

CHAPTER 4.00 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

VIRTUAL PATHWAY PROGRAM

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I. General Policies

Lee County Schools will provide a Virtual Pathway Program option for students in grades nine to twelve. Students enrolled in the Virtual Pathway Program will complete all coursework in a virtual or blended (virtual and face-to-face) platform. The coursework will allow student-scheduling flexibility to complete the course requirements. Lee County students may participate in the Virtual Pathway Program either as a full-time virtual student or as a Lee County Learning Center student.

A student who participates in the Virtual Pathway Program, whether as a full-time student or as a Lee County Learning Center student, will be counted in the average daily membership of his or her zoned school and will be treated as if he or she is attending his or her school of record for the purposes of participating in extracurricular activities. All such students also shall be subject to rules applicable to other participants in extracurricular activities, including those of the Alabama High School Athletic Association.

Any online course delivery that is not supported by the Alabama State Department of Education must be accredited by an institution recognized pursuant to administrative rules adopted by the ALSDE. Coursework offered through the Virtual Pathway Program shall contain the required content identified in the applicable Alabama Course of Study.

All Virtual Pathway Program students will participate in all state testing and accountability requirements which will be administered according to ALSDE guidelines.

Virtual Pathway Program students who satisfy all graduation requirements will receive a Lee County School diploma and may participate in the graduation ceremonies of his or her school of record.

Lee County Schools and its education program is exempt under state law from any provision of general 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 requirement, time requirements and physical education requirement, to the extent any of the foregoing conflict with the delivery of the Virtual Pathway program.

II. ADDITIONAL Policies Applicable to Full-Time Virtual Students

A student who participates as a full-time Virtual Pathway Program student must meet and maintain the following eligibility criteria to participate:

- A. Satisfy the residency requirements for attendance in Lee County Schools or otherwise have regular access to an operational computer and a reliable internet connection.
- B. Have an adult willing to serve as a learning coach.
- C. Be proficient in reading, writing, and mathematics.

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In addition to satisfying the aforementioned requirements, the student and his or her parent/guardian shall meet with his or her attendance zone school principal and guidance counselor to develop a customized learning plan that will lead to an Alabama High School Diploma.

A student who participates in the Virtual Pathway Program will have his or her academic progress monitored daily by the attendance zone principal or his or her designee and shall have all course assessments administered at his or her zones school.

All state-mandated assessments will be administered in the student's zoned school.

III. Additional Policies Applicable to Lee County Learning Center Students

A student who wishes to participate in Lee County Schools' Virtual Pathway Program as a Lee County Learning Center student must meet the residency requirements as establishes by Lee County Schools' policy. In addition to satisfying the residency requirement, the student must submit the following items for review and approval:

- School counselor recommendation from current school or enrollment
- Principal recommendation from current school of enrollment
- Student and parent statements of interest
- Academic transcript

Upon receipt, the Lee County Learning Center facilitator and teachers will review the request to determine readiness and approve, deny or request additional information.

A student who attends the Lee County Learning Center must meet all established attendance criteria. Attendance and academic progress will be monitored daily by the Lee County Learning Center facilitator.

REFERENCE(S):

**CODE OF ALABAMA
[16-8-8](#), TITLE 17 US CODE 106**

HISTORY:

**ADOPTED: JULY 12, 2016
REVISED: _____
FORMERLY: ____**