



Norfolk Public Schools

The cornerstone of a proudly diverse community

2021-2022 Virtual Scholars Academy Application Packet

The Virtual Scholars Academy (VSA) will be available for enrollment to students in grades 4-12 with full course offerings to include services and accommodations for students with disabilities as determined by students' Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 team.

Students interested in participating in the Virtual Scholars Academy must apply and be accepted into the program. Applications will be evaluated before acceptance into the Virtual Scholars Academy occurs.

Students who are accepted into the program will remain enrolled at their zoned school and may participate in all school-sponsored athletics, clubs, and activities, if program requirements are met.

*Students cannot participate in the Virtual Scholars Academy if they are currently enrolled in any of the school division's specialty programs.

*Students enrolling in the full-time Virtual Scholars Academy program during the 2021-2022 school year who transfer back to in-person learning at their home school will not be enrolled in courses/classes taught by the same teacher to which they were assigned in the Virtual Scholars Academy.

Students will be issued a Chromebook and a mi-fi device (if needed) by Norfolk Public Schools.

Students who are not successful in the virtual learning environment provided by the Virtual Scholars Academy will be provided additional support; however, they may be moved to an in-person instruction model as deemed appropriate by building principals/NPS administration.

Please review the application and requirements for admission into the VSA. Students/families are to submit via email their completed applications online to VSA@nps.k12.va.us by **no later than June 14, 2021**. Please review the next page for important dates and information for each program.

Requirements:

1. Student meets academic course requirements by earning passing grades in all core courses (English, mathematics, science, social studies) in quarters one, two, and three during the 2020-2021 school year.
2. Student exhibits adequate attendance by having 10 or fewer daily absences (unexcused) during the 2020-2021 school year.
3. Student meets the prerequisites for available courses (secondary only).
4. Student and family will make a one-year commitment to enrollment in the Virtual Scholars Academy.

***** If the students meet the above requirements, please fill out the application, and email it to VSA@nps.k12.va.us by no later than the deadline of June 14, 2021. If the student does not meet the above criteria, the student will be enrolled in the school division's traditional (in-person) program for the 2021-2022 school year. *****



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Parent/Guardian/Student Checklist:

1. Application Checklist (This Cover Sheet)
2. Virtual Option Selection (Must Select One)
3. Student Applicant Information Sheet
4. Student Questionnaire
5. Parent/Guardian Support Agreement and Comments

APPLICATION CHECKLIST/COVER SHEET

Use the checklist above to guide you through the process. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

*Please fill out application, and email it to: VSA@nps.k12.va.us

Student's Name: _____

Current School and Grade Level: _____

VIRTUAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE (MUST SELECT ONE):

SYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION:

- Zoom classes five days per week
- Live instruction with a teacher
- Structured similar to the traditional school day

ASYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION:

- Coursework completed independently by students
- Flexibility for students, but they must adhere to the curriculum pacing, timelines, and due dates for courses
- Periodic Student/Mentor check-in sessions



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STUDENT INFORMATION:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I.: _____

Current School: _____ Student ID# (if NPS): _____

Home Address: _____ Norfolk, VA _____

Phone #: _____ Number/Street _____ Zip Code Home _____
Mobile/Cell Phone#: _____

Work Phone #: _____ Best Contact # (Check One): Home Cell Work
Parent/Guardian

Counselor's Name: _____ Zoned School: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's Name: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's Email Address: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's Email Address #2 (optional): _____

Student's Email Address: _____

Student has/is (Please check all that apply):

- a student with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- a student with a Section 504 Accommodation Plan (504 Plan).
- an English Learner (EL).
- a Gifted identified student

*The IEP team for students with an IEP must meet to determine if Virtual Scholars Academy and virtual learning is an appropriate instructional modality for the student to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) based on their disability-based needs and develop an appropriate IEP.

**The Section 504 team for students with a 504 plan must meet to determine if Virtual Scholars Academy and virtual learning is an appropriate instructional modality for the student to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) based on their disability-based needs and develop an appropriate 504 Plan.



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STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE:

1. Please list any virtual classes you failed during the 2020-2021 school year.

2. List any sports and/or extracurricular activities in which you currently participate, either at your middle/high school or in your community (clubs, organizations, committees, etc.).

3. What strengths do you have that will enable you to be successful in a virtual learning setting?

4. What are some challenges that you have experienced or may find for learning in a virtual setting?



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PARENT/GUARDIAN SUPPORT AGREEMENT AND COMMENTS:

The applicant information above is correct. My student and I have discussed the admission requirements and academic discipline for a virtual learning program in which applying.

If selected, I agree to give my student, the faculty, and staff of the Virtual Scholars Academy the support necessary to ensure success.

I further agree to attend any virtual information sessions required by the academy if my student is accepted, as well as to sign any addition agreements or expectation forms for the academy.

In addition, the parent(s)/guardian(s) acknowledge(s) their responsibility for providing instructional support daily to best promote student success.

This includes:

- Ensuring students selecting the synchronous instruction option attend at least four hours of daily teacher-led instruction via Zoom with cameras on.
- Ensuring students complete required daily independent learning assignments five days a week.
- Ensuring students have appropriate technology and internet access or use a Norfolk Public Schools issued device and/or hotspot.
- Engaging in routine communication with the Virtual Scholars Academy teacher(s) and staff.

Student's **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Legal Guardian **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Legal Guardian **Printed Name:** _____

1. In the space below, please explain why you, as a parent, or your child feel that a full-time virtual option is the most appropriate learning environment for the 2021-2022 school year (to be completed by parent/guardian for students 15 years and younger).

Please submit this application via email to VSA@nps.k12.va.us before the June 14th, 2021 deadline