Online Learning Program

TEAM BCPS

Grades 4 - 12 available

To access our application, scan our QR code above
or
click the link to go to the Academic Programs & Options Website.

Available inside:
Application & Admission Information

2024-2025 School Year
Application Deadline:
May 3, 2024

What is the Online Learning Program?

The BCPS Online Learning Program provides a full-time educational environment for students in grades 4-12. The program offers a full day of synchronous instruction taught by certified Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) teachers. The BCPS Online Learning Program is a co-enrollment model in which all students are co-enrolled with their primary school of enrollment.

The Online Learning Program does fulfill Baltimore County Public Schools' requirements for promotion and graduation.

Who is eligible for the Online Learning Program?

Students who are eligible to attend a Baltimore County public school may apply. Students must be entering the appropriate grade level (grades 4-12) for the year of application.

Enrollment in the BCPS Online Learning Program is limited to students eligible for enrollment in BCPS as defined in Board of Education Policy and Superintendent's Rule 5150, Resident and Nonresident Student Eligibility. Parents are strongly urged to review Superintendent's Rule 5150 and all application materials carefully.

Parents must submit a complete application by the deadline. For admitted students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 plan, an IEP or 504 meeting will be scheduled to determine how the student's needs can be best met in an online environment.

How do I apply to the Online Learning Program?

The application for the BCPS Online Learning Program will be available on the Academic Programs and Options Department Web Site (https://www.bcps.org/curriculum/programsandoptions) beginning at 12 noon on April 3, 2024. Applications must be submitted by 1 p.m. on May 3, 2024.

All applicants are selected for placement through a centralized random lottery process (see page 6 for more details).

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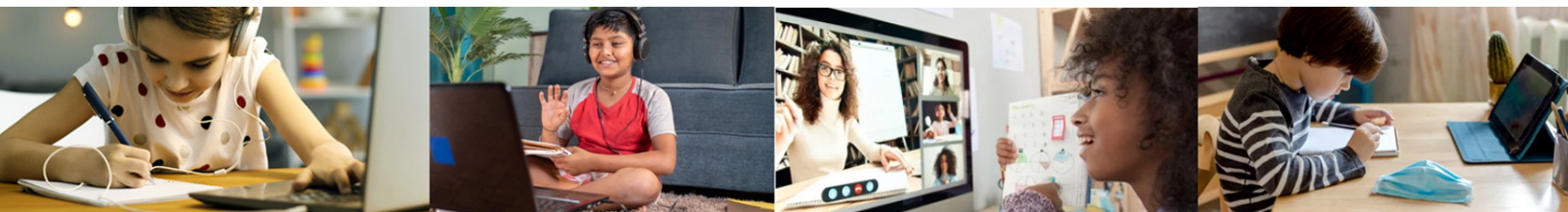
Online Learning Program Application Process

STEP 1

1. Review Application and Admissions Process
- Review steps cited on this page and on pages 4-6 carefully.
- Obtain and read Superintendent's Rule 5150.

STEP 2

2. Apply Online
- Available from the Academic Programs & Options Web site beginning at 12 noon, Wednesday, April 3, 2024, until 1 p.m. on Friday, May 3, 2024.
- Carefully read and follow ALL directions. Complete each section of the application. Only one application will be accepted for each child.
- Review application to ensure it is completed correctly. ANY changes in the application MUST be made online by 11pm. on the application deadline, May 3, 2024
- Print copy of application and accompanying documents, including submission confirmation email. Print copy of application and accompanying documents, including submission confirmation email, for your records.

STEP 3

3. Await notification of acceptance or waitlist (May 24, 2024)
- See Additional Information (page 6) for details.

Characteristics of a Successful Learner

A full-time virtual learning environment is a robust learning option with which many students meet with success. However, online learning is not suitable for all learners. Before submitting an application for the BCPS Online Learning Program, please consider the following characteristics of a successful online learner:

Self-motivated
Students can direct their own learning environment and methods to fulfill course requirements and achieve individual academic success. Successful online students can develop techniques to stay involved and interested in their online course.

Technologically Prepared
Although it is not necessary to have advanced computer skills, students should possess a working knowledge of technology such as e-mail, the Internet, and basic keyboarding skills. A successful online learner also knows how to open, create and/or save a document and use various technology tools (e.g., dictionary, thesaurus, grammar checker, calculator).

Effective Time Management
Students must be able to be on time for each class and be present from start to end. The key to learning is to make the time to learn.

Effective Communicator
Students must be able to communicate with their peers as well as the instructors. The ability to clearly communicate ideas, questions, or concerns is essential. In addition, a successful online student will ask for help when there is a problem.

Online Participation
Students are willing to comply with the expectation that they appear on camera and/or use their microphone for certain portions of each lesson, as directed by their instructors.

Academic Readiness
Because there are no bells that begin and end classes, students must have a strong desire to learn and achieve knowledge and skills via online courses. Committing to learn in this way requires a willingness to perform to achieve academic success. The Online Learning Program courses are much like traditional courses at an in-person school but without face-to-face monitoring.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who is eligible for enrollment in the BCPS Online Learning program?
A. Students entering grades 4-12 and eligible to attend a Baltimore County Public school may apply.

Q. Why are students in the Online Learning Program required to be co-enrolled with an in-person school of primary enrollment?
A. Co-enrollment allows for access to sports, extracurricular activities, device management, in-person test administration (e.g. MCAP), and other school-based resources, including the school nurse.

Q. What if I change my mind and want to unenroll my child from the program?
A. Enrollment in the BCPS Online Learning Program is intended to be a full-year commitment for the 2024-2025 school year. However, a meeting to request consideration for a return to in-person learning may be held at any time during the school year. Once withdrawn, students may not re-enroll in the Online Learning Program during the 2024-2025 school year.

Q. If my child is currently in VLP, do they have to reapply?
A. No resubmission of an application is necessary. Please contact the VLP at 443-80-6000 or thill3@bcps.org.

Q. Where will required in-person assessments take place?
A. In-person assessments, such as MAP, MCAP, AP, PSAT, and SAT exams, take place at the student's in-person primary school of attendance to which they are co-enrolled (usually home school).

Q. What are the bell times for each grade?
A. The school day for ALL students will begin at 7:45 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m.

Additional Information

Notification

All applicants receive email notification of their admissions status from the BCPS Online Learning Program.

Admission decisions for all applicants will be released by May 24, 2024 (date subject to change).

Parents must accept or decline the seat offer electronically by the identified deadline or the offer will be revoked.

Once initial seat offers have been accepted or declined, available seats will be offered to students on the program's waitlist.

Parents receiving placement offers from the waitlist have three (3) business days to respond. Failure to respond will result in forfeiture of the seat, and the placement will be offered to the next student on the waitlist.

Other Important Online Learning Program Information

A student may be withdrawn from the BCPS Online Learning Program at the end of the school year if the student fails one or more courses. Any decision by the Director to withdraw a student from the program because of academic failure in a required course shall be approved, in advance, by the Executive Director of Academic Programs & Options.

Waitlists

Only students who applied by the application deadline and meet the qualification requirements for the program can be placed on a waitlist. Placement on the waitlist means, as a result of the random lottery process, the child was not selected for initial placement. If a student who was offered admission declines the placement, the unfilled seat can then be offered to students on the waitlist. Waitlists are maintained until the close of business on the last day of the first quarter of the school year for which admission is sought.

Applicants placed on a waitlist will receive a waitlist number. The waitlist number indicates the child's position on the waitlist. Unfilled seats are offered to students in ascending order of the waitlist number, starting with the student who has waitlist number 1.

Decision Release Date

May 24, 2024

(date subject to change)

A student's parent/guardian may dispute the program's recommendation and seek reconsideration by requesting for appeal of certain decision(s) made by the BCPS Online Learning Program.

Daily attendance is required to comply with MSDE requirements. Supplies, such as a student device, textbooks/workbooks, basic school supplies and other specialized materials will be provided to each student.

Students continue to qualify for the program unless VLP has communicated the need for a student to return to in-person learning.

ONLINE LEARNING PROGRAM

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

105 W. Chesapeake Ave.
Towson, MD 21204
443-809-3033
https://www.bcps.org/curriculum/
programsandoptions