



NC VIRTUAL PUBLIC SCHOOL (NCVPS) *Options & Procedures for Fuquay-Varina High School*

The North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS), in partnership with North Carolina public schools, provides online instruction. NCVPS will:

- Provide online courses which are taught by teachers certified in the content area. NCVPS will award final credit. That credit will be transferred back to the base school for placement on the student's transcript.
- Provide PSAT, SAT, ACT, and AP online exam reviews.

The **purpose** of the virtual school is to provide courses that students are unable to take at their local schools. NCVPS is for students who:

- Want to take courses that are not available at FVHS;
- Want to take courses that cannot be accommodated in their schedule;
- Want to take courses above the full course load; and,

The school is responsible for ensuring that students possess the characteristics of a learner that can be successful in this online, self-directed setting. Specifically, students should be autonomous in terms of meeting deadlines, possess an internal sense of motivation, reading skills at or above grade level, proficient writing skills, and proficient computer skills. As such, students approved for enrollment (by the principal) in the NCVPS must:

- Have met the requirements of the NC Competency Test of Reading;
- Have met the requirements of the NC Test of Computer Skills; and,
- Have demonstrated appropriate motivation and ability for success in the regular classroom environment.

Given the nature of the program, the student must also have a computer and internet access outside of Fuquay-Varina HS. The student is responsible for ensuring that their computer meets the minimum system requirements for working with NCVPS.

Logistics of how/when students will be approved at Fuquay-Varina will include:

- If a course is available for the student to take at Fuquay-Varina during the regular school day, the student must take the course in the regular classroom setting;
- All students must maintain a full schedule of eight (8) potential credits unless a senior and granted early release.
- If an online course through NCVPS is counted as one of those eight course credits, a student may be granted early release. Early release must happen during 4th period only. Students must provide their own transportation off campus. There is no supervision for a student to participate in an NCVPS course on campus.
- AP courses at NCVPS are only offered in a year-long format but still only represent one credit. Students may choose early release in one semester to provide time to work on the online course more intensively. Note that year-long AP courses will not post a final grade until June and therefore cannot calculate into final class rank.

Course Registration

Students are to complete the attached forms and see their counselor to discuss registration.

Grading & Posting of Credits

NCVPS will provide student progress reports to the school every 4 ½ weeks. When the course is successfully completed, credit is transferred to the local school for placement on the student's transcript. Students who must withdraw from an online course past the first ten days of school will post a grade of "WF" on their transcript. Students who do not complete course requirements will receive a grade of F.

Summer School 2007

NCVPS will be offering a 2007 Summer Term program. Registration for courses will be from April and continue through June to accommodate student needs. Both credit recovery and accelerated course offerings will be made available. The credit recovery program runs for five weeks (June 15 – July 20) with the accelerated program running for an 8 week term (June 11 – August 3).

2007-2008 Academic Year

Fall semester begins on August 27 and concludes January 14 with January 15-18 set aside for exams and a brief semester break. Spring semester begins on January 22 and ends June 4. Year-long courses begin August 27 and conclude May 29. More information on course selections and registration is available at www.ncvps.org.

Characteristics of Successful Online Learners

While distance learning opportunities provide tremendous benefits to students in regards to course offerings, student-centered instruction, flexible scheduling, and heightened critical thinking and communication skills, there are specific learner characteristics that promote greater student success in online learning environments. The following guidelines may assist in identifying students for distance learning opportunities:

- Autonomous learners are generally skilled in the areas of responsibility and self-regulation, necessary for managing course assignments and deadlines through online environments.
- Academically motivated learners commonly exhibit an internal locus of control, affording online students the persistence necessary in achieving desired goals.
- Grade level reading ability is a critical determinant of student success in online environments, as much of the course is delivered through written communication.
- Proficiency in written communication is required of students, as online courses are dependent not only upon live classroom discussions but also upon group discussion boards and written assignment submissions.
- Basic computer skills are necessary for students to function in an online learning environment, as students will utilize word processing software, email capabilities, and Internet resources in completing assignments and activities.
- Parental support has also been found to promote student success in online learning, as parents will generally work to ensure students meet deadlines and have the necessary resources available to them.
- Computer and Internet access at home, although not required, can certainly provide an advantage to students participating in distance learning courses, as students, many times, prefer to continue their work on assignments and communications outside of their regular school, or even take courses at home during the evening or on week-ends.

NCVPS Contact Person

Eric Kostecki, Counselor, serves as the primary contact person for NCVPS. He can be reached at ekostecki@wcpss.net or 557-2517.

WCPSS Dual Enrollment/Cooperative Agreement Course Enrollment Form

It is necessary that students and parents read the other side of this form prior to completing it to understand the Dual Enrollment Eligibility Requirements.

Please Print or Type

Student's Name _____ Date _____

WCPSS NCWISE ID Number _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Telephone (Home) _____ (Cell/Work) _____ Email address _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

High School Name _____

Contact Counselor _____ Telephone _____

Cooperating Institution _____

Term (check one): Fall Semester Spring Semester Summer School

Type of Course (check one)

_____ Non-WCPSS Secondary School Course (SACS) _____ Community College Course (CAA)

_____ Introductory Course (100-200+level) _____ Vocational/Technical Cooperative Agreement Course

_____ Advanced Course (300-400+ level) _____ NCVPS (North Carolina Virtual Public School) Course

Course Selection Information

Course Name _____ Course Number _____ Credit Requested _____

To be completed by the Base School Counselor

WCPSS Name _____ Course Number _____ Credit to be awarded _____

If the course requested is a NCVPS Course check one if applicable: EOC Exam VoCAT Exam AP Exam

***** Course
Name _____ Course Number _____ Credit Requested _____

To be completed by the Base School Counselor

WCPSS Course Name _____ Course Number _____ Credit to be awarded _____

If the course requested is a NCVPS Course check one if applicable: EOC Exam VoCAT Exam AP Exam

We, the undersigned, have read the back of this form and do understand and agree to comply with the requirements of the program being attended.

Student Signature/Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature/Date _____

Base School Counselor Signature/Date _____

Base School Principal Approval/Date _____

Cooperating Institution Official Signature/Date _____

Return this form by the following date: _____

Dual Enrollment Opportunities

Dual Enrollment gives high school students the opportunity to take approved courses at **accredited institutions** including institutions of higher education (IHE), community colleges, NCVPS and Non-WCPSS secondary schools while completing high school graduation requirements. Courses taken must provide opportunities not currently available to the student at his or her high school. This includes courses of an advanced and/or expanded nature. High school graduation credit and grades will be awarded by the base school when the official transcript is received at the base school. Quality points will be calculated as defined in the Wake County Public School System High School Program Planning Guide. **The student's official transcript will include this course's grade, and it will be used in calculating GPA, class rank, and credits toward graduation.**

General Policies, Eligibility Guidelines, and Application Process

1. The course must be part of the student's comprehensive course of study.
2. The course must not be currently available to the student at the student's school.
3. The course must be approved within the cooperative institution.
4. The student must be taking 3 high school courses (1/2 day) or 2 block courses and progressing toward graduation.
5. The student must complete the Dual Enrollment/Cooperative Agreement Enrollment Form and have the signed approval of the principal or principal designee prior to registering for the course.
6. The student must contact the cooperating institution and complete all admission and registration or other requirements as requested by the IHE, community college, NCVPS or Non-WCPSS secondary school. The student must provide his or her own transportation, be responsible for any fees, and follow all rules, regulations and calendars as set by the cooperating institution. Both institutions must receive a copy of the Dual Enrollment form.
 - If attending NC State University (NCSU), the student must also contact the Academic Enrichment Opportunities Program (AEO) in the NCSU Admissions Office to obtain the AEO form and determine appropriate course and NCSU requirements.
 - If attending Meredith College's Senior Scholars Program, the student must also complete the Senior Scholar's registration form, including the principal signature.
 - If attending Peace College's Senior Studies Program, the student must also have counselor recommendation and sign his or her senior Studies application and the student section of the Counselor Endorsement form.
 - If attending Wake Technical Community College (Comprehensive Articulation Agreement) the student completes the Wake County Public School System Dual Enrollment/Cooperative Agreement Form. .
 - If attending NCVPS, the student completes the Wake County Public School System Dual Enrollment/Cooperative Agreement Form and the NCVPS form.
 - If attending any other accredited institution, the student must sign all applicable institution and WCPSS forms.
7. The student will be responsible for requesting that an official transcript be mailed as evidence of course completion directly to the base school. The course will be added to the student's transcript and an Incomplete (I) will be noted until the official grade is received. If a transcript is not received, the grade will convert from an I to an F, and an F will be calculated on the transcript. Once a student is enrolled, the course cannot be dropped without permission of the principal and following proper procedures of the cooperating institution.
 - University or college transfer courses of three to five (3-5) hours will receive one credit at the base school.
 - Community college vocational and technical courses at of at least forty-nine (49) contact hours will receive one-half credit at the base school. Vocational and technical courses of at least ninety-nine (99) contact hours will receive one credit at the base school.
8. The student must take IHE, community college, NCVPS or Non-WCPSS secondary school courses for **graded** credit in order to earn a high school credit.
9. Quality points will be calculated as defined in the WCPSS High School Program Planning Guide.
 - Students will receive one extra quality point for Community College courses approved by the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement.
 - Introductory courses, 100 and 200 level, from Independent colleges and the UNC system schools will earn one extra quality point.
 - Advanced courses, 300 and 400 level, from Independent colleges and the UNC system schools will earn two extra quality points.
 - Weighted credit will be awarded for a course designated by the sending Non-WCPSS secondary school as honors or AP only if a comparable course is designated honors or AP in the current non-magnet WCPSS High School Program Planning Guide.
 - Vocational/Technical Cooperative Agreement courses are calculated on the standard course level.