



Cumberland County Schools Virtual Learning 2021-2022 Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What will be the format?** Cumberland County Public Schools (CuCPS) will use the Virtual Virginia platform with Virtual Virginia teachers, school calendar, and requirements.
2. **What is Virtual Virginia?** Virtual Virginia is a program of the Virginia Department of Education serving students in Virginia public schools grades K - 12 by providing flexible options for the diverse educational needs of students and their families. The program offers equal access to online courses.

For grades 6 - 12 Virtual Virginia offers online some world language, elective, and core academic courses to students across the Commonwealth, the nation, and throughout the world. The courses utilize course management software to maximize the interactivity of each class. Each course contains video segments, audio clips, whiteboard interaction, multimedia activities, and online discussions, as well as text. Instructors are available for telephone and online communication with students throughout the day. Full-time instructors are online with students at least 40 hours per week. Adjunct instructors have posted office hours. Virtual Virginia courses offer a rich multimedia learning environment that appeals to a variety of learning styles. While the asynchronous (students do not have to be logged into the class at the same time as the teacher and/or other students for instruction) component of Virtual Virginia courses allows for flexibility, attendance of synchronous (students are required to sign in at the same time as the teacher and/or other students for instruction) sessions is mandatory unless there is a conflict with school responsibilities. All synchronous sessions are recorded, and students are required to watch the recording if they are unable to attend live.

3. **Is there a cost?** No, CuCPS will cover the cost of the program.
4. **Does the student attend daily?** Yes, there will be a schedule that students must follow and will require that students to attend regularly.
5. [Sample K - 5 Instructional Schedule](#)
6. [Sample 6 - 12 Instructional Schedule](#)

7. **Does my child have to follow the CuCPS attendance policy?** Yes, all students will be expected to follow the CuCPS attendance policy. To review the policy click on [CuCPS attendance policy](#).
8. **Will my child be taught by a CuCPS teacher?** No, the teacher will be a Virtual Virginia teacher. Each child will be assigned a CuCPS mentor who will assist the child as needed.
9. **Do I have to have Internet access?** Yes, you will need consistent Internet access.
10. **Will CuCPS provide the technology required for Virtual Virginia?** Yes, students will receive Chromebooks. Students who need access to the Internet will be able to apply for a hotspot. Hotspots are *not* guaranteed. Students **must follow** the CuCPS Acceptable Use Policy for all technology registered to the student. Students who damage equipment will be subject to payment for repairs and/or replacement.
11. **Does my child get to keep the technology?** No, students will need to turn the technology in at the conclusion of their Virtual Virginia classes or at the end of the school year.
12. **Will my child be able to participate in CuCPS athletics?** Yes, students will follow the VHSL athletic guidelines for participating in school sports. Parents will be expected to bring children to school for after school practices since buses will be delivering students home at the same time.
13. **Can my child change from Virtual Virginia to regular in-person instruction?** If the equivalent course is offered by CuCPS staff, then students may come back at the end of the semester. CuCPS staff will review this on a case-by-case basis and decisions will be made in the best interest of the student. Students can only change once and cannot move between Virtual Virginia and in-person instruction.
14. **Do we have to register? What is the deadline for registration?** Students must register for Virtual Virginia through their school counselor. CuCPS will provide enrollment May 1, 2021. Forms will be accepted through May 31, 2021.
15. **Is the Virtual Virginia Teacher properly licensed and certified?** Yes, Virtual Virginia has both full-time and adjunct instructors who are Virginia-licensed, highly qualified, and have experience/training in distance learning. Virtual Virginia

provides appropriate professional development in specific content areas and best practices of online instruction.

16. **Will we be required to purchase additional school supplies?** Parents are responsible for purchasing the normal school supplies for their children. The only supplies provided by the division will include the device for access (Chromebook or laptop) and the supporting technology required for the class.
17. **Will the virtual learning school calendar be the same as regular school?** No, students attending Virtual Virginia will follow the [VVA Calendar](#).
18. **Can students work at their own pace?** No, students move through the course material at the pace of their cohort/start date. Benchmark due dates are established to ensure that students stay on pace to complete the course by the end of the school year, but students have flexibility between those due dates. Students **must attend** class regularly.
19. **Does Virtual Virginia have a grading scale?** No, Virtual Virginia provides a numeric average which represents the students' performance in the course. The local school determines the letter grade based on the grading scale used for students in local courses.
20. **Can my child take career and technical education (CTE) courses?** CuCPS CTE courses will be offered in person. Students will need to enroll in the course at the high school.
21. **How does attending Virtual Virginia completely remote differ from a student needing only one course through this platform?** CuCPS already offers stand alone courses through Virtual Virginia for students who have a special interest, acceleration or need a course for graduation. This will not change and students will still be able to be enrolled in in-person learning and take their Virtual Virginia class at school (as in the past). "Virtual only" students taking Virtual Virginia **full-time** will attend classes remotely and earn their credits through the Virtual Virginia platform.
22. **My child has an individualized educational plan (IEP). Can he/she still participate in Virtual Virginia?** Yes, students with disabilities can participate in Virtual Virginia. However, Virtual Virginia cannot offer all of the support that an in-person teacher can provide. Students will be assigned a special education teacher and the IEP team will need to review the IEP and determine the best placement for the student.

23. **Do students take the Standard of Learning (SOL) assessments?** Yes, students enrolled in grade levels and/or courses which require an SOL assessment will still be required to take those assessments. Students will have to take those assessments in-person. Certain SOL assessments are required for graduation at the high school level. These will still be required per the Virginia Department of Education.
24. **My child has been enrolled in homeschool (not served by the division). Can my child enroll in Virtual Virginia through CuCPS?** Yes, students may re-enroll in CuCPS to enroll in Virtual Virginia. Students choosing to do this will be subject to all of the requirements of the Department of Education for graduation requirements and SOL assessments.
25. **Will my child be able to receive meals through CuCPS as he/she has during 2020-2021?** We will still provide meals on specific distribution days that you can arrange to have picked up from the location.
26. **If they go from virtual Virginia to in school will the material they are learning be on the same schedule?** Teachers may not have the same pacing for learning but we will work with students to cover material that may be missed.
27. **Will the Virtual Virginia option be the same as the in-person option for next year?** At this time we are planning to provide in person learning five days a week. Students who attend Virtual Virginia are expected to attend class which is outlined in the schedule shared in an earlier question, which is also five days a week.
28. **If we don't enroll in virtual VA and we decide to enroll later on will there be any virtual option?** We will make adjustments only at the semester and if space is available.