



Kansas Virtual Schools Q and A

ANSWERS FROM THE 2022 VIRTUAL LEARNING CONFERENCE

- 1. Is synchronous instruction allowed in virtual schools or programs? Although some instructional supports and activities (fieldtrips, for example) may be provided synchronously, this should not be the predominate way to provide virtual learning services. State law defines virtual schools or programs as using distance-learning technologies, which predominately use internet-based methods to deliver instruction and involves instruction that occurs asynchronously with the teacher and student in separate locations. As noted below, Remote Learning is defined as different from virtual because Remote Learning occurs synchronously.
- 2. How did the remote learning law affect virtual students? Due to illness, injury or other extraordinary circumstance, some traditionally enrolled students who otherwise would have attended in person instead will attend temporarily through Remote Learning to ensure they continue to receive learning services. Currently, Remote Learning is defined as different from virtual because Remote Learning occurs synchronously. By state law, Remote Learning is required to approximate the student learning experience that would take place on-site at the student's attendance center. Learning services for regularly enrolled and on-site-attending students occurs synchronously. Therefore, Remote Learning should continue to occur synchronously and be prepared and provided by teachers and staff of the school district that the student is regularly enrolled in.
- 3. **Can students with an IEP attend as virtual students?** Yes. Students with an IEP must be allowed to enroll and attend a virtual school or program. For more information, please see KSDE's webinar on non-discriminatory enrollment criteria for virtual schools and programs.
- 4. **How do I sign up for the KSDE virtual listserv?** Email virtual@ksde.org and we will add you to the listserv.
- 5. Can virtual schools and programs limit enrollment to those students who meet a specific list of qualifications? Districts may have a list of requirements that must be met for a student to enroll and attend a virtual school or program. Examples of such requirements include that a responsible adult or guardian be available to help supervise students and that there is stable, reliable internet availability. The requirements for student eligibility must not target a legally protected student class.
- 6. **Should a virtual student be reported for truancy?** Yes. Daily attendance must be taken for students attending virtually and a virtual student who fails to attend should be treated the same as an on-site student who fails to attend. For any student who fails to attend, follow your district/school policies including conferences with parents/guardians and filing truancy.



- 7. Where can I find information Advisory Council meetings? Information on our Advisory Council meetings can be found on the website at this <u>link</u>. We are always looking for new members!
- 8. Can a student attending a virtual program or school attend one class at a time and still be considered a full-time student? No. One class does not provide the student with a reasonable opportunity to make academic progress toward the next grade level. The Virtual School Act requires a student to make academic progress toward the next grade level.
- 9. Are students attending virtually required to take the state assessment? Virtual students are required to take the state assessment just like a regularly enrolled student attending on-site. Reminder: all state assessments must be given in person and supervised by district personnel.
- 10. How are virtual students funded? Please see the <u>KSDE Enrollment Handbook</u>, and the section titled "Virtual Students Funding." The most current version of the KSDE Enrollment Handbook is available on the KSDE Fiscal Auditing webpage.
- 11. Does it matter what district name or building name is on the diploma for a student graduating from a virtual school or program? This is a local decision. It can be the name of the district, name of the high school, or name of the virtual school or program.

For more information, contact:

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