



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

June 3, 2016

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Virtual Virginia Full-Time Pilot Program

The Virginia Department of Education's Virtual Virginia program will offer a full-time program serving 200 students for the 2016-2017 school year. Students will be enrolled on a first-come, first-served basis. The program will offer all required core academic courses and electives necessary to earn a Standard or Advanced Studies diploma. As with the supplemental Virtual Virginia program, the full-time program may serve public, private, and home-schooled students.

Courses are delivered through Virtual Virginia's secure, Web-based environment, and, like traditional classroom instruction, will include readings, discussion forums, written assignments, media, student presentations and projects, case studies, simulations, lab assignments, models, and opportunities for student collaboration.

Students in the full-time program enrolled through their local public school will receive instruction through Virtual Virginia provided by highly qualified teachers with Virginia certification. Local schools will ensure that students in the program have access to technology, textbooks, special services, and other necessary materials at no cost. Virtual Virginia will award a numerical average for each completed course. The local school will assign credit and the appropriate letter grade for this average based on the school's grading scale.

Full-time students registering through their local public school must have the approval of their parents or guardian and school administration and must register through their local public school counselor. The students will matriculate through their local school and will receive credit toward graduation requirements, including Standards of Learning assessments, and upon completion will be awarded a diploma by their local school.

Virtual Virginia has expanded to offer 72 core, Advanced Placement, Standard, elective, and world language courses, and will continue to offer courses to students who may not have access to these courses within their schools due to low enrollments, scheduling conflicts, or lack of highly qualified teachers.

Information on the Virtual Virginia full-time program can be found at:

<http://www.virtualvirginia.org/FullTimeProgram/index.html>

For additional information, contact Tavy Young, Virtual Virginia Registrar, at tavy.young@virtualva.org or Rebecca Hawthorne, VDOE Virtual Learning Coordinator at rebecca.hawthorne@doe.virginia.gov.

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