

KCS CONNECT

2021-22

Enrollment For 2021-22 / Frequently Asked Questions

Knox County Schools will continue to offer two learning options in the 2021-22 academic year for students in Grades 1-12. These students can utilize in-person, on-campus instruction with additional safety measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, or they can utilize our virtual learning program. The virtual learning program will not be available for kindergarten students.

If families are planning to utilize in-person, on-campus instruction, they don't need to take any additional steps. However, families that wish to enroll in the virtual learning program may do so beginning on Thursday, April 15, 2021. The deadline to enroll is on Friday, April 23, 2021.

Who is eligible for the virtual learning program?

All students in Grades 1-12 are eligible to enroll in the virtual learning program. The virtual learning program will not be offered in kindergarten, due to the significant challenges of online learning for our youngest students.

What is the deadline to enroll in the virtual learning program?

The deadline to enroll in the virtual learning program is Friday, April 23, 2021.

How do I enroll my student in the virtual learning program?

Families will receive an email on Thursday, April 15, 2021.

Will I be able to change my student's learning model during the 2021-22 school year?

Students will not be able to change their learning model after the April 23, 2021 deadline. Because of the challenges of building teacher / student schedules, students must remain with their learning model through May of 2022.

Will any students be required to attend in-person learning?

Students who want to enroll in virtual instruction for the 2021-22 school year must meet certain prerequisites. These include:

- Internet meets KCS requirements (Internet assistance is available by calling the IT customer service line at 594-4484);
- Student tests in-person (Applies to state assessments and could also include diagnostic testing for special education, RTI screening, etc.);
- Parent/Guardian completes an orientation on virtual instruction and signs an agreement;
- Parent/Guardian attends school-specific / program-specific orientation;
- Elementary students must have an identified “Learning Coach” who provides supervision for virtual students throughout the day; and
- Parent/Guardian must go by base schools to pick-up additional materials.

A student’s prior academic performance will be considered. These factors include teacher recommendations, academics, work habits, attendance, credits earned (high school). Students must not have received an F as a final grade in a core academic class Fall 2020.

If a student does not meet the prerequisites, a family can appeal to their principal.

Will in-person students be required to wear masks during the 2021-22 school year?

The current Board of Education policy does include face coverings, but Board members will be having a discussion about this policy at the next Board meeting on April 7.

Will virtual learning students be based / taught from their zoned schools or through the district’s QuEST program?

Whether or not virtual students will be taught by a QuEST teacher will depend on the number of students enrolling in the virtual program. All QuEST teachers are Knox County Schools.

Will teachers be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine?

Knox County Schools is encouraging all employees to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as a way to mitigate the spread of the virus and to protect our school communities. However, employees are not required to be vaccinated.

Will in-person students be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine?

Students will not be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Will inclement weather days be included in the 2021-22 school year?

Yes. While the district’s 1:1 initiative allows all schools to utilize online learning if necessary, the 2021-22 calendar will include 10 inclement weather days.