

THE ATHENS RENAISSANCE SCHOOL, A NON-TRADITIONAL PUBLIC EDUCATION FRAMEWORK AND THE VIRTUAL PROGRAM OPTIONS

The Athens City School System offers a non-traditional public education provided through the Athens Renaissance School. Courses are developed and taught by highly qualified, certified teachers or facilitated through high-quality online curriculum aligned to the ALSDE-CCRS.

SCOPE AND DELIVERY

Instruction at the Athens Renaissance School is delivered through *traditional face-to-face instruction, non-traditional virtual facilitation, or a blended combination of the two*. The system's learning management system (LMS) and other innovative instructional technologies house our course curriculum that allows teachers to facilitate teaching and learning. All Athens Renaissance School courses are accredited and approved by the Athens City Board of Education.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Full Time Enrollment

Athens Renaissance School courses and programs are free for enrolled full-time students in Grades K-12 meeting the residency requirements of Policy JBC.

Athens Renaissance School courses and programs are also available for enrolled full-time, non-resident K-12 students who meet Policy JBCB eligibility requirements and Athens City Schools enrollment procedures (except that the Superintendent is authorized to (a) allow such students to enroll and participate without bringing such enrollments to the board for approval, and (b) set a fee schedule for such students that is different from the free set out in Policy JBCB, including a schedule where there is no fee). Students who enroll through Policy JBCB for non-resident students are offered courses based on availability.

Athens Renaissance School full-time students shall not be enrolled at the same time in another public or non-public K-12 school.

A student is considered "full-time" where that student is enrolled and participating in a number of courses sufficient for matriculation from grade to grade, and in the core of grades 9-12, to be on the track for high school graduation in four years.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND TESTING PROTOCOL

The Athens Renaissance School is governed by the policies and procedures of Athens City Schools. All policies adopted by the Athens City Board of Education and all applicable administrative code and laws adopted by the State Board of Education and Alabama Legislature are applicable, except to the extent that the same are not applicable to a virtual education

program or have been otherwise waived pursuant to the Alabama Accountability Act of 2013. All policies and procedures adopted by the Athens City Board of Education apply to the Athens Renaissance School programs, unless expressly waived by this policy or by the Superintendent upon his/her finding that such policies or procedures are incompatible with the nontraditional and virtual format of the Athens Renaissance School.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Athens Renaissance School monitors student attendance in accordance with all applicable statutes set by the state of Alabama, as well as reports all truant students to the appropriate legal authorities. Parent(s)/guardian(s) with legal responsibility for a child between the age of six (6) and seventeen (17) years of age are responsible for the student's attendance in a public school unless otherwise exempt by law. In the event that a Renaissance student is truant, the parent(s)/guardian(s) are subject to all penalties provided for under Alabama's Compulsory School Attendance Law.

Renaissance School attendance is based upon one of two methods or a combination of both. Traditional attendance is measured by the physical presence of the student at the Athens Renaissance School facility. Non-traditional attendance is measured through the completion of lessons/assignments, and developed for students in every course that includes the due dates for each assignment. Students are required to remain on-pace, to be considered present and attending, as well as to progress in the course. Simply logging into the learning management system (LMS) or course is not considered attending for purposes of Alabama's Compulsory School Attendance Law.

The Superintendent is authorized to issue rules and regulations to implement this policy and to ensure the efficient and effective operations of our innovative programs and the ultimate mastery and achievement of those students enrolled while also securing academic integrity.

TRANSPORATAION

Transportation to and from Athens Renaissance School classes, program, or activities shall be the responsibility of the students, parent(s) and or guardians(s), except as otherwise specifically provided.

Authority/References

Ala. Code § 16-11-9 (1975); Ala. Code § 16-46A-1, *et seq.* (1975); Ala. Code § 16-6D-6 (1975). ADOPTED: June 11, 2015; REVISED: August 18, 2016; REVISED: September 13, 2018, REVISED: June 9, 2021.