

1     **3rd PARTY PROVIDED ONLINE COURSES AND VIRTUAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

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3     The Alexandria City School Board (Board) may enter into contracts, consistent with the criteria  
4     approved by the Virginia Board of Education, with approved private or nonprofit organizations,  
5     or other public school divisions, to provide multi-division online learning courses and virtual  
6     learning programs. Such contracts shall be exempt from the Virginia Public Procurement Act.

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8     Information regarding Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) approved online and virtual  
9     learning options provided by 3rd party organizations that are available through the school division  
10    will be posted on the division’s website. The information will include the types of online and  
11    virtual learning options available to students through the division, when the division will pay  
12    course fees and other costs for nonresident students, and the granting of high school credit.

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14    Any student enrolled in any online learning course or virtual learning program offered by the  
15    school division must be enrolled in a public school in Virginia as provided in Va. Code § 22.1-  
16    3.1. The student’s parent or guardian shall give written permission prior to the enrollment of the  
17    student in any full-time virtual learning program offered by the school division.

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19    A student enrolled in ACPS who resides in the City of Alexandria is not charged tuition for  
20    enrolling in any online course or virtual program offered by the school division. However, tuition  
21    may be charged for summer school programs at the same rate as in-person course offerings.  
22    Teachers who deliver instruction to students through online learning courses or virtual learning  
23    programs must be licensed by the Virginia Board of Education and are subject to the requirements  
24    of Policy GCDA: Effect of Criminal Conviction or Founded Complaint of Child Abuse or Neglect.

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26    The administrator of a virtual learning program must hold an advanced degree from a regionally-  
27    accredited institution of higher education with educational and work experience in administering  
28    educational programs.

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30    **Definitions**

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32    For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply.

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34    "Multidivision online provider" means (i) a private or nonprofit organization that enters into a  
35    contract with a local school board to provide online courses or programs through that school board  
36    to students who reside in Virginia both within and outside the geographical boundaries of that  
37    school division; (ii) a private or nonprofit organization that enters into contracts with multiple local  
38    school boards to provide online courses or programs to students in kindergarten through grade 12  
39    through those school boards; or (iii) a local school board that provides online courses or programs  
40    to students who reside in Virginia but outside the geographical boundaries of that school division.  
41    However, "multidivision online provider" shall not include (a) a local school board's online  
42    learning program in which fewer than 10 percent of the students enrolled reside outside the  
43    geographical boundaries of that school division; (b) multiple local school boards that establish  
44    joint online courses or programs in which fewer than 10 percent of the students enrolled reside  
45    outside the geographical boundaries of those school divisions; (c) local school boards that provide  
46    online learning courses or programs for their students through an arrangement with a public or  
47    private institution of higher education; or (d) local school boards providing online courses or

48 programs through a private or nonprofit organization that has been approved as a multidivision  
49 online provider.

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51 Online Learning/Online course means a course or grade-level subject instruction that (i) is  
52 delivered by ACPS staff or a multidivision online provider primarily electronically using the  
53 Internet or other computer-based methods and (ii) is taught by a teacher primarily from a remote  
54 location, with student access to the teacher given synchronously, asynchronously, or both.

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56 Virtual Learning/virtual school program means a series of online courses with instructional content  
57 that (i) is delivered by ACPS staff or a multidivision online provider primarily electronically using  
58 the Internet or other computer-based methods; (ii) is taught by a teacher primarily from a remote  
59 location, with student access to the teacher given synchronously, asynchronously, or both; (iii) is  
60 delivered as full-time program; and (iv) has an online component with online lessons and tools for  
61 student and data management.

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64 Adopted: May 12, 2011  
65 Amended: May 14, 2015  
66 Amended: May 9, 2024

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69 Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§, 22.1-212.24, 22.1-212.25, 22.1-212-26,  
70 22.1-212.27, 22.1-215, 22.1-253.13:4, 22.1-296.1, 22.1-296.2, 22.1-296.4.

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72 Cross Refs.: DJF Purchasing Procedures  
73 IGBG Homebound, Correspondence, and Alternative Means of Instruction  
74 IGBGA-R ACPS Online Learning Program