

ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM

Purpose

The purpose of the online and blended learning program policy is to guide the use of online courses through the Mississippi Virtual Public School (MVPS), the Mississippi Interactive Video Network (MIVN), independent study programs, and other online course providers.

Definitions

Online learning is defined as a delivery model that is an interactive computer-based and internet-connected learning environment in which students are separated from their teachers by time or location or both and in which a Mississippi-certified teacher is responsible for providing instruction.

Blended learning is defined as a hybrid instructional delivery model where students are provided face-to-face instruction in part at a supervised school facility away from home and in part in a computer-based, internet-connected learning environment with some degree of student control over time, location, and pace of instruction and in which a Mississippi-certified teacher is responsible for providing instruction.

The program shall be subject to the following requirements:

- i. Teachers are licensed by the Mississippi Department of Education to teach the respective course, as verified by the online/blended learning provider;
- ii. Background checks are conducted for the teachers;
- iii. The content, curriculum, and assessments for each course are aligned to the competencies, objectives, and standards of the respective Mississippi course;
- iv. Appropriate course codes are used;
- v. A facilitator is assigned to assist students;
- vi. Students have access to the technology needed for courses;
- vii. Students have all instructional materials needed for courses;
- viii. The district grading policy is followed;
- ix. The student must complete 100% of the course to receive a credit;
- x. Students enrolled in the courses take the required state assessments where applicable; and
- xi. Documentation is maintained on file at the central office.

Also, the student handbook shall include the following information for students, parents, and the community:

- i. The process for notifying parents about the program;
- ii. Minimum criteria to determine eligibility for participation;
- iii. The number of online courses that students can take at one time;
- iv. If the distance online / blended learning program can be used for credit recovery, remediation, and/or first-time enrollment;
- v. The courses by grade level and content area for the online/blended learning program; and

- vi. The process for monitoring student progress and notifying parents of student progress during enrollment in the online/blended learning program.

SOURCE: Jackson Public School District and the Mississippi Department of Education Jackson, Mississippi

LEGAL REF.: *Miss. Code Ann.* § 37-1-3, § 37-161-3

DATE: February 21, 2017

AMENDED: February 24, 2021
April 20, 2021