

## Calhoun County Board of Education

**Scope.** This policy establishes a virtual education program that offers eligible students in grades six through twelve an online pathway for earning a high school diploma

**Authority.** W. Va. Code §18-5F-1 et. seq.

**Effective Date.** September, 11, 2017  
for students in grades 6-12.

### Definitions

**Blended program** - a formal education program in which a student learns:

- (1) At least in part through online learning, with some element of student control over time, place, path or pace;
- (2) At least in part in a supervised setting outside the home; and
- (3) In such a way that the modalities of each student's learning path within a course or subject are connected to provide an integrated learning experience;

**Eligible student** - a student eligible for attendance in public schools in a school district that provides a virtual instruction program, that is a member of a multicounty consortium providing a virtual instruction program or that does not provide a virtual instruction program and is not a member of a multicounty consortium but participates through a collaborative agreement between the school district in which the student is enrolled and a school district or a multicounty consortium providing a virtual instruction program.

**Full-time student** – student enrolled for the full instructional day and completing required courses for a WV public school diploma (e.g. 6 half credit courses per semester – this number would be based upon the number of instructional periods offered daily)

**Part-time student** –student enrolled up to 50% of the instructional day (4 periods for SSAC eligibility)

**Virtual course** - any virtual pathway course offered by Calhoun County that meets the specified state-approved standards for that course

**Virtual instruction program** - a program implemented by a county board or multicounty consortium that provides a full-time online or blended program of instruction for students enrolled in any composition of grades ~~six kindergarten~~ through twelve.

**Full-time virtual program** - formal education program in which a student learns through a total online learning environment/platform.

### Student Eligibility and Requirements

Students who meet the following requirements are eligible to participate in the virtual education program:

- Enrolled in Calhoun County Schools as a full or part -time student
- Enrollment deadlines to be determined based on the school calendar. Within the first 5 days of the school year.
- Parents and students must successfully complete a district defined virtual education

- orientation course/program/session
- Meet school system and/or state enrollment requirements for the county school system, including health requirements such as immunizations, physicals, dentals, etc.
- Meet school system and/or state enrollment requirements for the course(s) in questions including successful completion of any prerequisite courses
- Maintain a minimum grade of a 2.0 on a numerical grade scale in courses taken during the current academic year (grade would have to be high enough to maintain C average for sports)
- Have access to consistent, daily internet service
- Have reliable transportation to and from tutoring site (after-school tutoring is available)
- Weekly communication is required (between online student and the school)

### Attendance

Students who are enrolled in the full-time virtual program and otherwise meeting all course requirements are exempt from attendance requirements.

Students participating in the virtual education option will be considered as being in attendance if the students are successfully progressing in the virtual education coursework. Successful progression will mean completing courses to graduate with one's four-year cohort. To receive an eligibility form for a driver's license, students must be progressing successfully in the coursework and communicating weekly with staff.

The county school system reserves the right to set specific attendance requirements for each virtual course. The superintendent or their designee is authorized to develop alternate attendance policies for virtual courses, provided that students in such programs are given notice of the attendance requirements. A student's failure to comply with such requirements may result in administrative action including, but not limited to, probation or removal from the class or a charge of truancy, if appropriate.

All virtual program students will be enrolled as a student in the high school or middle school in which they reside. These students will be counted in the average daily membership.

### Extracurricular Activities

Students enrolled as a full-time student in the virtual program are eligible to participate in co-curricular and extracurricular activities in the school in which they are enrolled according to attendance zone.

Students must meet the same extracurricular activity eligibility requirements as students enrolled in the traditional day program including any applicable WVSSAC requirements. Student residency for purposes of participating in extracurricular activities will be determined in accordance with applicable Calhoun County Schools' policies and WVSSAC policies,

<http://www.wvssac.org/rules-and-regulations/>.

### Course Progression

Students are required to progress through online courses at a rate comparable to the progression of a traditional class. Student performance will be monitored and reported on regular intervals consistent with a traditional day program.

## Dropping Online Course/Transition Back to Traditional Course

Students may drop an online course and transition to a traditional course (or vice versa) within 10 days without grade penalty.

- Students will submit in writing with parents signature the request to drop a course to school administrator.
- Students must send request within 10 days of the start of the course to be able to withdraw no grade and withdraw failing.

## Assessment, Grading, Diploma

All virtual pathway students will participate in all state testing and accountability requirements. Student is required to participate at their school of enrollment on days identified by county.

Upon satisfying all public school graduation requirements (WVBE Policy 2510, Assuring Quality Education: Regulations for Education Programs, <http://wvde.state.wv.us/policies/policy.php?p=2510&alt=1>), students enrolled in the virtual program will receive a high school diploma from Calhoun County Schools.

Any virtual program course taken for high school credit, regardless of the grade in which the course was taken, will be entered onto the student transcript and calculated in Grade Point Averages, etc.

County's dual credit policy applies to virtual program.

Course grades assigned to a student's transcript must follow the WV Uniform Grading Scale found in WVBE Policy 2510 Section 5.4.d.

## Removal

Students may be transitioned back to a traditional school program or removed from the virtual program for the following reasons:

- Not maintaining a 2.0 GPA in each course
- Progression through coursework falls below the minimum comparable tradition course standard
- Attendance requirements are not met for students in blended program (only applicable to face-to-face courses)
- Cheating, falsifying information, plagiarizing
- School system policies, procedures, rules or regulations are violated, including rules governing the use of technology

## Student Support

- Face to face tutoring will be provided at Calhoun County Middle/High School 4 evenings per week
- IEP committees will meet to determine the most appropriate least restrictive environment and the most reasonable accommodations
- ELL committees will meet to determine the most reasonable accommodations

## Counseling and Guidance Services

Calhoun County schools will utilize personnel to assist with academic, career, and social needs as they arise. In conjunction with school counselors, students will be assisted with developing an educational plan based on transcripts, standardized assessments, career interests, and other pertinent data. The plan will be reviewed periodically to assess its appropriateness and progress toward completion.

## Student Responsibilities

Students should spend the first days making sure they are comfortable with the technology of online learning and they are capable of mastering the content. Students are responsible for maintaining reliable, daily access to internet. Computer/internet problems will not be accepted as reasons for delays in meeting deadlines. Only through continuous communication and consistent work can students be successful in an online course. It is essential that students maintain regular contact with their instructor and submit assignments on time. Students must let the administrator for virtual school know immediately if he/she needs courses on the NCAA approval list.

## Technology

Reliable, daily internet access is the responsibility of the family.

- Process for each student will be transcript to students WVEIS records. Parents and Students will have access to monitor progress in online course through vendor.

## Homeschool/Non Public School Students

Homeschool and nonpublic school students who enroll in virtual program courses are subject to same registration, attendance and policies as public school students.

Homeschool and nonpublic school students may enroll in up to 4 virtual school courses per semester without affecting their attendance exemption. Any homeschool or nonpublic school student who wishes to enroll in more than 6 courses per semester must duly enroll as a full-time student at the appropriate high school/middle school. Homeschool and nonpublic school students wishing to participate in WVSSAC interscholastic activities and events must meet eligibility requirements as set forth by WVSSAC rule.