

DeSoto County Schools Virtual Instructional Program (VIP) Expectations and Requirements

**All DeSoto County school board policies apply to students in the Virtual Instructional Program (VIP). The purpose of this document is not to nullify or replace any school board approved policy. The purpose of this document is to clarify expectations and requirements for students and guardians while students are in the VIP.*

- Students/guardians understand that reliable internet ability and a device with a large enough screen are requirements to complete assignments as a student in the VIP. District officials will work with families in getting and using a device to access Schoology if there is no acceptable device in the house. There is a non-refundable \$25 fee to rent a district device unless the student qualifies for free or reduced lunch in which the fee can be waived if requested by the guardian. The acceptable device policy discusses fees, stolen or damaged equipment. Violations could result in removal from the program and possible prosecution in accordance with law. It is the family's responsibility to be sure they have reliable internet to be part of this program. Once the DCS inventory is exhausted, a waiting list will be implemented.
- Students/guardians are not allowed to record, publish, photograph, stream, post to a third party site, sell, duplicate or share anything posted on or within the Schoology platform, either by Schoology or DeSoto County Schools. Violations could result in removal from the program and possible prosecution in accordance with law.
- Students/guardians will follow the Schoology terms of use located here...<https://www.schoology.com/terms-of-use>. Violations could result in removal from the program and possible prosecution in accordance with law.
- Students/guardians understand that students enrolled in the VIP will be required to participate in assessments, consisting of class assignments, district assessments, and/or state assessments. Some of the state assessments could be required for promotion and/or graduation by state law/policy, such as is the case for all 3rd grade students and high school students enrolled in Algebra I, English II, Biology I or U.S. History. In addition, all students in kindergarten and grades 4-8 are required to take a state assessment by federal and/or state law, along with all English Learner students in all grades. These state assessments will require the student to take the assessment at the school building. The school will work with the guardian to complete this at the appropriate time.
- Students/guardians understand that some programs, such as English Learner, Special Education and 504, are services written for a traditional setting. Some services and accommodations may not be appropriate or feasible in the VIP.
- Students/guardians understand that DeSoto County staff will not be available for direct communication/instruction except during school hours on school days.
- Students/guardians understand that the Mississippi Department of Education requires 240 minutes of daily instruction for all students, including those in a distance-learning program. This could include recorded or live teaching from the classroom teacher, instructional videos, tasks, assignments, and/or activities. The mode of instruction will vary by school, grade level and/or course.

- Students/guardians understand that students in the VIP follow the same grading policy as students in the traditional setting.
- Students/guardians understand that attendance is marked daily with completed assignments and weekly interaction with the teacher. Compulsory school attendance applies to the students in VIP, just as it does with traditional students.
- Students/guardians understand that it is the enrolled student who will complete his/her assigned work, just as students in the traditional setting. Students/guardians must follow the guidelines presented by the teacher for each assignment. Violations could result in removal from the program.
- Student/guardians understand that they will use Schoology to post all completed assignments in order to be graded.
- Students/guardians understand that each student enrolled in the VIP program is responsible for having and using the same materials as traditional students. The school supply list is on the school website.
- Students/guardians understand that students enrolled in the VIP are unable to participate in extracurricular activities and/or Career Tech.
- Students/guardians understand that each student continues enrollment in the VIP automatically each nine weeks.
- Students/guardians understand that they must stay in the Virtual Instructional Program for the entire nine weeks.