

CHAPTER 4.00 – CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

VIRTUAL SCHOOLS

4.81

Alabama Act No. 2015-89 requires “at a minimum, each local board of education to adopt a policy for providing a virtual school option for eligible students in grades 9-12. The policy shall offer students an online pathway for earning a high school diploma.” The Dale County School District shall provide a virtual option for 9- 12 grade students with course opportunities consistent with District instructional goals and aligned with Alabama’s academic standards, curriculum frameworks, and assessments.

The Dale County School District will provide a virtual pathway or virtual education option for students in 9-12. Students enrolled will complete coursework virtually from their computers. The coursework allows student scheduling flexibility to complete the course requirements.

Students must meet the following eligibility criteria to participate in the virtual pathway:

- Have access to the internet and to a computer outside of school
- Must meet all enrollment guidelines for attending the Dale County School District
- Maintain minimum overall GPA of 2.0 in core courses taken during the academic year prior to making application to attend the Virtual School. (English, Math, Science, Social Studies)
- Maintain appropriate course progression as measured by the completion of weekly assignments, quizzes, and/or tests
- Daily access of virtual course content
- Be on track for graduation having earned necessary credit in each core area of study – English, Math Science, and Social Science – and other requisite courses needed for a particular diploma type
- Remain a student in good standing of the Dale County School District
- Have an adult (legal parent or guardian) willing to serve as the learning coach

Students must meet the established attendance and academic progress criteria which will be monitored by Dale County School District staff. All full-time virtual students will be enrolled as a student in the high school zone in which they reside. These students will be counted in the average daily membership. All full-time virtual students **will** participate in all state testing and accountability requirements, which may require reporting to the school campus. Upon satisfying all graduation requirements, students enrolled in the virtual pathway will receive an Alabama High School Diploma.

Students enrolled in a virtual pathway are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities in the school in which they are enrolled, according to attendance zone. They are subject to the same requirements as listed above, also including Alabama High School Athletic Association rules.

Students enrolled in a virtual pathway shall be exempt from any provision of general law, local law, or administrative rules that apply to the traditional delivery of instruction, including but not limited to, requirements to the physical presence of a student, student monitoring and security, staffing requirements, transportation obligations, facility requirements, space and location

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requirements, physical education requirements and time requirements, to the extent any of the forgoing conflict with the delivery of the virtual program.

Any online course delivery that is not provided by the Alabama State Department of Education shall be accredited by an institution recognized pursuant to administrative rule adopted by the ALSDE. Course work offered through the virtual program shall contain the required content as identified in the applicable Alabama Course of Study.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

CODE OF ALABAMA

LAW(S) IMPLEMENTED:

CODE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT:

§290-3-1-.02(7); 2(K)

HISTORY:

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