

Virtual Academy



Chicago Public Schools (CPS) is excited to welcome students back to in-person learning five-days a week for the 2021-22 school year. However, we anticipate that a small subset of students will need to continue learning remotely due to the effects of COVID-19 on a verified medical need. The Virtual Academy will be a central model of instruction for these students. Children enrolled in the Virtual Academy may transition back to in-person learning (at the quarter mark for elementary school, and at the semester mark for high school) based on changes to their situations. All students not enrolled in the Virtual Academy will attend in person learning next year.

Enrollment in the virtual academy will be limited to students with [health/medical needs](#) that have been documented by a healthcare provider. All applications will be approved through the CPS Office of Student Health & Wellness (OSHW).

What Will Five Days Of Virtual Instruction Look Like?

Classes will be offered in a fully virtual format and will include asynchronous time for screen and movement breaks.

- Instruction will be provided by CPS teachers. Candidates interested in the Virtual Academy may apply at cps.edu/Careers > Job Board > Search FY22 Virtual Academy beginning Monday, June 21, 2021.
- Students attending district-run schools will retain their seat in the CPS school they would have attended in the fall of 2021 for as long as they are enrolled in the Virtual Academy. Students enrolled in CPS charter schools should contact their school for more information.
- Elementary school students will be enrolled in the Virtual Academy for a quarter-long commitment.
- High school students or students taking high school courses for credit will be enrolled for a semester-long commitment.
- Special education and bilingual services will be available through the Virtual Academy.
- While the Virtual Academy will offer as many course options as possible, some specialized programs may not be available.
- Activity and athletic program participation will be approved on a case-by-case basis.

What Is The Process To Enroll In The Virtual Academy?

The **Application Window** opened June 18. We encourage all eligible students to contact their healthcare provider and apply as soon as possible.

Application Process:

- Students who meet the medical fragility requirements and want to enroll in the virtual academy may apply by having a licensed medical provider [Medical Doctor (MD), Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO), Physician Assistant (PA) or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)] submit the COVID-19 Health Eligibility form found at the bottom of the [Medically Fragile Requirements](#) page under resources.
- Completed forms should be emailed to virtualenrollment@cps.edu or faxed to 773-553-6563 to the attention of Virtual Enrollment.

If you have specific questions about our health and safety protocols, or if you need to be connected with a primary healthcare provider, please contact the Office of Student Health and Wellness (OSHW) at (773) 553-5437 or oshw@cps.edu. For general questions about reopening, please visit the Reopening Support page at cps.edu/reopening.