

Addendum to FCIS Standards

7.1 Virtual School Programs

Definitions of virtual school

Virtual school refers to an institution that is not "brick and mortar" bound. All student services and courses are conducted through Internet technology. The virtual school differs from the traditional school through the physical medium that links administrators, teachers, and students.

(Technologysource.org)

The following FCIS standards are not applicable: 2.1.4, 3.3.6, 3.7.1, 3.10.3 – 3.10.5, 4.1, 5.1.

In addition to the remaining relevant and applicable FCIS Standards, the following standards must be met by a virtual school program to be considered for FCIS Accreditation.

7.1.1 The program provides for a high degree of interaction between students and faculty, and among students themselves.

7.1.2 The governing body assures that adequate resources are provided to effectively support and maintain the online learning program.

7.1.3 The online program results in course credit towards a high school diploma.

7.1.4 Critical thinking, problem-solving, analysis integration and synthesis abilities are integral parts of the online program.

7.1.5 A process exists whereby work and assessments by students are monitored to ensure student work. Multiple methods are used to assure student performance.

7.1.6 Students must meet compulsory attendance requirements, as mandated by the State of Florida. (<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/virtual-schools/pdf/DistrictVIP-FAQ.pdf>, # 39 and 40)

7.1.7 Faculty is trained in and demonstrate competency in online instruction and learning.

7.1.8 The school must have a policy for responding to challenged materials.

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