



Approved Online Course Provider

Pearson Virtual Schools

Website: <https://www.pearson.com/us/prek-12/products-services-teaching/online-blended-learning-solutions/pearson-connexus.html>

Email: abby.shirallie@pearson.com

Phone: (844) 597-3224

Student information privacy policy: <https://sandbox-wa-approvals.ems.connexus.com/> - see PPRA, FERPA, and Privacy policies in lower right corner of login screen

OSPI Approval

Approved as a Multi District Online Course Provider through the 2021-2022 school year.

Student Performance and Demographics

K-5 teacher-to-student ratio: 1:50

6-8 teacher-to-student ratio: 1:35

9-12 teacher-to-student ratio: 1:35

Overview

Pearson Virtual Schools is an accredited provider of high-quality, highly accountable virtual education solutions for students in grade K–12.

Pearson Virtual Schools has extensive experience in online learning over the last 15+ years. Among the schools being supported by Pearson Virtual Schools in the 2017–2018 school year are 35 online public schools operating in 29 states and serving more than 70,000 students. In addition, Pearson Virtual Schools has many partner programs with schools and districts in states across the U.S.

Connections Education was the first K-12 virtual school program to receive accreditation from the Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation (CITA), now a part of AdvancED™. The program was first granted accreditation in 2005. In its most recent accreditation report in April 2015, AdvancED™ found that:

- *“A culture and commitment focused on student learning permeates throughout the Connections Education organization.”*
- *“The corporation embodies a culture of collaboration that exists throughout all aspects of the corporation and schools.”*

Pearson Virtual Schools is proud of the recognition of its focus on student learning and collaboration. The Pearson Virtual Schools curriculum, which is the same curriculum used in the Connections Academy schools, has been recognized nationally for quality and innovation. A list of awards is provided on the website at:

<http://www.connectionsacademy.com/results/awards>.

The program includes: 1) a rigorous, proven curriculum aligned to the Washington Academic Standards, 2) Washington-

certified teachers, and 3) an educational management system designed specifically for a K-12 online learning environment to provide accountability through comprehensive data collection, analysis, and reporting. POBL offers an extensive range of courses to meet all student needs, with Advanced Placement (AP) and Gifted and Talented courses available for advanced students, and Foundations and Credit Recovery courses for students who need additional supports, and extensive electives including foreign language courses.

Pearson Virtual Schools employs highly qualified, Washington-certified teachers, who are specially trained in online delivery and personalized instruction. Teachers work remotely, delivering instruction to an online classroom of students and working one-on-one with students through highly interactive, online communication tools. Teachers will engage in regular one-on-one contact with each student in addition to facilitating online classes and discussions among students.

Course Offerings

Subjects:

- Arts
- Business
- Language Arts
- Lifeskills-Health
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Technology
- World Languages

Levels:

- Advanced Placement
- Credit Recovery
- Honors
- Standard

Students

Pearson Virtual Schools seeks partnerships with schools and/or districts interested in providing their students with a quality online learning experience. We offer a wide array of courses designed to serve students with a diverse group of needs. Pearson OBL can support schools/districts that wish to offer courses that they may not be able to offer on their own – for example, Advanced Placement, foreign language, and/or other electives, in addition to a robust offering of core curriculum.

Online learning appeals to a wide range of students: those who may be gifted and need a challenging curriculum; be struggling academically and need an individualized approach; be dealing with social, discipline, and other issues; or be elite athletes or performers who need flexible scheduling for education, or may simply wish to experience the flexibility and unique environment offered by an online course.

Student-Teacher Contact Requirements

Pearson Virtual Schools has a set of standard requirements for student-teacher contacts as part of the “core model” of expectations for students and school staff. These policies and expectations are provided to stakeholders in several ways, including in the Customer Handbook for Teaching Services in Connexus EMS.

Students are expected to have regular synchronous communications with their teachers. At a minimum, all students enrolled in Pearson Virtual Schools online courses in Washington will interact (e.g., via phone, chat, LiveLesson® session, or other approved communication channels) with either their Pearson Virtual Schools or regular school teacher at least every week. Responsibility for student progress monitoring and contacts is a shared responsibility between the Pearson Virtual Schools teachers and the partnering school/district teachers, ensuring that all students have regular weekly contact with a teacher to support their learning and academic success.