



North Carolina
Virtual Public School
www.ncvps.org



WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

FUQUAY-VARINA HIGH SCHOOL
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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 and advance in their coursework. 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.
- Want to graduate in three years.

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.

Students cannot enroll in EOC courses unless approved by the principal. Fuquay-Varina High School reserves the right to drop a course if the student has not made a concerted effort to begin working within the first 10 days. 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 limited 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 required to meet with their counselor to discuss whether NCVPS would be an option. Upon initial approval, students will complete the Dual Enrollment form and return to Mr. Eric Kostecki to officially register.

Grading & Posting of Credits

NCVPS will provide student progress reports to the school frequently throughout the semester. 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.**

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 weekends.