

---

## Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative FAQ: Online and Blended Learning Opportunities for Students for 2021-2022

### Purpose

With Vermont's anticipated transition out of emergency status and as supervisory unions and districts (SU/SDs) plan and prepare for the 2021-2022 academic year, this document serves to answer questions regarding services available through Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative to SU/SDs.

---

### Q1: Are the K-6 and 7-12 Learning Options from VTVLC the same as the Collaborative School Option (CSO) during the 2020-2021 school year?

No. These learning options are a return to the [VTVLC cooperative model](#), but on turbo boosters. While they are similar to CSO -- in that they offer a fulltime online option that schools can make available to their students and families who may need or benefit from it -- these learning options do not require the same staffing structure as CSO.

---

### Q2: If schools are interested in offering this flexible learning pathway for their students, are they required to provide a full-time teacher or teachers?

No. It does not require the full-time investment of school or district teachers, or CSO Coordinators. However, teaching partner schools and districts that can contribute as little as a .2 FTE educator to the cooperative will have a significant advantage and access to free enrollments for their students.

---

### Q3: Do I have to offer this option to all students?

No. Consistent with our personalized learning framework for education in Vermont, and new lessons learned through COVID-19, this pathway should be offered to those students who benefit from the learning model. As you reflect on your student data, and speak with students and families, this learning model may be identified as the best avenue for individual students' success. Prioritizing this option for students as part of their personalized planning process, who have experienced improvements socially/behaviorally, who have experienced academic gains or the benefits of a virtual experience previously or during COVID-19, are all examples of how this

### Contact Information:

If you have questions about this document or would like additional information please contact Jess DeCarolis at [jess.decarolis@vermont.gov](mailto:jess.decarolis@vermont.gov) or Greg Young at [greg.young@vermont.gov](mailto:greg.young@vermont.gov), Student Pathways Division.

learning option could be an effective tool for schools and districts to support student-centered learning.

---

**Q4: Aren't all students required to be on campus/in-person in the fall?**

No. Consistent with Act 77 and our pre-COVID-19 online and blended flexible pathways, and based on the new learning that COVID-19 has afforded us, schools and districts should make decisions and differentiate, as much as is practicable, based on what is best for individual students.

---

**Q5: Are we required to offer a virtual option?**

No. However, the State has made a considerable investment to support schools and districts in offering this flexible pathway to those students who need it to thrive. By restructuring the model for next year, teaching and non-teaching partner districts can offer this learning option to those individual students who need it without the 100% staff contribution of the CSO model.

---

**Q6: But what about ADM if a student participates in this learning option?**

In all cases, unless the family chooses to enroll in Home Study, ADM will stay with the school/SU. Depending on the status of the school as a teaching partner, the school/SU retains most of the ADM up to 100% for those SUs using earned partner seats. This makes offering full time learning options equitable, fair and a win-win for SUs, students and families. See [Table 1](#) for an example.

**Table 1: Example, Ninth Grade Student Comparison for Springfield SD**

	<b>On-Campus</b>	<b>Teaching Partner Enrolled in VTVLC Full-time (Using earned partner seats)</b>	<b>Teaching Partner Enrolled in VTVLC Full-time (Not using earned partner seats)</b>	<b>If School was a Non-Teaching Partner enrolled in VTVLC Full-time</b>	<b>If Student Became Home Study</b>
<b>ADM Stays with School</b>	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
<b>VTVLC Fees</b>	\$0	\$0	\$2,400/yr	\$5,000/yr	\$6,500/yr
<b>Equivalent Tuition Retained</b>	<b>\$18,700</b>	<b>\$18,700</b>	\$18,700 - \$2,400 = <b>\$16,300</b>	\$18,700 - \$5,000 = <b>\$13,700</b>	<b>\$0</b>

*Vermont schools with families requesting full-time online learning can offer this flexible pathway through VTVLC. As part of the public education system, VTVLC works with all public schools to provide both supplemental and fully remote options to support local students, expanding learning opportunities with Vermont teachers.*