

2024 - 2025

ACCELERATEU



A C C E L E R A T E U . O R G

ONLINE COURSES FOR NYS STUDENTS

AccelerateU Online Courses, 2024-25

AccelerateU offers 300+ online, asynchronous courses for NYS students. Our courses are facilitated by our teachers, with tech support provided by our staff.

Students work independently, guided by due dates and weekly progress reports. Students also have tutoring time with teachers each week.

Our courses are NOT Zoom-based or taught in real-time.

Students work on their own, paced by due dates, with our teachers supporting mostly by email, but also by weekly meetings.

We offer entire classes to help alleviate teacher shortages.

Each one-semester course costs \$770 per student.

Enrollments dropped within the first 7 days are not invoiced.

Enrollments dropped from 8 to 28 days are invoiced at \$50.

AccelerateU course costs are aidable.

AccelerateU meets NYSED Parts 100.1, 100.2, and 100.5 for virtual and blended instruction.

List of Online Courses

Visit this site for our current course list:

<https://www.edutech.org/resources/accelerateu-online-learning/course-list>

Protecting Student Information

New York State Department of Education Ed Law 2d requires districts to protect students' personally identifiable information (PII). PII includes information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity either directly or indirectly through linkages with other information, such as student name, parents' names, student address, and student number.

The online platform we use has access to PII, so we require the vendor to sign our Ed Law 2d contract, which specifies acceptable data protection, handling, and retention practices.

To learn more about disclosure avoidance practice, visit <https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/>.

For more information on Ed Law 2d or on AccelerateU's data protection practices, please contact Mike Morone at mike.morone@edutech.org.

Mike Morone

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315-359-8355
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Kelly Zimmerman

Coordinator of Online Instruction
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Course Costs, 2024-25

Each semester (.5 credit) online course costs \$770 per student.

Examples: Health is a semester (0.5 credit) course and costs \$770.

Spanish 1 is a two semester (1.0 credit) course and costs \$1,540.

AccelerateU is an aidable service. Districts receive BOCES aid on the purchase of each course in the year following purchase. For example, the actual cost for a course for a 70% aid ratio district is \$231.00.

Aid ratios: [HTTPS://STATEAID.NYSED.GOV](https://stateaid.nySED.gov)

For more information, contact Robert Harris at Robert.Harris@edutech.org

Early withdrawal fee

0-7 days: no charge for enrollments dropped in this time frame.

8-28 days: charge of \$50 for enrollments dropped in this time frame.

Local BOCES fees may apply.

District Aid Rate	AccelerateU Course Cost	Actual Cost, after aid is received
0.80	\$770	\$155
0.75	\$770	\$192
0.70	\$770	\$231
0.65	\$770	\$269
0.60	\$770	\$308
0.50	\$770	\$385
0.40	\$770	\$462
0.30	\$770	\$539
0.20	\$770	\$616
0.10	\$770	\$693

Enrollments in May and June will be invoiced at full cost of \$770, regardless of completion/drop status.

How Online Courses Work

Students have 20 weeks to complete each course. Upon request, we can grant an additional 4 weeks without additional cost.

Courses are online, available 24/7, wherever students have Internet access. Students work at a pace guided by suggested due dates. They should work at least 3 hours per week. Our teachers monitor progress, clarify concepts, offer help, answer questions, provide grades, and report progress. They also offer weekly academic support sessions.

AccelerateU is not Zoom-based or real-time. It is an asynchronous supplemental online learning program.

When students complete the course, they earn NYS credit, awarded by their districts. All courses are monitored by NYS certified teachers.

AccelerateU Student Contract

With each enrollment, students receive a confirmation email. By taking the course, they agree to the following rules.

AccelerateU Contract - you must agree to:

Follow your school's Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use Policy

Never copy anyone else's work or provide answers to anyone

Refrain from intimidation, harassment, bad language, and bullying

Never use online language translation programs

Be sure to cite the works of others if you use permitted Internet sources

Use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools appropriately - Don't just copy/paste

Cite Artificial Intelligence sites when used

Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) Resources:

AI (artificial intelligence) resources such as ChatGPT can be useful in many ways. Because it can also be abused, however, you are required to acknowledge use of AI in any work you submit for class. Text directly copied from AI sites must be treated as any other direct quote and properly cited. Other uses of AI must be clearly described at the end of your assignment (source: Claire Hughes-Lynch, Cleveland State University).

Registering Students

Enrollments are requested online in our system (Genius Class), <http://accelerateu.org>.

Step 1: Click on **Students** tab and **Add Student**.

Fill out ALL information.

Click **Save**. Go to student's profile – by the “**Click here**” link.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Add new course request" with a "Requested Courses" tab. The form is titled "Course Request" and contains the following fields and options:

- Term:** A dropdown menu with "Select..." as the placeholder.
- Course:** A dropdown menu with "Select..." as the placeholder.
- Start Date:** A yellow text input field.
- Name of administrator approving enrollment:** A yellow text input field.
- Aidable cost of this enrollment:** A text input field containing "770.00".
- Entry Reason:** A dropdown menu with "Select..." as the placeholder.

Below the fields are two buttons: "Save" and "Cancel".

Below the buttons, there is a block of text: "Each one-semester course is 20 weeks in length. Each one-semester course is worth 0.5 credit. Please contact us if you require an adjusted end date."

Below this text is another block: "For Regents Science courses – districts are responsible for supervising and documenting students' hands-on labs. The requirement is 1200 minutes of hands-on lab activities per course."

Below this text are two checkboxes:

- ☐ By checking this box, you authorize your district to be billed for this course by your local BOCES
- ☐ I certify that this course has been approved by a school administrator

At the bottom, there is a note: "Enrollments starting in May and beyond are invoiced at full cost regardless of outcome"

Step 2: Select **Requested Courses** and **Add a new course request**.

Select the **Term**, **Course**, and **Start Date**. Choose **Entry Reason** and click on check boxes. **Save**.

Separate the address number from the address street as shown below:

Address (number):

Address (street):

AccelerateU staff will enroll the student within 24 hours and send a **confirmation email** with complete instructions and contact information.

Step 3: Upload **IEP** or **504 document(s)** by clicking **External Files** and **Upload new file**.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will the course have a teacher?

Yes. All our courses are led by NYS-certified teachers. They communicate with students on a regular basis, mostly by email. They respond to questions within 24 hours (school days only). They also offer weekly virtual meetings.

What do students do if they need help?

The district is responsible for technical support to ensure its devices can properly open AccelerateU courseware. AccelerateU provides second-tier support. For academic support, students contact their online teachers. For other support, students contact their counselor.

How can districts best support their online students?

Designate a local coach or advisor - someone to meet with students regularly and monitor progress. We encourage coaches to contact us to discuss progress and issues. It's best to add as much structure as possible, such as scheduled time for online work, an active coach, peer group, teacher assistant, lab assistant, and a tutor, if necessary.

How quickly will the teacher respond to questions?

Most of our online teachers also teach during the day. They respond at night and complete grading over the weekends. In most cases, teachers will respond within 24 hours. Students are encouraged to consult other resources and move on in their course while waiting.

What about hands-on science labs?

Some of our science courses require hands-on labs, supervised by qualified staff. This must be implemented and documented locally by the district. However, NYSED now allows virtual labs.

How is test security handled?

Students take midterm and final exams in a proctored setting at school. Midterm and final exams are password protected. District staff will be provided with this password. Please do NOT share it with students. This ensures test integrity. Homebound students can be proctored at home by guardians.

What about IEP or 504 Plan modifications?

If a student has modifications, please attach the IEP or 504 Plan to their account in our system. The district is responsible for most local modifications. Our Special Education Coordinator is Carol Pangrazio.

Carol.Pangrazio@wflboces.org

What about Regents and AP Exams?

Districts are responsible for administering, ordering, and paying for exams. Our courses have final exams, and at the districts' discretion, we can substitute our exam for a Regents exam or an AP exam.

What are the System Requirements?

Students need access to a modern computer with an Internet connection and updated software plug-ins. A headset with microphone is required for world language and other courses to record voice assignments. All students will need district email accounts for communication purposes.

We do NOT recommend iPads, tablets, or smartphones for online course work.

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Online learning in New York State, from EduTech

Selected recent feedback from some of our online students

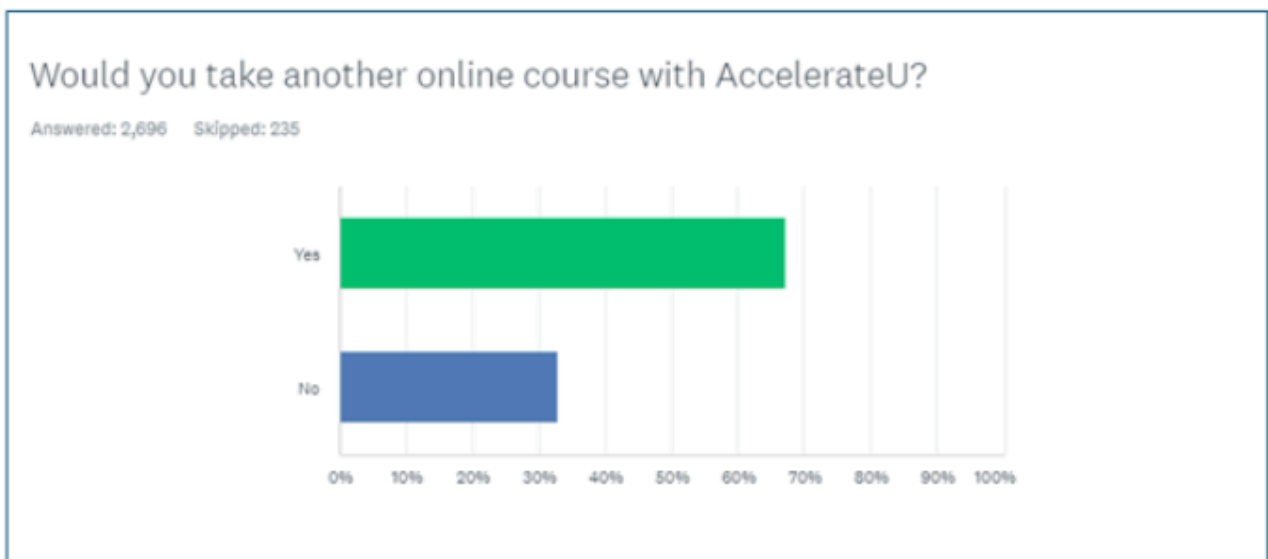
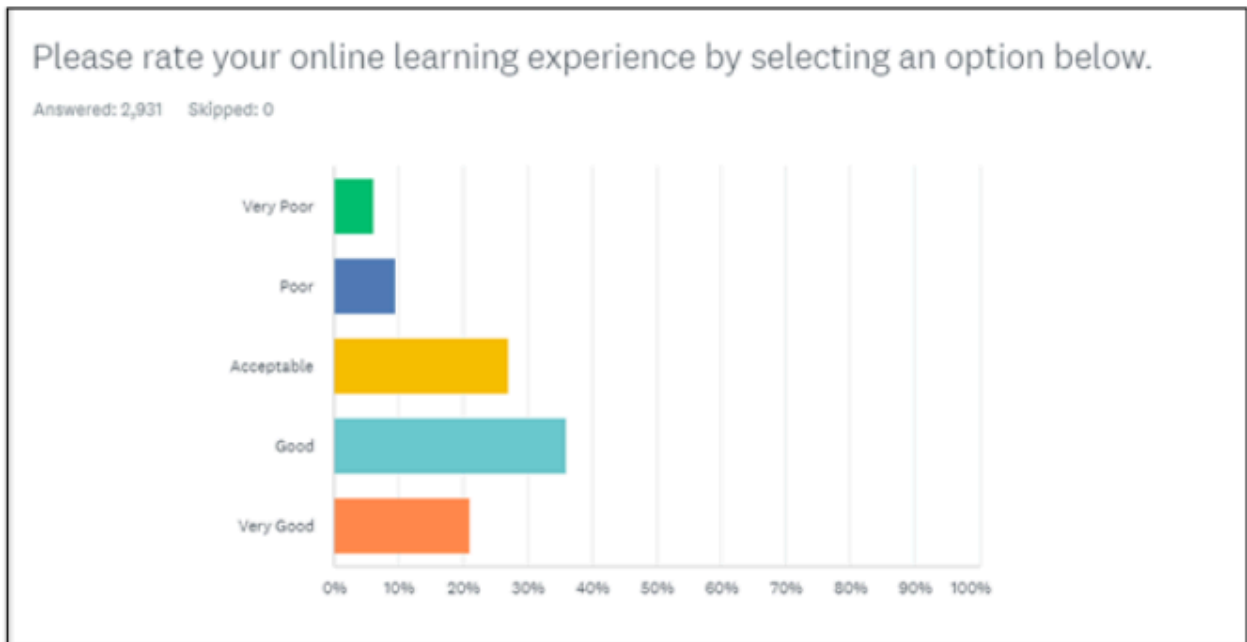
What was the online learning experience like?

- Better than in person because I can move at my own pace
- Relaxed, peaceful, and steady-paced
- normal cus I'm normally online
- good, very easy to access and find your way around
- Difficult to manage... but I would take it again to challenge myself and take a class I like
- A little more fun than in a classroom
- I learned very well with this program
- It was efficient and convenient
- Great, very interactive, organized, understandable, layout made sense
- It was cool and different
- I did not like it, but at least I got the credit
- It was very difficult at some points but overall was good
- Harder than I would've liked
- Very challenging, I am typical a mid 90s student and I couldn't get above a 85...
- Great, easy to follow
- ... all about self-advocacy, and learning at your pace with opportunities to fix your grade
- better than being in class with long lectures
- definitely different, but worth it to get my credits
- ... easy communication with my online teacher.
- I enjoyed it more than sitting in a classroom
- better than in school
- Very independent compared with typical school work
- It was easy to use the website, and the teacher was helpful and responsive
- it was very good I kinda wish all my classes were online
- It was alot of figuring out on your own, rather than the curriculum teaching it to you
- Amazing it gives me the chance to finish my classes and high school
- It was hard not having a teacher in the class with us, but other then that good
- It allowed me to learn a language that the school doesn't offer, which was super cool
- The online learning experience was amazing besides for the non self-paced in my option
- It was hard at first, But I got used to it at the end
- it was very independent, self explanatory and self advocacy
- Learnt more than expected

AccelerateU.org

Online learning in New York State, from EduTech

Student ratings since 2015-16



Contact us to discuss your online learning for your students

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