



**Thank you for your interest in Pioneer Virtual Academy. Working alongside our instructional partner, Harmony, PVA provides students with a high-quality, rigorous, relevant, and state-accredited curriculum that meets each student's learning needs.**

Please review the information below before submitting an application to ensure that Pioneer Virtual Academy is a good instructional fit for your child and your family.

***Step 1:*** What are the student and parental responsibilities?

Please read the success criteria [here](#) before proceeding.

***Step 2:*** Read the remaining information below.

### ***Calendar***

Pioneer Virtual Academy will operate on the same school calendar as the rest of the Lawrence County School District. This includes adjustments due to inclement weather.

### ***Attendance Procedures and Policies***

Pioneer Virtual Academy students will follow the same attendance requirements as students at face-to-face schools. The teachers and mentors will document attendance via canvas homeroom and/or work completion. Students are expected to remain engaged throughout the class period/school day. The minimum length of an academic school day in Tennessee is 6.5 hours. Student attendance will be marked in Skyward.

Students will not be marked absent if county-wide technology or connectivity issues occur. Absences related to individual technology issues in the home will only be marked excused with parent/guardian confirmation. Otherwise, it will result in an unexcused absence. Should individual technology issues in the home lead to accumulated absences (excused or unexcused), the student will be returned to face-to-face school at the semester mark.



### ***In-Person Required Attendance:***

- State testing (TCAP and EOC): Plan for 2-5 days total
- ACT test for Juniors: Test in Spring
- ACT test for Seniors: Test in Fall
- WorkKeys test for Seniors (Optional)
- AP Testing: Only if enrolled in an AP Course
- PSAT for 9th Grade: Test in October (Optional)
- ELPA 21: Only for ESL Students

### ***Special Services***

Eligible students with disabilities will receive services and/or accommodations through their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), 504 plans, and Individualized Learning Plans (ILPs). The student's team may need to meet to discuss needs specific to online learning.

English Learner students will receive appropriate support services depending on their level of language acquisition and specific identified needs.

### ***Standardized Testing***

Pioneer Virtual Academy students will take the same benchmarks and state standardized tests as all other Lawrence County students. This will entail students being required to travel to testing locations and attend face-to-face meetings at various times throughout the year, with transportation being the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

### ***Year Commitment***

Applying to Pioneer Virtual Academy indicates a request and commitment from the student and parent/guardian to remain in PVA for the entire school year.

***Step 3:*** Apply to PVA using the link to Harmony's Family Resource Center for TN located below. If you have questions about the application process, please call our PVA's school office at (931) 762-3581. ***Applying does not guarantee enrollment, as limited seats are available.***

APPLICATION: CLICK [HERE!](#)



## ***Sports***

Public virtual school students are included in the TSSAA's non-traditional student definition.

Please refer to the section on *Eligibility of Non-Traditional Students* in the TSSAA Handbook for their current guidelines.

NCAA Clearinghouse - Any student who plans to enroll in college as a freshman and participate in Division I or II intercollegiate athletics must be certified by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse. To be certified by the Clearinghouse, a student must meet several criteria. Students should apply for certification if they wish to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Go online to [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net) for more information and register with the Clearinghouse. It is the parent's/student's responsibility to do this.

The Lawrence County School System's District Handbook can be found under Parent Resources at [LCSS](#).

## ***Early Postsecondary Opportunities (EPSO), Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, and National Industry Certification Courses***

We believe ALL students should have access to rigorous and relevant early postsecondary opportunities. Early postsecondary opportunities allow students to:

- earn postsecondary credits while in high school.
- become familiar with postsecondary expectations.
- develop confidence and skills for success in postsecondary.
- make informed postsecondary and career decisions.
- decrease the time and cost of completing a certificate or degree.

For more information: [TN.gov](http://TN.gov) [EPSO](#)

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are taught at a college level with a curriculum determined by The College Board. AP courses include extensive reading. Students in AP courses can earn college credit based on their score on the national AP exam and their postsecondary school of choice. Students will earn five (5) points to the final average of each grading period and each semester exam grade. Students are required to pay the AP fee if taking an AP course.



ACT – This exam is mandatory for all students to graduate. Students will be able to take it in the spring of their junior year, during a school day, and their scores will be reportable for college admission. Students may take the ACT anytime and can register at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org). Students who score the following benchmarks on the ACT will graduate with honors: English 18, Math 22, Reading 22, and Science 23. Students who score at least a 21 on the ACT will qualify for the HOPE Scholarship. For more information, visit [www.tn.gov/collegepays](http://www.tn.gov/collegepays). Many scholarship opportunities are based on student’s ACT scores. It is highly recommended for students to take the ACT more than once. There is no penalty for students to take the ACT more than once.

ASVAB - The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is one of the world's most widely used multiple-aptitude tests, developed and maintained by the Department of Defense. It measures a young adult’s strengths, weaknesses, and potential for future success. There are two versions of the test: (a) The student ASVAB, referred to as the ASVAB Career Exploration Program (ASVAB CEP), is used for career exploration and is given in high schools and community colleges. (b) The enlistment version of the ASVAB is primarily given at a Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) and is used for recruiting purposes only.

Dual Enrollment (DE) courses allow students to participate in college-level courses conducted online or on campus during the school day. Admission requirements and enrollment must be met to earn college credit. Students will earn four (4) points to their final average for the DE class. Students will need to verify with their school of choice to know if the Dual Enrollment credits will transfer. The tuition cost of a Dual Enrollment class varies per credit hour on the school of choice. The Dual Enrollment Grant can offset this cost if the student is ruled eligible. For more information, please visit the school’s Dual Enrollment page:

To be eligible for the Dual Enrollment program, students must be:

- A junior or senior
- Have a minimum 3.0 GPA and the required ACT subscore.
- Complete the college’s Dual Enrollment Application and all other required paperwork