



Corry Area School District Virtual Academy



Providing an opportunity for
students in grades K-12 to
receive a quality online education.

Corry Virtual Academy



Welcome

Welcome to the Corry Area School District Virtual Academy (CVA). CVA provides tailored and flexible online learning opportunities for district students. The Corry Virtual Academy is an option offered to district students who desire computer-based learning opportunities in a flexible or nontraditional setting. The district's cyber school is designed to be a local education option for Corry students. Coursework can be completed through full-time enrollment or a blended format.

What makes the Corry Virtual Academy most attractive is its commitment to helping students succeed and continuous teacher and administrative support. While courses may be taken online, students enrolled in the district's online program will continue to be students of the Corry Area School District.

The Corry Area School District Board of Education established the Virtual Academy and the administration reserves the right to deny admission to the program if it does not serve the best educational interests of the student.

Information

Learning Environment

We recognize that each student learns differently and may have unique requirements for scheduling and individualized plans. Corry Virtual Academy is designed to provide students with the flexibility they need while maintaining checkpoints to ensure they are accountable for their coursework.

The curriculum used in Corry Virtual Academy equips students in grades K through 12 with a fundamental knowledge base. Weekly lesson modules may include reading assignments supported by a variety of other assignments.

Program Options

Full-time Program: The Full-time Online Program is an option offered to Corry Area School District students who desire computer-based instruction in a flexible or nontraditional setting. Instead of attending courses in a traditional school classroom, the student receives instruction through internet-based courses. Students may also take online courses in the IMC, instead of at home.

Blended Program: The Blended Online Program is an option offered to Corry Area School District students who desire some computer-based instruction in conjunction with traditional onsite coursework. Students may attend courses in school and complete other courses online either at home or at school. This includes the Tech Programs.

Attendance

1. The student is required to adhere to all of the Corry Area School District policies as set forth in the Student Handbook. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Compulsory School Laws will be enforced. Students who are of compulsory attendance age may be subject to truancy.
2. Absences may be excused with a written note from the parent/guardian only. Students are required to send the district excused notes for each day that a student is absent. Absences shall be treated as unlawful until the school district receives a written excuse explaining the absence, which must be submitted within three (3) days after the absence. Absent notes can be submitted via fax, email or delivered in person.
3. Full-time students are required to attend and participate in any specially provided meeting and work on their assigned classes every school day. Assignments must also be completed by weekly due dates in order to be considered present each day. Just attending homeroom does not guarantee attendance. A student should complete semester courses per 90 school days and year-long courses in 180 days. Extensions are not provided.

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4. Violation of any of the rules and requirements of the Cyber Program may result in the immediate withdrawal of the student from the program. Removal from the program is at the discretion of the Cyber Program Team.

Grading: Grades will be recorded on report cards each grading period. If your grades still need to be recorded on your report card, please immediately contact your guidance counselor or administration. If a student does not complete work in a scheduled course for that quarter they will be considered in danger of failing the course. If a student fails any courses while attending the Corry Virtual Academy, they may be removed from the program and asked to return to the school district. If a student fails an online academic subject for the year, summer courses offered on campus may be necessary to remain on track for graduation.

Internet and Computer Resources:

1. Students will receive a computer from the district. Materials are provided at orientation. Use of the computer must be related to coursework only. Parents/Guardians or students, if 18 years old, will assume the responsibility for the care and safe return of all equipment and textbooks issued to them for use in the program. Everything must be returned in good working condition within 1 week of withdrawal or completion of the program. The parent and/or student are responsible for contacting technical support to report any technical issues or damage to the equipment.
2. Students enrolled in CVA are required to have reliable internet access in their home.
3. All students will receive an e-mail address with a user name and password on the day of orientation. Parents will receive information on how they can access grades.
4. In order to be successful in the program, students should have a basic understanding of the following:
 - Setting up and accessing a wireless internet connection
 - Accessing Internet
 - *Using Microsoft Word, Excel, or Google Docs.*
5. At Corry Area School District, student computer safety is a priority. In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), all computers are equipped with web-filtering software, which ensures that students are not accessing inappropriate content. In addition, all virtual classrooms are monitored by Corry Virtual Academy teachers.

Student Responsibilities

1. Students must take the state mandated PSSA or Keystone Exams at their home school.
2. Students must complete the state-mandated Career Ready information each year. See your counselor for information. Completion of the tasks is a graduation requirement.
3. Students must schedule with your counselor at the appropriate time.
4. Students must inquire with their school regarding picture day, cap and gown orders, etc.



Enrollment Procedures

- Students must complete the application and set up a meeting with the Cyber School Administrator and School Counselor. In the case of a student with an IEP, a team meeting will be held to discuss the best placement for the student before enrollment. Applications are available in building offices.
- Students must submit a completed application to the Cyber School Administrator. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- The Cyber School Administrator and School Counselor (and Case Manager if applicable) will meet with the student and his/her parent/guardian to discuss program eligibility requirements, expectations, and determine an appropriate schedule of coursework and develop a plan for graduation.
- Both the student and parent/guardian must sign the required paperwork to enroll and an acknowledgement of acceptance of the rules and requirements of the Corry Virtual Academy.
- Current CASD Students must be enroll at the change of the quarter. This is to keep students from losing credits. Special approval is needed for extenuating circumstances.
- The student must complete the Cyber Orientation. Attendance by the student is required; students will not begin on-line courses until after the orientation is complete.

How to Enroll

Enrollment in Corry Virtual Academy is quick and easy! Review the enrollment procedures and complete an application. Upon completion, please contact Mr. Jordan Lander to schedule an appointment to discuss course options, review any specific needs the student may have, and prepare for the student to transition into Corry Virtual Academy.

Please note: If your student is currently enrolled outside of Corry Area School District, you will also need to complete the district registration process before enrolling in the Corry Virtual Academy.

Support Team Contacts

Mr. Jordan Lander - Administrator / District Cyber Liaison

Please contact Mr. Lander if you have questions regarding district policies or about the cyber program in general.

Phone: 814-665-8297, ext. 5505 Email: jlander@corrysd.net

Teachers: Please contact your online teachers if you have any questions on a specific course in which you are enrolled. To request a help session with your teacher please email them.

Technical Support: Please contact Jeff Goodwill if you are experiencing any issues with your computer.

Phone: 814-665-8297, ext. 3128 Email: jgoodwill@corrysd.net

School District Counselors: Please contact school building counselors regarding grades, career requirements, etc.



Tips for Achieving Success

It is the position of the Corry Area School District that the students who are successful in cyber education programs demonstrate effective independent work habits and a personal commitment to learning. Strong parental support and participation is vital to student success.

Characteristics of a Successful Cyber Student: Students must be self-motivated and able to work independently. They must be committed to following a schedule and working for approximately 6 hours a day

Understanding Student Responsibilities: Before enrolling in the cyber program it is important that students understand the responsibilities that go along with working in an independent learning environment. Many students have unrealistic expectations that Cyber School will be “easier” than attending a brick and mortar school, however experience shows that cyber school requires an even greater amount of responsibility and dedication on the part of a student.

Student Responsibilities include:

- Establishing a distraction free work environment and developing positive working habits.
- Setting and independently adhering to a daily schedule that fits the students learning style.
- Spending at least 6 hours per day working on assignments, course work and online activities. Completing ALL work within a module for each course by the assigned weekly due date.
- Attending any virtual meeting throughout the year.
- Actively engaging in communications with the teacher to discuss their progress.
- Alerting the teacher if they will be absent (students are required to provide an excuse as per the school district's attendance policy).
- Attending live online instruction sessions during office hours if they are in need of assistance with course work. NOTE: It is strongly recommended that students attend office hours or ask for help if their grade is below 75%.
- Maintaining all computer equipment, and course materials required to complete course work successfully.
- Submit work as soon as it is completed. Do not hold on to completed work with the intention of submitting it at a later date.
- When answering questions be careful to answer all portions of the question in complete sentences
- Take notes from textbook readings, website resources, videos, and other online links. Refer to these notes when completing assignments and when studying for tests or quizzes.
- If receiving a low score on an assignment, reach out to the subject area teacher via email to review the areas of difficulty.
- If struggling to complete work in a timely manner ask the teacher for assistance in developing a work schedule or setting up a help session with a subject area teacher.
- Understand what plagiarism is and how to avoid it by properly citing sources. Assignments are checked regularly for plagiarism and credit is not given for plagiarized work.
- Report technical issues immediately.