

BEDFORD NORTH LAWRENCE
STARS ACADEMY
VIRTUAL PROGRAM



STARS ACADEMY: Frequently Asked Questions

What is the cost? Stars Academy is a tuition-free virtual academy of Bedford North Lawrence High School.

What technology is provided? Stars Academy students will be issued an NLCS Chromebook. The student is responsible for the headphones if needed, the printer if needed, and the internet connection.

How is attendance completed? Attendance is achieved through daily login and progress growth.

Is it full time? Yes, Stars Academy is a full-time virtual program. Students will be assigned to a schedule of classes. Students will have autonomy to personalize their daily schedule to complete courses.

Can I do Stars Academy and still go to NLCC? Yes, students will be able to enroll in the Stars Academy virtual program for part-time status and continue to be an in-person student at NLCC for pathway courses. Students will have to provide their own transportation.

What is the teacher's role? Stars Academy students will have access to independent learning courses and will be able to connect with LIVE teachers at any time during the designated school day (9 am-5 pm). The teacher will monitor academic progress, provide student assessment feedback, and work one-on-one with students. The guardian is designated the Learning Coordinator and is responsible for the supervision of the student.

Are there special education services? Yes, Stars Academy includes special education services through BNL and virtual support. Students will receive their individual accommodations and have access to special education teachers during the day for academic support.

How do grades work? Grades are just like in school - students will complete a variety of assessments, assignments, projects, and discussions. The teacher will then grade the students' work. Students will receive feedback and support from their virtual teachers.

Are the virtual teachers at BNL? No, Stars Academy has a team of virtual teachers through our Edmentum EdOptions partner.

Can I participate in the graduation? Yes, Stars Academy students are BNL students and are eligible to participate in the BNL Graduation Commencement.

How do I enroll? Students wanting to participate in Stars Academy need to complete the Stars Academy application. Once approved, an enrollment conference will be scheduled for the student and guardian.

When do I start? Stars Academy will accept students before the start of each semester. After the start of a semester, enrollment will be pending approval with consideration of academic history, reason for request, and date.

Can I enroll once the semester starts? Yes. While we recommend enrollment to be completed prior to the start of the semester, a student can enroll into Stars Academy up to six weeks after the start of the semester. Enrollment after this mark will be pending approval based on individual student applications.

What if I join the Stars Academy, but then want to return to BNL? Students interested in Stars Academy are committing to a semester option, but can elect to transfer back to in person learning at BNL within the first ten days of the semester. After this date, students are not able to transfer back to in person learning until the next semester.

How can students socialize? Stars Academy students are permitted to continue with involvement in BNL academic extracurriculars. Stars Academy students are not permitted to participate in BNL Athletics.

Can I go to the Homecoming Dance and Prom? Yes, Stars Academy students are permitted to attend Homecoming festivities, including the dance and Prom, if a Junior or Senior.

Can I still play sports? No, Stars Academy students are not permitted to participate in BNL Athletics.

Is Stars Academy the same as Gateway Academy? No. Stars Academy is a virtual learning program for BNL students whereas Gateway Academy is our Alternative Education program for BNL students. Gateway Academy is for identified students of 11th & 12th Grade that are at risk of graduation due to their individual circumstances, with the goal of achieving graduation on time. Gateway Academy offers small classroom settings with increased one to one instructional assistance, and once a student achieves on pace credits, transition back to the traditional classroom setting. Stars Academy is a virtual learning options for students that desire an alternative learning setting that is more individualized and flexible.

