

Expanded Access to Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative: Supplemental Information

Purpose

This communication provides supplementary details to the [Remote Learning Resources: Expanded Access to Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative](#) document from April 29, 2020.

Introduction

In scaling its existing relationship with Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative (VTVLC), the Vermont Agency of Education (AOE) is working to provide expanded access for supervisory unions/districts (SUs/SDs), Career and Technical Education (CTE), and Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) centers to support online and blended learning during and beyond school closure.

During the transition phase of this opportunity over the next 15 months, SUs/SDs, CTE and AEL centers will have access to professional learning through VTVLC and, through different partnership models, online and blended learning opportunities for Vermont students at the middle and secondary level. [VTVLC Support for Schools](#) provides a description of what's available to participating schools and centers.

Partnership Models

The table on the following page contains a summary of projected benefits available with different partnership models. This expansion of VTVLC has created no obligation to have a qualified teacher take the steps to become a certified online partner teacher. However, this service is based on a cooperative model and has historically relied on leveraging our local, Vermont licensed educators. In the near term, eligible schools and centers will be able to accommodate more students in their own schools if they pursue the partner teacher model. Over time, as more "teaching partners" become part of the cooperative, more courses will become available statewide.

Teaching Partner schools support the maintenance of a low/no-cost system designed to provide high-quality online coursework for Vermont's SUs/SDs and centers.

Contact Information:

If you have questions about this document or would like additional information, please contact:
Jess DeCarolis, Student Pathways Division, at jess.decarolis@vermont.gov

	Teaching Partner (per partner teacher/per class taught)	Non-Teaching Partner	Private/non-public Partner (available under the previous partner model)
"Partner Fee" to join	None	None	\$4,500
Use of Canvas LMS	Yes	Yes	No
Use of all VTVLC Content	Yes	Yes	No
VTVLC Fall/Spring enrollments (no cost)	40	10	50
Priority Fall/Spring enrollment period begins	April 1	May 15	May 15
VTVLC On-Demand (Sept 1 - Feb 15 start dates) (no cost)	10	0	0
Additional VTVLC On-Demand enrollments (or Teaching Partner schools Mar 1 - Aug 15)	\$275	\$375	\$450
Registration and student learning support	Yes	Yes	Yes
Technical Support	Yes	Yes	Yes
Teacher Mentoring for online teacher(s)	Yes	No	Yes
Blended Learning/Remote Teaching PD	Yes	Yes	No
NEOTI Certificate in Online Teaching*	\$4,640	\$4,640	\$5,096

	Teaching Partner (per partner teacher/per class taught)	Non-Teaching Partner	Private/non-public Partner (available under the previous partner model)
NEOTI Scholarships to expand/begin teaching partner status	Yes	Yes	No

* The holder of an Online Teaching Specialist (OTS) endorsement is authorized to teach students from a distance who are enrolled in online coursework. The endorsement is an add-on endorsement only and is limited to holders of PK-12 teaching endorsements. For more information about obtaining this endorsement, please visit the [Northeast Online Teaching Institute's](#) web page.

How it Can Work for Any Size School/Center

For small schools, the Teaching Partner model means that low or under-enrolled courses can continue to operate locally while opening up enrollment to other students across the state. This in turn earns the students in your school the opportunity to enroll in courses not offered locally.

For large schools, the benefits of the Teaching Partner model include avoiding scheduling conflicts for students. When students are able to enroll in online classes, their schedules allow those students to pursue other learning or extracurricular opportunities, and also creates opportunities for other students to access local classes.

How this Flexible Pathway Can Meet Diverse Student Needs

For many students, online learning provides both the flexibility and structure they need to perform at their best. These students are independent learners who ask questions to clarify concepts they need help with and are eager to demonstrate mastery on their own. Many online learners note they like the individualized attention and opportunities they have to work with their teachers one on one as the greatest benefit of taking online classes. Online learning also can be successful for students who find large classes anxiety-producing or intimidating, who excel once some of these pressures are alleviated. As students around Vermont have a variety of different needs, VTVLC offers a variety of solutions.

How to Sign Up

In order to access these services, schools/centers will be required to populate rosters for teachers participating in professional development activities and/or students accessing courses.

- For schools planning to access these resources now, the registration and rostering process needs to begin immediately. Please download and complete this [rostering sheet](#) as soon as possible.
- For access to courses in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year, we strongly encourage schools/centers to populate all teacher and student roster information before the end of this school year. Please download and complete this [rostering sheet](#) as soon as possible.

NOTE: The data exchange from the schools/centers back to the AOE will be conducted through the secure SFTP server. The AOE will provide access to schools/centers who have not used the SFTP servers.

If you want more information on supports that may be available based on your school's/center's needs, please complete this [interest form](#).

Benefits of Signing Up

Completing the entire roster will expedite schools'/centers' ability to take advantage of VTVLC's learning ecosystem (Canvas LMS, all courses, mentoring) now and in preparation for the future. Rostered teachers will have the ability to access all PD and finish the current school year with the training, preparation & familiarity with VTVLC's standards-based courses. In addition, they will be able to use new content and technologies to plan for next school year for both in-person and remote learning situations.

Although what school will look like in the fall is still unknown, we can be confident that educating students will need to be done differently.

For More Information

Looking for information and support on rostering? Please contact Greg Young, Student Pathways Division, at greg.young@vermont.gov

Looking for information on the Partner School structure? Please contact Jeff Renard, VTVLC Principal, at jrenard@vtvlc.org