

Estill County Virtual Learning Academy Student Handbook



ACADEMY MISSION

To build positive relationships with students to establish feelings of confidence, self-esteem, and respect. We will also use this relationship to effect change in the students' attitudes, values, and motivation toward education, themselves, and others.

ACADEMY VISION

Build teacher-student relationships and motivating connections that harness every student's ability to succeed through project-based learning as defined by the student's individualized learning plan.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Estill County Virtual Learning Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the educational programs or activities that it operates, and is required by Title IX of the educational amendments of 1972 (P.L. 92-318), not to discriminate in such a manner. Further, the board of education does not discriminate on the basis of handicap, in treatment, admission or access to, or employment, in programs or activities as required by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-112), as amended, Section 504, nor does the board of education discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, as required by the Title VI, of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, nor does the board of education discriminate on the basis of age, religion, or marital status, in the educational programs or activities it operates. Any concerns can be addressed to the affirmative action officer at the board of education or to: U.S. Dept. of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 3535 Market Street, Rm 6300, Philadelphia, PA 19104-332

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Contact Information

Estill County Virtual Learning Academy
 253 Main Street Irvine, KY 40336
 (606) 723-2181

Faculty

Principal - Donald Norton
 Teacher - Lynette Ballard
 Registrar - LaVella Tipton

Closings and Delays

When inclement weather or any other incident causes school to be closed, virtual students do not have to work on these days.

Announcements regarding the close of school will be made over the following stations: WSKV-104.9, Lexington Channels 18, 27, and 36.

If school is delayed by one or two hours, an announcement will be made. Virtual

students should follow the delay as scheduled.

An NTI day is the same for all students. Virtual students should work on assignments on these days also.

Parent Volunteers

All volunteers must complete a volunteer application (available on the district website under the employment tab) and pass a criminal background check.

STUDENT SERVICES

Tutoring Services

Tutoring services are available daily at the ECVA classroom.

Summer School

If money permits, ten days of summer school will be offered for students who have failed a course required for graduation. Students with a grade below forty-five percent (45%) in a class will not be eligible to participate in summer school for that class. Summer school students will be able to raise their grades to passing, which is a D, or 60%. Summer school begins around the first week we are out of school and typically runs two weeks. \

Attendance: students are expected to attend daily until work is completed.

Grading: students must pass the assigned credit recovery course (this includes the initial assessment and all submissions) with a 60% D or better to attain credit for the class. Students may only receive a 60% D for the class on their transcript.

Discipline: Students must follow the Estill County High School Code of Conduct at all times.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parents/ Guardians and teachers are both encouraged to schedule conferences when concerns arise. The parent/guardian can set up a parent-teacher-student conference by calling Ms. Ballard at 606 - 723 - 2181 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or contacting the child's teacher via email. Conferences will be held face-to-face when possible, but can also be virtual in nature if both the teacher and guardian agree.

No Pass/ No Drive KRS 159.051

The "No Pass/No Drive" statute results in the denial or revocation of a student's driver's license for academic deficiency, or dropping out of school as a result of excessive or unexcused absences. Academic deficiency is defined as a student who does not have passing grades in at least four courses, or the equivalent of four courses, in the preceding semester.

Because Estill County Virtual Learning Academy has 7 classes in a day, a student must pass a minimum of 5 of their classes to be able to keep their driver's license. Due to the nature of the virtual program, attendance is not taken, so that part of the statute will not be used.

SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS/ PRIVILEGES

Conduct at School Events

All students, faculty, and staff are to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all school events and should be especially careful not to create disturbances that might negatively reflect on our school or the reputation of the student body. Students are to remember that, regardless of where they are, in the public eye, they are representatives of Estill County Virtual Academy. Students should accept this responsibility with pride and conduct themselves as worthy representatives of the school. All school policies and disciplinary actions will apply to students at school-sponsored events, both home and away.

Junior/Senior Prom

Each year the junior class at Estill County High School sponsors a prom for all junior and senior students and their dates. If invited by an eligible Estill County High School student the Estill County Virtual Academy student will be eligible to attend the prom. All students who meet any all of the following criteria will not be allowed to attend prom.

1. Must be passing 5 of 7 classes
2. Must be on pace in all classes

An application request to attend prom must be completed by the PCVA student. The application must be submitted to the sponsor of the Junior and Senior Prom for approval by the administration.

Student Dress Code

When coming into the Estill County Virtual Academy for any reason, students are expected to dress in clothing appropriate for the season and for the school activity that they are attending. Clothing that is excessively revealing, extremely tight-fitting, distracting, or that causes undue attention cannot be worn. Any clothing that might be disruptive to the learning environment of a classroom cannot be worn.

Consequences for Dress Code Violations

The student will not be allowed to stay.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Expectations

In order to provide an environment that fosters student achievement, the faculty needs the help and cooperation of students and parents/guardians. The local board of education in establishing proper conditions for learning. All students at Estill County Virtual Academy are expected to behave in a manner that creates a positive school environment. The primary goal of the faculty and staff of Estill County Virtual Academy is to provide every student with the opportunities to achieve their life goals.

Any misbehavior by a virtual student will result in those services being discontinued for a time specified by the principal.

Possession/Use of Tobacco Products

Students shall not be permitted to use/or have possession of any tobacco product, alternative nicotine product, or vapor product as defined in the KRS 438.305 on property owned, leased, or operated by the Board, inside board-owned vehicles, on the way to and from school, or during school-sponsored trips and activities. Evidence-based, age-appropriate nicotine prevention and cessation material shall be distributed to all students at the beginning of each school year, and students shall have access to the material throughout the school year. Also, this material will be provided each time a student is caught with tobacco/vaping products. Students who violate these prohibitions while under the supervision of the school shall have the product taken. His/her parent/guardian will be called and sent home. If the student returns to ECVA for tutoring, he/she will be subject to being searched.

USE/POSSESSION OF DAB PENS/THC

No student shall purchase, possess, use, be under the influence of, sell, or transfer dab pens or THC.

Any time a student has committed this offense, the following will occur each school year:

- Parents/Guardians will be notified.
- SRO will be notified.
- The student will participate in an online cessation class.
- Students will be subject to being searched each time he/she report for tutoring services at ECVA

Electronic Device Procedures/ Expectations

Per KRS 158.165 and board policy 09.4261, students shall not use a personal telecommunications device during instructional time.

Exceptions: Individual student cases will be reviewed by an administrator for cases such as diabetic medical equipment, etc.

Responsibility: Students are solely responsible for the security and safety of their cell phones. The school is not liable for any lost, stolen, or damaged devices.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Extracurricular Eligibility

Estill County Virtual Learning Academy makes every effort to offer our students a variety of extra-curricular activities in which our students can participate. Our school offers the following extra-curricular activities: academic team, baseball, basketball, bass fishing, cheerleading, cross country, football, golf, softball, track & field, and volleyball. For any student at Estill County Virtual Academy to participate in any extra-curricular activities, the student must meet the following requirements:

- All students must meet proper credit requirements for each grade level based on the graduation requirements of the school. The KHSAA (Kentucky High School Athletic Association, telephone 1-859-299-5472) policy on this reads as follows: "On the first day of school, guidance counselors or other personnel [Athletic Director] should determine eligibility based on the local school districts [and

SBDM council] requirements for graduation.

- Students must be passing two-thirds (2/3) of their classes at all times to be eligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity. To verify eligibility, the athletic director or their designee will check extra-curricular student eligibility on every Friday of the season for each extra-curricular activity which a student is involved. The eligibility will be checked using IC. The KHSAA policy on this reads as follows: "On a weekly basis, a student shall also be passing [cumulatively for the credit period] at least ... the equivalent of four hours of instruction acceptable to graduation in order to be eligible to participate in athletics during the next seven day period (Monday through Sunday) and through the next opportunity to examine grades in this manner. No special tests or recitations are to be given for the purpose of making the student eligible."
- All student athletes enrolled in ECVA must attend tutoring services for no less than one hour on game days and must be on pace in all classes to play.

Graduation Requirements

Twenty-two (22) - Twenty-four (24) Credits Required by Each Student to Graduate

Dual Credit

Regional universities will offer dual credit courses provided the student qualifies academically. Dual Credit courses allow students the opportunity to receive college credit and high school credit simultaneously. Any student enrolled in a dual credit course will receive a weighted GPA for that course. Students must meet the requirements listed in the chart below for each specific dual credit course offered at PCHS.

Dual Credit Course ACT requirement GPA requirement Teacher recommendation

ENG 100 18- English 3.2 Only if ACT is 14-17 ENG 200 19- English 3.2 Only if ACT is 14-18

MAT 141 College Trigonometry 22- Math or Math 152 with C or better 3.2 No flexibility on requirements 3.2

MAT 175 College Calculus 27- Math or Math 141 & 152 with C or better No flexibility on requirements

MAT 152 College Algebra 22- Math 3.2 Only if ACT is 17-21

MAT 123- Statistics 19- Math 3.2 Only if ACT is 14-18 PSY 110 No 3.2 No COM 252 No 3.2 No GEO 100

No 3.2 Yes HUM 250 Must have passed Eng 100 3.2 Yes BIO 112/113 16- Science 3.2 Yes

*Unless noted, teacher recommendation must be by a Estill County High School teacher of the same content area the student wants to take the dual credit course in (an example would be a sophomore math teacher recommending a student to take a junior-level dual credit math course).

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*Administration reserves the right to approve students' enrollment into dual credit courses conditionally (an example would be a student transferring in from another school or a student not having taken the ACT at the time of enrollment application).

General Diploma Requirements

Content Area Credits Required Specific Course Names

Language Arts 4 English I, II, III, IV Social Studies 3 World Civ, Int SS, US History
Mathematics 4 Algebra, Geometry, 2 Additional Math
Science 3 Int Science, Biology, Chemistry Health and Physical Education 1 Health ½,
Physical Education ½ Humanities 1
Electives 8

ECVA will recognize different levels of academic achievement based on the following:

Summa Cum Laude: GPA greater than 4.0
Magna Cum Laude: GPA 3.7 – 4.0
Cum Laude: 3.5 – 3.69

Teal Cord – Post-secondary ready

Grading

All teachers at ECVA will use the following grading scale for all assignments. Bonus work may be assigned at the discretion of each teacher.

100 – 90 = A
89 – 80 = B
79 – 70 = C
69 – 60 = D
59 – Below = F

Grading Policy

ECVA will follow the grading policy approved by the PCHS SBDM Council