



FAQ

My family is considering a cyber charter option. How can we access online education while staying in Pottsgrove School District?

We at Pottsgrove School District believe that in-person instruction is the best educational option for our students. We understand that there are circumstances in which families must consider virtual education options. If a child must receive a virtual education, enrolling in the Pottsgrove Virtual Academy is the best way to allow students to stay within our district and participate in the variety of programs that PGSD offers, as well as having access to the PGSD resources available to them such as guidance counselor support, and additional academic support.

How will my child receive their education?

Pottsgrove Virtual Academy provides a wide variety of best in-class virtual learning options. Your student will have access to:

- Live teaching sessions with PA certified teachers
- Live help from teachers

- On-demand office hours
- Responses from virtual teachers within 24 hours

Is Pottsgrove Virtual Academy available for all students?

Yes, the program is available to all students in grades K-12, however, virtual education may not be the best option for your child. Making the change from in-person learning to a virtual education is a big decision. Often students are attracted to the self-paced, work from home nature of virtual education but without the daily face-to-face interactions with teachers and classmates, many virtual students fall behind. Unlike many cyber charter schools, PGVA supports virtual learners with live instructional sessions by PA certified teachers. We encourage parents to reach out to their child's guidance counselor if you are considering virtual education to discuss the challenges, limitations, and benefits of virtual education.

What is the enrollment process?

The enrollment process begins by completing a [Pre-enrollment Form](#) on our website. Once we receive the Pre-Enrollment form, you will be contacted by a Pottsgrove SD administrator to continue the enrollment process and answer any questions you may have.

How is Pottsgrove Virtual Academy different from other cyber charter programs?

PGVA is open only to students residing in the Pottsgrove School District. PGVA graduates will receive a PGHS diploma. These students may also participate in activities offered to our in-person students including athletics, clubs/activities, the Internship Program offered to seniors, Western Montgomery Career & Technology Center, and more! PGVA students have access to

live teaching sessions with PA certified teachers, live help from teachers, on-demand office hours, and will receive responses from virtual teachers within 24 hours.

Will my child have access to the same courses that are offered at PGSD? Are honors and AP courses available?

PGVA and PGSD curricula are both aligned to PA state standards. The content of the courses will be similar but the curriculum is different. Not all PGSD classes are available through PGVA. PGVA offers a large number of courses including electives, Honors, and AP courses. You can view the Course Catalogs on our website. You can also speak to our guidance counselors for available options.

Is attendance required?

Pennsylvania's Department of Education (PDE) requires all schools to track daily attendance. For virtual programming, PDE defines attendance as evidence of access (logging in) and evidence of completion (assignments). PG Virtual Academy will operate on the same school calendar as PGSD. Daily attendance is required. To be marked present, students must complete at least one activity in at least one class every school day. Attendance will be tracked in PowerSchool. All other attendance procedures from the Student Handbook apply.

What type of technology support will be provided?

An iPad or Macbook Air will be provided by Pottsgrove School District. Our Director of Technology, Mr. Jeffrey Buettler, will contact you to coordinate a device pickup time. To receive technology support during the school year, you may contact our technology team at dile@pgsd.org.

Can I return to in-person instruction if virtual is not working out for my child?

Yes. There is a 14-day grace period with enrollment. You can dis-enroll from PGVA and return to PGSD instruction at any time during the grace period. After the 14-day grace period ends, you can still make the transition back to in-person instruction, but it will be at the end of the semester. Although PGVA teaches a PA aligned curriculum that is self-paced for each learner, we will need to work together during the transition back to in-person instruction to ensure that students learn what has been covered in the PGSD classroom. Parents/guardians are encouraged to reach out to their student's guidance counselor if they have any questions or concerns about their student's educational progress.