia teachers, have led to an approved list of courses. View a complete list of available courses [here](http://wvde.state.wv.us/vschool/courses/). <http://wvde.state.wv.us/vschool/courses/>

Who are the Virtual School Content Providers?

Most courses are provided on the WV Learns platform using West Virginia teachers and an approved course curriculum. The curriculum may be developed by a West Virginia teacher or leased from an outside entity. In the few circumstances where a course is not available via the WV Learns platform, the West Virginia Virtual School will contract with distance learning companies, organizations, K-12 and higher education institutions to provide instruction. In these situations, a student will take courses directly from these providers once the approval process is completed.

What types of online classes do students generally take?

Students who are participating in a full-time virtual program can take all courses -- core and electives -- to meet graduation requirements. West Virginia students in a brick and mortar school typically take courses online not offered in their local schools. Additionally, some students are taking courses due to scheduling conflicts. Elective, world languages and AP courses are among the most requested virtual courses.

How long does an online course last?

Most online courses generally allow and encourage students to proceed at their own pace. Specific timelines are set by the local school system. Courses are arranged in .5 credit formats to meet the needs of all students regardless of school schedule.

How many online courses can I take?

Students who attend a brick and mortar school are limited to two courses at a time at the expense of the WVVS. Tuition fees for full-time virtual students are paid by the local school district; therefore, the school district will determine the number of courses permissible for full-time students.

Why does the virtual school offer the same course from more than one course provider? How do I decide which one to take?

Students are always placed with a West Virginia teacher through the WVVS if space is available.

Can I attend the WV Virtual School full-time?

Yes, with permission from the local school district.

Can I earn my diploma from the WV Virtual School?

No, the WV Virtual School is not a diploma-granting institution. If a student meets the requirements for a high school diploma, the local school district will provide the diploma.

Can I earn my diploma from my local High School?

Yes, upon completing all requirements as required by the county board, a student will receive a county high school diploma from the school they are enrolled.

Schedule:

What is the daily schedule?

Students will be required to create a Pacing Guide with the help of the facilitator. The course work will all be available upon login. There will be course work deadlines that must be met. Self-monitoring and following the pacing guide will result in successful completion of the course.

Will my assignments be timed?

No, only timed materials would be a final examination.

Will I have a certain time that I must login?

No, you will follow your own pacing guide. However, elementary students must login with their teacher one time per week. Also, policy requires the parent/student to participate in a weekly TEAMS meeting with the facilitator.

How much time do students work online each day?

The time spent online each day will vary by what is appropriate for student age. Generally, elementary students can expect 2 minimum hours of online engagement. Middle-level and high school can expect 2.5-3.5 minimum hours online per day.

Eligibility

Are there prerequisites or academic requirements for the courses?

Sometimes, prerequisites are clearly stated in the course descriptions on the WVVS web site. Additionally, students must be knowledgeable about and abide by the state, county, and/or local Acceptable Use Policies and have an @stu.k12.wv.us email account through the West Virginia Department of Education.

What type of student is a good candidate for an online course?

Students need to be self-motivated and be able to direct their own learning to fulfill course requirements and achieve academic success. Specific technology skills, learning styles, study habits, and communication skills are indicators of success in virtual courses.

Can students with IEP's and 504 plans enroll in Virtual Learning?

Yes, a student with and IEP or 504 will receive accommodations for Virtual Learning as specified on their IEP or 504 plans.

Grades/Credit**Will I get credit from my school for my online course?**

Yes, if the West Virginia Department of Education and the local school approve the course.

How will I be assessed? What are the testing procedures?

Assessments are included in each course and will be scored by the licensed teacher associated with the course. Advanced Placement exams are the responsibility of the student or the school depending on the local policy and funding procedures.

How is my grade recorded on my transcript?

If the West Virginia Department of Education and your local school approve the course, your grade will be recorded on your transcript just like any other course grade you receive from your school. The online teacher will issue the grade and the local school system is responsible for putting the grade on the student transcript. All courses must be included on the student transcript including a WF for courses dropped outside of the 14-day grace period.

Will Virtual students be required to participate in the state testing program?

Yes, Virtual students will follow the same testing requirements as the students in the brick and mortar building. WVDE will determine the testing guidelines for the Virtual student.

Instructional Materials**What instructional materials are used for course delivery?**

Most courses include the instructional materials. If the necessary instructional materials required to complete the course are not available to the student, the local school system will help provide materials.

Are there additional charges for instructional materials?

On rare occasion, the local school system may need to provide supplies for online courses just like they do in brick and mortar classes (i.e. art supplies, science lab materials not typically found around the home). The local school system receives legislative funding to provide materials for student instruction.

Local School Involvement**What is the local school's responsibility?**

The local school must approve the online course, facilitate registration of the course through the WVVS contact, and record the grade for the course on the transcript. The local school is also required to assign the student to an on-site facilitator.

Will I work with someone from my own school?

You will be assigned a facilitator to provide you support throughout the course work. Your academic progress will be monitored by your facilitator. The facilitator will communicate with you periodically to

assess your progress and help you with problems. Your local facilitator is your first contact for problems. You will participate in a weekly online TEAMS meeting with your facilitator.

Non-Public School Student Eligibility

Are students in home school, private or parochial schools eligible to take a Virtual School course?

Yes, all students in West Virginia are eligible for virtual courses by enrolling as a part-time student in the local school in which a student would attend (per state code). By registering as a part-time student, all accounts will activate to participate in the courses.

Registration/Drop

How do I register for Virtual Learning?

Parents/Guardians should submit the online application for Virtual Learning found on the website and social media sites of each school in Logan County. Enrollment must occur prior to the fourteenth day of the semester. Students should contact a school administrator or counselor, serving as a virtual school enrollment contact at the school, who may facilitate the logistics of enrollment.

How do I get approval to take an online course?

The Virtual School policy indicates that the approval for participation in online courses is a local decision.

Can I drop my online course?

Yes. At the request of many school systems, the WVVS limits the grace period to drop a course without penalty up to the fourteenth academic day of the semester. This will ensure the student does not miss quality instructional time if he/she must return to a traditional classroom environment. All drops must be approved by both the local facilitator, school administrator, and the West Virginia Virtual School.

Technology

Will an electronic device be provided?

Yes, Logan County Schools will provide the Virtual Learner with an electronic device to use the duration of the course work. This device is returned to the school at the end of the school year.

What computer skills do I need to take an online course?

The more computer experience a student has, the less he/she will have to focus on the technology and will be ready to focus on the course content. It is the responsibility of the local school district to assist students who are not familiar with Office365, email, Internet browsers, and other technologies needed for online courses.

What computer system requirements or skills do I need to take an online course?

Technology requirements for virtual school courses change over time and are determined by the course. Students should have a device with updated browsers. The student will need basic computer skills.

Tuition/Payment

Who pays for the online course?

Logan County Schools will assume all financial responsibility for online courses.

FULL-TIME VIRTUAL program -- Funding for students in a full-time virtual school program is provided to the local school district through FTE monies. The local school system is responsible for paying tuition fees to the WVVS for full-time students. The student is not charged tuition for attending public school virtual instruction program.

SUPPLEMENT program -- The WVVS receives a set allotment of legislative funding to provide online courses to students who typically attend face-to-face classes but must take a virtual class because the course is not available in the brick and mortar school or a scheduling conflict exists. Pending the availability of funding, full tuition costs for the first ten students in an individual course per year at a school are paid through WVVS state funds. Tuition for each student above ten in the same course, from the same school, will be shared by the WVVS and the local school system. The local school system will pay \$200 per student per semester for each student above 10 while state funds will be used to pay the remaining per student course cost.

SUMMER SCHOOL program -- Summer courses may be offered through the WVVS but payment for summer enrollment shall be the responsibility of the county or the guardian.

Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities:

Can a Virtual Learning student participate in sports and other curricular and extra-curricular activities?

Yes, Virtual school students are treated the same as brick and mortar students with respect to eligibility and participation in curricular and extracurricular activities.

Parent/Guardian questions received:

- 1. If I fill out the virtual application and after it has been submitted, but before the start of the fall semester, can the application be rescinded?**
Yes, you will have up to the fourteen academic day to decide if Virtual Learning does not work for you and your student.
- 2. If the Governor declares remote learning, will I be able to drop Virtual and return to the public school for remote learning?**
Yes, it will be your choice if you decide to drop Virtual Learning. You do have the 14-day grace period without penalty. If you drop after the 14th academic day, the grade the student has at the time of the drop in Virtual Learning will be transferred to their records in the brick and mortar school.
- 3. If after the Governor declares remote learning and it only occurs for 3-4 weeks, can I return to Virtual, if I was previously enrolled but dropped to go remote?**
No, the student will have to wait until the new semester to enroll if this occurs beyond the fourteenth day academic day of the semester.
- 4. I was wondering if the WV Virtual Learning plan for elementary has been fully developed at this point or should we expect delays in instruction?**
WVDE WVLEARNS program was utilized by other counties last year at the elementary level. WV certified teachers will be teaching the elementary courses.

5. Will I be provided directions how to navigate the system?

Yes, you will be provided an orientation by TEAMS to teach you how to navigate the system. You will get ongoing support through the facilitator. You will be provided a Handbook that will include navigation directions. You will have a TEAMS meeting with the facilitator once a week.

6. What services will be provided to my Virtual Learning student?

The student is eligible for ALL services provided to the students in the Brick and Mortar building.

7. Will tutoring be available for the Virtual Learner?

Yes, you will be provided with information of all tutoring available at the school in your district.

8. How will I know what events are happening at the school in my district?

The facilitator will provide you with a monthly newsletter to keep you informed of all school events, programs, testing, activities, and family involvement events. You are still part of the school and will follow the same guidelines and rules of the brick and mortar student. There will also be a group email account set up and monitored by the facilitator to provide information and support.

9. How do I get in touch with the Facilitator?

You will be provided contact information at the orientation. Office hours will be provided at the orientation. Also, you can contact the facilitator for scheduling face-to-face support through TEAMS as needed.

10. What is my computer quits working or I am having technology problems?

You will contact the facilitator and the information will be given to the technology department to provide you support. We will have "loaner" computers for you to use if your device needs repaired. We do not want you to have a lag in your instruction because of technology issues.

11. What if my course requires me to have supplies or materials that I don't have at my home?

The facilitator will assist you in acquiring the necessary instructional materials and supplies from Logan County Schools, that is needed for you to complete your assignments.

12. Are the lessons timed and do I have to be in front of a computer all day?

Lessons are not timed. All lessons for the course will be available upon login. You will develop a pacing guide with the facilitator. You determine your schedule based upon due dates.

13. If the Interest survey indicates a low turnout, will there still be an option for Virtual Learning?

Yes, the Virtual Learning program will begin on tentatively on Sept. 8, 2020 for those students choosing this option.

14. Will the students automatically be signed up for the classes/schedule that they chose at the end of last year or what will be the process?

The school official enrolling your student in Virtual Learning will contact you to discuss courses. The school registers the student with Virtual Learning with the WVDE according to their

Personal Education Plan (PEP). If the student already completed the plan, then the school can decide to use what was already agreed on, if the courses are all available in the Virtual courseware. There may be an adjustment needed if, for example, you chose Pro Start, and that is not offered with Virtual Learning.

15. Will all Honors and AP classes be available to all grade levels in high school? If so, will they be able to change those classes to regular classes, if they see they begin to struggle and feel like they should go back to the regular/basic subject for their grade level? How would they go about that situation?

Yes, AP classes are offered at all grade levels in high school, honors vary by school. Switching classes of any kind should happen within the grace period for schedule changes, even from regular to honors or back.

16. Will students still be eligible for the National Honor Society at their home school?

Yes, they can participate in extra-curricular/co-curricular clubs such as honor society.

17. Will students be able to participate in all sports, if they choose to do so, if sports continue this year?

Yes, full-time virtual students or those taking at least four courses are eligible. They must follow all school and WVSSAC guidelines, where applicable. A home school student will have to follow school and WVSSAC guidelines.

18. What if I am undecided about completing the application for Virtual Learning in Logan County?

You will have up to the fourteenth academic day of the semester to decide. The online application will go down on Sept. 25, 2020. Paper applications will be available at your school up to the fourteenth academic day of the semester.

19. What if I complete the application, but change my mind once school starts on Sept. 8, 2020?

The grace period for enrolling or dropping Virtual Learning is up to the fourteenth academic day of the semester. You will be allowed to change your option choice up to that time frame.

20. How can I see a visual or something to show me what the program looks like?

Do to copyright protection, Logan County Schools cannot post videos or segments of the online course. However, you can go to WVDE Virtual Learning website, WVLEARNS to see sample lessons. Also, during the Orientation, you will be able to see the program in operation.