

Virtual Academy Application

Montgomery Virtual Academy
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland 20850

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete one form for each student applying to the virtual academy. Students must meet the eligibility requirements to enroll in the program.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- For the 2021-2022 school year, the program will serve students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 with qualifying extenuating circumstances. Documentation that can be independently verified should accompany all requests for enrollment. In the absence of such documentation, evidence of such extenuating circumstances may be obtained through consultation with school staff.
- The program is a comprehensive, five day a week online instructional program.
- Students will be required to engage in the program via a computer and the Internet synchronously and asynchronously five (5) days a week to fully participate in the virtual academy and must follow MCPS's acceptable use policy, [IGT-RA](#).
- Students under 12 years of age are required to be supervised by an adult during school hours to participate in the program.
- Enrollment in the virtual academy is intended to be a full year commitment for the 2021-2022 school year. However, students may apply to transfer back to their assigned school during designated transfer windows. Transfers are contingent upon space, staffing, and program availability.
 - Elementary/Middle (Grades K-8): Transfer windows occur at the end of each marking period.
 - High School (Grades 9-12): Transfer windows are at the end of each semester.
- Students will be expected to reapply for enrollment in the program each year.
- Technology will be available to students on an as needed basis.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Students may apply for the virtual academy when:
 - The student or student's family is experiencing extenuating circumstances related to health or other reasons that could be mitigated through a virtual learning experience. Demonstrated improvement in virtual learning may be considered an extenuating circumstance. Academics, attendance, and engagement documentation should be provided. Check "Other" in the section below if you are applying for this reason.
 - Parents/guardians/eligible students seeking enrollment in the Virtual Academy should provide documentation of extenuating circumstances necessitating participation in virtual learning rather than in-person learning.
 - Documentation of extenuating circumstances may include evidence of ongoing treatment by a health care provider of issues related to the health of a student, or a member of the student's immediate household, that may be significantly impacted by potential exposure to COVID-19 and which could be mitigated by the student's participation in virtual learning. It may also include any supporting materials that help to support the application and review process, including but not limited to grades, attendance, engagement, and other data. In the absence of such documentation, evidence of such extenuating circumstances may be obtained through consultation with MCPS staff after the application is submitted.
 - High School Only - Modified scheduling is required to address instructional needs including but not exclusive to credit recovery, internship or work experience, flexible schedule to complement CTE program or enrollment at Montgomery College, or courses in addition to a full day schedule.
- Students are required to maintain a bona fide residence in Montgomery County, MD
- Students are required to be actively enrolled in an MCPS school to be eligible. Students enrolled in home instruction or a private/non-public school must enroll in the local MCPS school prior to applying to the virtual academy. (Find your School <https://gis.mcpsmd.org/SchoolAssignmentTool2/>)

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name: _____

Student ID: _____

Student DOB: ____/____/____

Student Grade for 2021-2022: _____

MCPS School for 2021-2022: _____

ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

Grades K-8

Students in grades K-8 who are accepted into the program will be enrolled with the Virtual Academy full time.

Reason for Applying:

Which of the following best describe the reason(s) you are applying to the Virtual Academy? Check all that apply.

- Reason for Full Time Enrollment
 - Student health concerns (including mental health)
 - Family health concerns
 - Other; Explain:

High School

- Full Time -OR- Part Time

Reason for Applying:

Which of the following best describe the reason(s) you are applying to the Virtual Academy? Check all that apply.

- Reason for Full Time Enrollment
 - Student health concerns (including mental health)
 - Family health concerns
 - Other; Explain:

- Reason for Part Time Enrollment
 - Modified scheduling needs due to Montgomery College/CTE
 - Approved abbreviated schedule
 - Additional courses beyond the school day
 - Grade improvement beyond the school day
 - Credit Recovery
 - Other; Explain:

PROGRAM DISCLAIMERS

By enrolling in the virtual academy, I understand:

- Availability and program offerings in the virtual academy are contingent upon budget and staffing allocations.
- Class assignments are not based on homeschool assignments. Students may not be in classes with students from their home school and in varying grade levels based on scheduling and staffing.
- For students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 plan, the application process will include an IEP or 504 meeting. The purpose of which is to review, discuss and determine which supports, services and accommodations can be made available in a virtual school. Accommodations and special education services provided by a licensed service provider will not be provided for students residing outside of Montgomery County, Maryland.
- Certain aspects of the program will require in-person engagement including but not limited to the administration of assessments in alignment with state and local requirements (Regulation ILA-RA, Assessments with Security and Reporting Requirements). In these circumstances, students will need to provide their own transportation.
- Program will offer a limited set of core courses to provide pathways to graduation.
- Students currently enrolled in an MCPS specialized/signature program will be unenrolled in that program and enrolled in the virtual academy. Students would be required to reapply to the specialized/signature program should they wish to re-enroll in that program.
- Requests to transfer before the one year commitment will be contingent upon staffing, space, and program availability at the assigned school and will only be reviewed at select transfer windows that align to the marking period and semester transitions.

PROGRAM CONSENT

- I consent to this Student's participation in the virtual academy.

SIGNATURES

I certify that all information provided on this form is accurate and that I have the authority to provide this consent.

Parent/Guardian/Eligible Student Name (printed): _____ Date: ___/___/___

Parent/Guardian/Eligible Student Signature: _____ Date: ___/___/___