ASYNCHRONOUS
PROGRAM

PAVIRTUAL
CHARTER SCHOOL

A COMMUNITY OF PARTNERSHIP, LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT

The Asynchronous Program at PA Virtual Charter School

There are two types of instructional programs available at all grade levels: synchronous and asynchronous.

Synchronous students attend regularly-scheduled live online classes with PA Virtual teachers and students. The synchronous program benefits students by offering a structured schedule and live, interactive classes.

Asynchronous students are not required to attend live online classes. Instead, they work with their Learning Coach daily while teachers monitor their academic progress. To ensure they stay on track, students must also have a weekly video check-in with a teacher. While the program offers flexibility, it is designed for highly motivated students who demonstrate strong academic performance and are expected to maintain an appropriate pace for course completion.

Each grade level has requirements that distinguish its asynchronous program. These requirements are detailed in an agreement that parents must sign, which is provided to interested parents during Orientation.

General information about PA Virtual's asynchronous program is provided below.

Eligibility for Entering the Asynchronous Program

The most successful candidates for the Asynchronous program show evidence of school engagement at their previous school, historic grades of 80% or better, and a strong attendance record.

Specifically, the criteria considered are:
● Evidence of average or high engagement (attendance)
● Evidence of mastery of grade-level standards
● Evidence of performance at or above grade level on multiple assessments
● Evidence of expected course progress
● Completion of all required assessments

Students not meeting these criteria may still be considered for this program. At a parent's request, the academic team can review their student's records and make a determination.

Students must also successfully complete PA Virtual's mandatory, synchronous New Family Orientation. Parents must agree to PA Virtual expectations by signing an asynchronous compact, and the student's Learning Coach must be available and engaged throughout the school day to support them.

Learning Coach Responsibilities in the Asynchronous Program

Learning Coaches are responsible for ensuring that their student meets all of the standards for remaining in the asynchronous program listed below. In addition, Learning Coaches are expected to:

- Participate in mandatory teacher meetings and check-ins.
- Check the school-provided parent email account at least twice daily and respond as necessary.
- Be home and available for at least 5 (grades K-6) or 5.5 (grades 7-12) hours each day.
- Regularly check student grades and attendance.
- Contact the student's teachers with any questions.
- Ensure the student completes standardized assessments and benchmarks as required (see additional section for more details).
- Log into Blackboard, the school's hub for learning, and carefully follow the teacher-provided daily/weekly lesson plans posted to ensure students are completing all assignments.
  - For Elementary School, Learning Coaches will provide instruction to their student and will ensure that assignments are completed accurately.
  - For Middle School, Learning Coaches will ensure that their student understands the work they are completing and will check submitted assignments for completion and accuracy.
  - For High School, Learning Coaches will ensure that their student completes and submits all assignments and will encourage their student to take advantage of the school's support resources (teacher office hours, tutoring, etc.).

To learn more about Learning Coach expectations, click here.

Student Responsibilities in the Asynchronous Program

Students are responsible for meeting all of the Attendance, Academic, and Assessment requirements of the asynchronous program.

Attendance

PA Virtual monitors both daily and class attendance. To comply with required attendance requirements, students log in to Blackboard each school day, Monday through Friday, to record their daily attendance. If a student is unable to attend school, the Learning Coach must complete an absence form within 3 days of the missed class/day, or the absence will be unexcused. For class attendance, students must log into their courses each school day to complete assigned work. Class attendance is tracked through regularly scheduled check-ins—including a minimum of one live session per week—and through additional meetings with asynchronous teachers.

Failure to log both attendance types each day can result in unexcused absences. Excessive, consecutive absences could result in truancy and/or elimination from the asynchronous program.

Academics

Asynchronous students are expected to meet high academic standards. These include:

- Completing work regularly by following the daily/weekly lesson plan provided by their teacher
- Submitting required course assignments by the assigned due date
- Communicating with teachers about questions or problems with class, either by email or by attending teacher office hours
- Maintaining grades of 80% or higher
- Attending teacher-led skills and enrichment sessions as required by their teacher

Assessments

All students will participate in school-wide local and state assessments as required. Assessments occur over the course of 1-4 days during specific testing windows. The table below contains basic information about the assessments your child may be required to take.

	PSSA Exams	Keystone Exams	Benchmark Testing
Required by	State of PA	State of PA, as an Act 158 graduation requirement	PA Virtual
Grade Levels	3-8	9-12	All
Frequency	Annually	Each subject is taken once	3x each school year
Location	PA Virtual-supervised testing site	PA Virtual-supervised testing site	At home, without parental assistance
Subjects Tested	All grades: Math and ELA

Grades 5 and 8: Math, ELA, Science | English 10, Algebra 1B, and Biology | Math, ELA, and Science |

For more information on Assessments and testing locations, click here. After each marking period, asynchronous students' academic teams review their data. If the expectations aren't met, the school may adjust the student's asynchronous status.

Contact Us

If you have additional questions about PA Virtual Charter School, please contact the Enrollment Department at 866-728-275, option 1.