



Paulding County School District
Exceptional Students Education Program
20-21 School Year Q&A

As parents of students with disabilities we know you may have questions about the return to school on August 3, 2020. Below is a Q&A to help in answering some common questions you may have:

Paulding Virtual Academy (PVA)

I have a child with an IEP that receives special education services, can my child attend the Paulding Virtual Academy?

Yes, as a public school, Paulding Virtual Academies (Elementary, Middle, or High) accepts students with disabilities. Enrollment in PVA is considered a school choice option. Special education services will be provided differently in an online environment. Once a student with a disability has been registered with PVA, the Exceptional Students Education Program (ESEP) coordinator will facilitate an IEP to discuss possible amendments to the student's IEP to reflect acceptance into PVA.

How will special education services be provided for my student if he/she enrolls in PVA?

Assignments will be provided through an electronic platform. Students enrolled in PVA are not expected to work independently 100% of the time, but work without direct teacher support is expected. All special education services in the amended IEP will be provided through a teleconferencing format. This includes direct support from a special education teacher/speech-language pathologist as well as support from related service providers such as occupational and physical therapists.

Will my child need to login at specific times of the day or can he/she work independently at times that works well for the family?

Students will have access to the online platform 24/7, but teacher access will be during normal school hours.

How will the IEP be implemented and monitored if I choose PVA?

All students receiving special education services will have a case manager in any setting, whether the student is served through PVA or in-person classroom instruction. The ESEP case manager is responsible for ensuring that the IEP is implemented and monitored.

How will my child's goals and objectives be addressed at PVA? Can individual assignments be provided to address deficit areas?

Data collection on IEP goals and objectives will occur during teleconferencing sessions and/or through assignments completed/submitted through the online platform. Additional assignments may be provided to address deficit areas.

My child has a significant cognitive disability and receives special education services all day in a small group, self-contained classroom. If I choose PVA, will the curriculum be similar to what he/she would receive through in-person classroom instruction?

Once approved for PVA, students who receive instruction focused on alternate achievement standards will continue to receive instruction focused on alternate achievement standards. Virtual activities may come through the Unique Learning, TeachTown, and/or other assignments provided through the assigned special education teacher.

If you have other questions about PVA (for example, PVA platform, curriculum, programs available), please refer to: <https://tinyurl.com/psdbacktoschool>

In-Person Classroom Instruction

If I choose in-person classroom instruction, how will additional cleaning services be provided and how can I obtain more information about the day-to-day precautions/protocols taking place in the school? What will the school day look like? Will students change classes, attend lunch in the cafeteria, and attend PE/recess?

Please contact your local school for answers to questions about pre-cautions and in-person instruction.

Hospital/Homebound (HHB)

I have heard of Hospital/Homebound (HHB). In what situation is hospital/homebound appropriate and how would I obtain HHB services?

HHB Instructional Services are for students confined to their home or hospital due to an acute, catastrophic, chronic or repeated intermittent medical condition. A HHB application is required and a portion must be completed by the student's physician. The application is then signed by the parent and returned to the school for the principal's and counselor's signature. Once the HHB application has been reviewed and approved by HHB staff, an IEP is held to discuss HHB services. Services may include in-person and/or virtual services by a certified teacher. Instructional materials are obtained from the school and will be returned to the school for grading. A schedule for student work time should be developed so that the student is completing work between teacher visits or sessions. If our environment should change, (*example: if Gov. Kemp issues an executive order closing schools for in-person instruction*) any in-person HHB instruction will also change to a fulltime online Digital Learning format.

For further information, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/pcsdbacktoschool>

Please email questions to backtoschool@paulding.k12.ga.us