

WDE FAQ

Virtual Education *updated 8/15/2021*

What is Virtual Education?

Virtual education for K-12 students is available through **programs** (not schools) that are delivered by Wyoming school districts and approved by the Wyoming Department of Education. Virtual education is delivered through on-line classes by school districts to students statewide, regionally, or only to students who live in the district providing the program. All virtual education program students are enrolled in grade-level appropriate brick and mortar public schools located in the district providing the virtual education program. To find approved virtual education programs, visit the [Programs](#) page at Virtual307.com.

Do Virtual Education Programs Meet State Standards?

Yes. All virtual education classes are aligned to Wyoming Content and Performance standards and taught by Wyoming certified teachers. Districts offering virtual education have to meet the same educational programming requirements as they do for brick and mortar classrooms including, for example, providing courses that allow students the opportunity to complete the highest levels of the Hathaway Scholarship Program success curriculum.

How Do Students Enroll in Virtual Education Programs?

Students who are Wyoming residents may contact the approved [Programs](#) on Virtual307.com to find out if they are eligible to enroll. To be considered eligible for full-time virtual education, students must have access to reliable Internet and an adult, typically a parent, at home with them to serve as their family-designated learning coach. Additional eligibility criteria may be required by the school district providing the virtual education program.

What Happens When a Student Enrolls in a Statewide Virtual Education Program?

Two districts can enter an agreement so the student remains enrolled in their district of residence while they participate in a statewide virtual education program but it is up to the school districts whether or not to do so. Usually, students who enroll in a statewide virtual education program unenroll from the district they live in and enroll in the district offering the program. In those instances, the resident district may not agree to allow the student to take brick and mortar classes where they live. The only requirement of the resident district is to allow students to participate in activities sanctioned by the Wyoming High School Activities Association.

Are Virtual Education Students Required to Take the WY-TOPP Test?

Yes. Virtual education students are required to participate in state testing and any testing required by the district they are enrolled in.

Can a Full-Time Virtual Education Student Enrolled in Another District Participate in Extracurricular Activities in Their Resident District?

W.S. 21-4-506(a) states that any school age child who is a resident of a school district and who is not enrolled as a full-time student in the district in which they reside, shall be permitted by the district to participate in any

activities which are sanctioned by the [Wyoming High School Activities Association](#) and which are offered by the district subject to the following:

- The district may require the student to pay any fees for participation that are required by the Wyoming High School Activities Association;
- The district may charge that student an additional fee for participating, but that fee shall be no more than any fee for participating charged to full-time students of the district;
- As a condition of participation, the student shall be required to comply with all other rules and policies of the district or any school activities association applicable to all students participating in the activity and not related to the assessment of fees or charges.

To learn more about virtual education, visit Virtual307.com.

What Happens When a Student Enrolls in a National Online School?

The student would be considered enrolled in a private school not associated with Wyoming. Wyoming statute doesn't authorize the Wyoming Department of Education to license any private K-12 online schools. The Department doesn't validate or endorse these schools.

What is Remote Education?

Per W.S. 21-13-300(m)-(n), remote education means classes delivered by a teacher located in a physical classroom with students present while also providing simultaneous remote instruction. Remote education instruction is delivered through interactive, synchronous technology which allows the student receiving the remote education to ask questions, make comments, and interact in real-time with the teacher, classroom students, and other remote students. The school where the remote teacher is located must be open for the teacher and at least a portion of students also assigned to the remote student's class(es) to be in a physical classroom during synchronous delivery. Remote education cannot be used during school closures and the Wyoming Department of Education doesn't oversee this type of distance delivery.