

# Top 10 Questions to Ask Any Digital School or Program

Choosing the right online, hybrid, or ESA- or voucher-funded learning option is a big decision. **These 10 questions** will help you quickly assess whether a program is a good fit for your child and your family. " See Appendix A: "What to Ask Before Enrolling" handout for a more in-depth list of questions, look/listen for, and red flags.

## 1. Is your school approved under my state's ESA program (if applicable) or eligible to accept vouchers?

*Why it matters:* Ensures you can use ESA or voucher funds and that the program meets state eligibility requirements.

## 2. Is your school accredited or approved by the state, and will credits transfer to other schools or colleges?

*Why it matters:* Accreditation/Approval signals quality and helps avoid credit transfer problems later.

## 3. How much teacher interaction will my child have?

*Why it matters:* Regular contact with teachers is critical for learning, feedback, and engagement.

## 4. What does a typical school day/week look like for students?

*Why it matters:* Helps you understand the balance of live instruction, self-paced work, screen time, and offline learning activities.

## 5. How do you support different learners (special education, gifted, English language learners)?

*Why it matters:* Ensures your child's unique needs will be met, not overlooked.

## 6. What curriculum do you use, and how often is it updated?

*Why it matters:* Quality and current curriculum sets the foundation for your child's success.

## 7. How do you handle academic integrity and cheating concerns, including AI tool misuse?

*Why it matters:* Clear policies and teacher oversight help ensure your child's learning is authentic and credible.

## 8. How do you keep families informed about student progress?

*Why it matters:* Parents need regular updates and access to grades, attendance, and support.

## 9. What opportunities will my child have for social interaction and enrichment activities?

*Why it matters:* Social skills, friendships, and extracurriculars are important for a well-rounded education.

## 10. What technology is required, and what support do you provide if things go wrong?

*Why it matters:* Clear expectations and reliable tech support reduce frustration and interruptions in learning.

**Tip:** Always ask for references from other parents, or reviews of the program. A reputable school will welcome your questions and provide clear, transparent answers.