

**DoDEA Virtual School**  
**Second Semester Registration Q&A**

Q1: What is the full time virtual school option?

The full-time virtual school option is designed with the overarching aim to provide families the stability for their schedules and routines. The model stays constant throughout the school year regardless of changes to public health conditions. Families choosing this model recognize and accept that their children will not have regular in-person interactions with teachers and peers. Rather, they will engage in interactive lessons online. According to its design, this model is intended to be a full-year semester commitment.

- Students in grades K-6 will be enrolled in five courses: mathematics, English/language arts, science, social studies and one elective. (6th and 7th grades: Game Design Introduction; 8th grade: Health Opportunities and Physical Education). DoDEA procured courses from Florida Virtual School (FLVS) that are aligned to the DoDEA Standards and include syllabi and assignment schedules for each course. The course content is online through Schoology and a packet of learning materials will be provided to students in grades K-5.
- Students in grades 7-12 in the virtual option for the second semester will work with their local brick and mortar school counselor to register for courses from November 9-20, 2020.

Q2: What does the full time virtual schedule look like for students?

The full-time online model involves independent online learning and teacher-directed synchronous instruction. Students participating in the full-time online model are likely to have larger class sizes than their peers taking the same course under the in-person continuum. Individual student schedules for online instruction will be finalized and communicated by the end of December 2020.

To the extent possible, elementary and middle school students will be served by dedicated DoDEA teachers in a cohort model with other students from their school, or their geographic region. Courses will be taught using online courseware and digital curriculum resources along with synchronous direct instruction and support from an online DoDEA teacher.

Q3: What should families/parents be prepared for if choosing the full time virtual school option?

Families of full-time online students should be prepared to support their children's active participation in all online learning activities. They will need to ensure their children have adequate space, materials, and technology access for their daily online instruction, requesting school assistance to provide a laptop and internet service, as needed. Families will need to be ready to follow the established daily learning schedule and will need to work with school staff to arrange for their children to participate in standardized assessments and other mandated educational activities. Families should recognize that full-time online

**DoDEA Virtual School  
Second Semester Registration Q&A**

instruction may not be able to support some specialized programs and course offerings that would otherwise be available to enhance student options and experiences.

Q4: How do parents notify their child's school if they want to switch to the virtual school for the second semester of the 2020-21 school year?

DoDEA parents who want the virtual learning option will be asked to enroll in DVS through the Aspen Parent Portal by November 6, 2020. **Parents must login to the Aspen Parent Portal using their child's username and password.** If the intent form is not returned by the November 6, 2020 deadline, the student will be automatically be enrolled for in-person instruction for the second semester, which begins January 19, 2021.

Q3: I want my child to remain enrolled in the local school for in-person instruction, what do I need to do?

There is nothing you need to do, students will remain enrolled for in-person instruction for the second semester.

Q4: My child is already enrolled in the DoDEA Virtual School what do I need to do for them to continue for the remainder of the school year (2<sup>nd</sup> Semester)?

To help with scheduling, we ask that parents who want to remain in the virtual learning option to re-register for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester by **logging in to the Aspen Parent Portal using their child's username and password.** This re-registration needs to be completed by November 6, 2020 deadline.

- Q4a: Will my child remain enrolled in the same classes with the same teachers? While students in DVS in grades K-5 will have the same 5 classes in the second semester, we cannot guarantee that they will have the same teachers. For students in grades 6-8, the situation will be similar although students in grades 6 and 7 will have a new elective course (Game Design 1a: Introduction). Middle school students continuing in DVS may have new teachers as well in the second semester.

Q5: Will I be able to change my registration if I change my mind after November 6, 2020?

No, the commitment is for all of the second semester, regardless of whether or not the local school is open for in-person instruction. According to the course design, this model is intended to be a full-year semester commitment.

Q6: When does the second semester begin?

The second semester will resume January 19, 2021.

Q7: What are the middle school electives for the second semester?

6th and 7th grade: Game Design 1a: Introduction

8th grade: Health Opportunities and Physical Education

**DoDEA Virtual School**  
**Second Semester Registration Q&A**

Q8: Is virtual learning offered to Pre-K Students?

No, DoDEA will not be offering a virtual learning option for PreK students. Virtual preschool does not provide the social and relational interactions that are essential to children's later development. While technology can be use enhance or scaffold learning, full time virtual preschool is not a best practice.

Q9: What support will be provided to students with a 504 Accommodation plan?

For students seeking instruction from the DVS who are, or may be, eligible for a 504 Accommodation Plan, the 504 Accommodation Team of the student's normally assigned brick and mortar school will convene to develop (or modify) the student's 504 Accommodation Plan. The 504 Coordinator of the brick and mortar school will remain the case manager for students who have a 504 Accommodation Plan and are enrolled in DVS. The 504 Coordinator of the brick and mortar school, in close collaboration with the DVS, will monitor the student's progress and meet with the teachers as needed. The 504 Accommodation Team will follow the policies and procedures outlined in DoDEA Administrative Instruction 2500.14 and will work with the DVS to provide the virtual and/or physical accommodations necessary for a student with a disability to have access to DoDEA educational programs and services.

Q10: What services are available to students who receive special education services?

For students who receive special education services, the DVS provides specially designed instruction utilizing special education teachers and related service providers. The DVS special education teachers will provide specialized instruction, consultation, and accommodations, as needed, to students with individualized education programs (IEPs) in order to access the general education curriculum while addressing targeted goals. While the DVS does not offer separate special education classes as a replacement to any general education course, the DVS special education teacher will provide synchronous special education services. These services may include direct or small group instruction that does not replace the general education curriculum. Each student is responsible for completing asynchronous sessions, submitting assignments, and attending synchronous sessions with the student's general education teacher, SPED teacher, or related service provider.

Q11: Will Advanced Academic Program and Services (AAPS) be provided to students in the virtual learning option?

Students in grades K-5 continue to receive the appropriate level of services provided by the school-based AAPS-RT in collaboration with the Virtual School grade level teacher. Students in grades 6-12 may continue to receive the appropriate differentiated services and accelerated course options if those options are available in the virtual school.

**DoDEA Virtual School**  
**Second Semester Registration Q&A**

Q12: What English as a Second Language Services (ESOL Program) will be provided to English language learners in the virtual learning option?

Parents of students whose first language is not English and who are identified as in need of ESOL services will receive these services from a certified ESOL teacher assigned to the DVS. DVS ESOL teachers provide support according to the level of English language proficiency of each student. The supports provided by DVS ESOL teachers will vary in frequency according to each student's English language learning needs. DVS ESOL teachers will also provide support by reinforcing for their students age and grade-level appropriate language and academic concepts. DVS ESOL teachers may work remotely with students individually or in small groups. DVS ESOL teachers will monitor also work with their "brick and mortar" counterparts to identify students who are in need of ESOL services, and to assess how the students are making progress towards proficiency. ESOL teachers will recommend linguistic accommodations to DVS grade level classroom teachers (elementary) and/or content area teachers (high school).

Parents will receive communications regarding DVS ESOL services in multiple ways, to include; directly from the DVS ESOL Teacher, the DVS Principal or Designee, and through announcements at the DVS Website. Parents who have questions regarding ESOL services should first contact their DVS ESOL teacher. Some helpful student and parent resources for English and academic language development include:

<https://www.colorincolorado.org>

<https://www.gamestolearnenglish.com>

<https://growingreaders.uniteforliteracy.com/healthy-families-covid-19>

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

Q13: Will Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) classes be offered virtually?

No, JROTC will not be offered by the DoDEA Virtual School. JROTC will be offered for in-person instruction.