

GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What is the Georgia Virtual School?** The Georgia Virtual School is a program of the Georgia Department of Education's Office of Technology Services. The program is SACS CASI accredited and operates in partnership with schools and parents to offer middle school and high school level courses across the state. Georgia Virtual School provides a teacher led, virtual classroom environment. Georgia Virtual School also equips students with an online media center and guidance center to support students throughout their online course experience.
- 2. Where do I begin?** First visit the Georgia Virtual School website at www.gavirtualschool.org and take the technology readiness survey. If you have the required technology at home, then you make an appointment with your school counselor to see what courses are required to graduate.
- 3. Who gives the final approval for the online learning to begin?** Your school counselor will assist with scheduling the appropriate courses. Once the school counselor approves the courses, the counselor will notify the Georgia Virtual School that the student is ready to begin the virtual learning.
- 4. How much is the cost of a class with Georgia Virtual School?** The classes cost \$250 per half credit. All Georgia public school students will have their tuition paid by their local school board if they take a Georgia Virtual School class as part of the school day.
- 5. How long are the courses?** A typical class is 18 weeks long. The length of the course varies based on the time a student registers. Click on the link below to see the varying time frames.
<http://gavirtualschool.org/CourseInfo.aspx>
- 6. Is there a window of time to register for class?** Yes. The student may register for the class as long as there are 12 weeks remaining the class. The link below provides important dates:
<http://gavirtualschool.org/CourseInfo/ImportantDates.aspx>
- 7. How much time is required to take an online course?** The time will vary depending on the course schedule. For an 18 week semester, a half unit class generally requires 1.5 to 2 hours of work per day. Assignments are due every Friday. Summer classes are shorter and require about 20 hours per week of work with assignments due every day.
- 8. Why doesn't the economics and civics courses in the Georgia Virtual School meet local system requirements?** The state graduation requirement is for

students to complete one half of a credit (.5) for economics and civics. However, some local school districts required a full credit.

9. **When is the school district billed?** The school district is billed the 20th day of each month.
10. **Do I need to physically sit in a school building to take the Georgia Virtual School classes?** No. As long as you have reliable internet access, you can take Georgia Virtual School courses at anytime and in any place.
11. **Is there a way to keep track of a student's class time?** Teachers, facilitators, and parents can keep up with attendance in class through the "User Progress" feature. It tracks the days and times a student logs in, as well as which sections the student is working on and when the student worked on the sections.
12. **How are the grades put on my transcript?** The school counselor at your school will log into Georgia Virtual School and pull those grades for the student's transcript.
13. **How will final exams and End of Course Tests be administered?** Final exams are administered on the same date each semester for all students. EOCTs are taken at your local school at the school's next administration. Home school students take the EOCT on a scheduled date at their local Educational Testing Center.
14. **Who is eligible to enroll in the Georgia Virtual Schools at this time?** Students in grades 6-12 are eligible to enroll in the Georgia Virtual School at this time. The Georgia Department of Education has not established an online curriculum for grades 3-5. When this option becomes available, the school district will provide this option.
15. **What if I am interested in other online classes?** House Bill 175 provides the opportunity for parents and students to explore other online learning options with the Georgia Online Clearinghouse. This clearinghouse allows parents and students in K-12 to search for online courses, online course providers, and guidelines for what constitutes high quality online courses. Below is a link for the clearinghouse providers.
http://www.gadoe.org/_layouts/GADOEPublic.SPApp/Clearinghouse.aspx

PLEASE VISIT THE LINK BELOW FOR OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

<http://helpdesk.gavirtualllearning.org/support/>

