

PUBLIC EDUCATION ONLINE

STATEWIDE ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAM

"Enabling students to earn high school graduation credit through the completion of publicly funded online courses."

What is it?

The Statewide Online Education Program allows students to earn high school graduation credit through publicly funded online courses offered by school districts and charter schools accredited for 9-12th grade education. Students may access high quality online learning regardless of where they attend school, regardless of language, residence, family income, or special needs. This program allows students to acquire knowledge and technology skills for a digital world. Students can utilize technology to customize education and to learn in their own style, at their own pace. They can access learning virtually at any time and in any place, and can spend as little or as much time as they need to master the material. Students may accelerate academically or take additional time to gain competency. They can customize their schedules to better meet their academic goals. Students can select courses from online providers statewide. Quality learning options better prepare students for post-secondary education and vocational or career opportunities by allowing them an individualized educational experience.

Who is eligible?

Students are eligible to earn high school credit through the Statewide Online Education Program if they are enrolled in a district school or charter school in Utah, or if they attend a private or home school and have a custodial parent or legal guardian which is a resident of Utah. All necessary information is available on the website specified below. Once an enrollment request is filed, the Utah State Office of Education handles the rest of the enrollment process.

How many courses can I take?

For the 2014-15 school year, students may enroll in up to FOUR credits online, but may request more credits if it can be demonstrated that these better meet the academic goals of the student. If a request to exceed four credits is not initially approved, the State Board of Education may (but is not required to) allow the student to enroll in more. Also, a student will not normally receive approval to exceed the number of credits they would earn by taking a full course load (figured across the whole year rather than semester by semester) during the regular school day in their high school, unless they intend to complete high school graduation requirements and exit high school early in accordance with an approved education/occupation plan (SEOP). Online courses are intended for the most part to replace courses students would otherwise be taking during the regular school day in a traditional high school.

All course work is funded as part of a student's 2014-15 school year; unless the student has an SEOP or CCRP that allows for early graduation, credits taken online will reduce the number of credits the student may take across the remainder of the school year at their home school. All Statewide Online Education Program (SOEP) courses reduce the number of courses a student may take in a traditional setting, in any particular school year, because SOEP courses are intended primarily as a choice option. SOEP courses are not intended to be added "on top" of or in addition to a full course load taken in a traditional setting. The student now has the option of taking a course in one instructional setting or the other, but they will be limited to full-time enrollment unless they have a plan in place to graduate early. A counselor can help to amend an SEOP as necessary, in the event that additional courses are desired. In most all cases, the student remains limited to four credits (four full-year courses or the equivalent) taken online. If a student wishes to enroll for more than a full time course load, and not graduate early, it is likely that their own school district or EHS has option that they may be interested in, and students are encouraged to check on these resources. Registration for your own district's resource or EHS is handled directly by that entity, and a Counselor can help you with this. Only registration for courses taken outside of your district or charter school, through other providers, is handled through this Program, with registration resources as below.

Where do I get information?

The Utah State Office of Education (USOE) website is home to a link to the Program website at: WWW.SCHOOLS.UTAH.GOV/EDONLINE. You should check this website for course availability across providers, during the summer, and in the case of specialized offerings such as driver education, before you fill out a course request. Your school district or charter school is also required to include information regarding this program on their own website, and in registration materials. You can find information on registering for courses through your district or charter school's own online provider on your district or charter school's own website.

How do I register?

An enrollment request may be filed using a link available on the website mentioned above. The USOE will do everything else that is necessary, and the provider will contact you to begin.

Questions:
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