



PUBLIC VIRTUAL EDUCATION

Frequently Asked Questions by Families

What is a Tennessee public virtual school?

A Tennessee public virtual school is a public school that uses technology to deliver a significant portion of instruction to its students via the internet in a virtual or remote setting. Public virtual schools are held to the same rigorous standards as all other public schools in Tennessee.

How do I enroll my child in a public virtual school?

The enrollment policies and procedures of a virtual school are established by the school and its district and are typically specified on the school's website. To enroll your child, you should contact the school or its district directly. You can find a list of all virtual schools approved to operate in Tennessee here: [Virtual Schools \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tn.gov/virtual-schools)

How can I find information about the performance of public virtual schools in TN?

Each year the Tennessee Department of Education uploads a Virtual Education report to the Tennessee Virtual Schools website found here: [Virtual Schools \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tn.gov/virtual-schools). In addition, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are required to annually evaluate and publicly report on their virtual schools. This report will focus on the evaluation of academic achievement, fiscal accountability, and operational performance. In addition, virtual schools are included in the department's [Report Card](#), where you can view academic performance and other indicators for schools that were in operation during the school year of the report.

Can my child go back to a brick-and-mortar school during the year if we decide that virtual school is not a good fit?

It depends. All student transfers are governed by the district's transfer policies. You will need to contact the administration of both the virtual school and the brick-and-mortar school to which your child would like to transfer to discuss eligibility and procedures.

Can my child graduate early by attending a TN public virtual school?

Graduation requirements are standardized across all public schools in Tennessee. Many schools offer paths for expedited academic advancement, as Tennessee has the "[Move on When Ready Act](#)". Each school may have different methods by which a student would opt into this path for expedited advancement. You should reach out to the school directly to ask about its process.

If I want to enroll my child in a TN public virtual school, is an intent to home school form needed?

No, attending a public virtual school and home school are different. Virtual schools are public schools; whereas, home schools are considered non-public. Although a student

enrolled in a virtual school may complete work in the student's home, the student is attending a public school.

Am I required to have Internet at home or a home computer for my child to attend a public virtual school?

No, school districts are required to ensure students have materials and access to necessary technology such as a computer, a printer and an internet connection used for schoolwork. At a minimum, this requirement may be satisfied by providing access to a physical computer lab that is available to the student during regularly scheduled times.

Are there any in-person requirements for virtual school?

While the majority of your child's learning will be accomplished virtually, there will be times when the virtual school requires in-person attendance for meetings and/or testing.

How will my child attend a required in-person meeting or testing administration if we live a significant distance from the virtual school?

This is something to consider when enrolling in a virtual school. All Tennessee students are required to complete their state assessments in an in-person proctored setting. Before enrolling in a virtual school, it is recommended that you discuss these requirements with the school administration.

Will the district or school provide transportation for my child for the required in-person meetings?

Districts are not required to provide transportation for students unless specified in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Can my child participate in the extracurricular activities of their zoned school while enrolled in a virtual school?

Each district may determine its policy regarding the participation of virtual school students in the extracurricular activities of their zoned schools, such as sports, CTE, prom, clubs, etc. With respect to sports, districts must comply with TSSAA policy. It is recommended that you consult with your district and review its policy.

Where will my child's diploma come from if they satisfy all Tennessee graduation requirements while enrolled in a virtual school?

A student will receive a diploma from the school at which the student received the majority of instruction during the school year when all [graduation requirements](#) were met.

QUESTIONS? – CONTACT US AT VIRTUAL.SCHOOLS@TN.GOV