

Overview of the Texas Virtual School Network

www.txvsn.org

Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) is:

- A clearinghouse for approved online courses taught by certified teachers.
- A supplemental rather than diploma granting program.

TxVSN is not a stand-alone virtual school. It does not:

- Award credit.
- Affect the provision of other distance learning courses offered under other law (dual credit, etc.).
- Employ teachers or provide courses directly.

The network will include:

- Courses for grades 9-12 beginning January 2009.
- Courses for grades 6-8 in 2009-2010 (tentative).
- K-12 courses by 2010 – 2011 (under review).

TxVSN Central Operations is responsible for:

- Creating and maintaining the infrastructure for central registration and enrollment of students.
- Facilitating the “matching” of receiver districts and provider districts and courses by creating and maintaining an electronic interface (catalog).
- Financial transactions regarding the network including accounting for funds sent between provider districts and receiving districts. *Note: There is no funding attached to the network. Courses are fee-based.*
- The flow of funds between and among provider districts and receiving districts.
- State reporting requirements and all associated data collection.

Who is eligible to submit online courses to the TxVSN?

- Academically acceptable or higher Texas school districts
- Recognized or higher open enrollment charters
- Education Service Centers
- Public or private higher education institutions

Responsibilities of provider districts:

- Submit courses for review/approval.
- Provide an online teacher of record. Online teachers must complete training from one of the five approved TxVSN professional development providers.
- Conduct background checks and fingerprinting of online teachers.

Responsibilities of receiving districts:

- Provide site coordinator and administrative contacts to the TxVSN.
 - The site coordinator will:
 - Advise and finalize student enrollment.
 - Monitor student progress.
 - Proctor or arrange proctors for exams.
 - Serve as a liaison between student/online instructor.
 - Site coordinator may be campus-based or district-based.
 - Counselors may best fulfill this role, but can be any district employee.
- Set up TxVSN account for payment of course related fees.
 - Designate a district purchasing approver.
 - Establish the preferred method of payment to expedite enrollments during peak times.
- Award credit if a course is successfully completed.
- Provide all eligible services (Special Education, Bilingual, etc.) to students.
- Note: Receiving districts should review local policy regarding transfer credit.