

A8 | District-operated full-time enrolled online, virtual and remote learning program

The A8 program classification is for districts seeking to expand programmatic opportunities through online, virtual and remote learning models. The following are some of the design considerations to help district and program leaders determine how the goals and desired outcomes of the program align with this classification. Information on how to make a modification/transition of a current program or create a new one are available at the end of this document.

Program Design Considerations

Enrollment *[Full-time/Part-time, Primary/Partial, Voluntary/Involuntary, Non-resident & Grade Levels]*

- Are full-time enrolled students required as an A8 program?
 - ◆ Yes.
- If we have full-time enrolled students, does that make an A8 program by default?
 - ◆ No. Full-time enrolled students could be part of an academy model positioned as “school within a school” at an A1 school in your district or an A5 alternative education program.
- Can we enroll part-time students as part of the program too?
 - ◆ Yes. It is common for districts to expand the offerings of the A1 schools utilizing the courses/content and staff of a full-time enrollment program.
- Can students be primarily enrolled in the A8 program?
 - ◆ Yes. The primary enrollment of a student can influence other design considerations such as extracurricular activities, accountability and graduation requirements.
- Can students have a partial (secondary) enrollment in the A8 program?
 - ◆ Yes. The partial (secondary) enrollment of a student can also influence other design considerations.
- Do A8 programs allow for voluntary and involuntary enrollment?
 - ◆ Yes. Districts can allow student/family requests for enrollment and could also have involuntary enrollment of students similar to an A5 alternative education program. Districts should include the criteria for enrollment in local policy.
 - **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Involuntary enrollment would require the program to use virtual and performance-based course setup and attendance verification, which is only available for grades 5-12.
- Can our A8 program offer non-resident student enrollment?
 - ◆ Yes. Districts should include this in their locally developed non-resident enrollment policy.
- Do we have to offer non-resident student enrollment?
 - ◆ No.
- What grade levels can we offer in the A8 program?
 - ◆ K-12.
 - **IMPORTANT NOTE:** If students in K-4 are enrolled full-time, the program must use the course setup and attendance tracking structures of [704 KAR 3:535](#).

Attendance Verification, Funding, and Course Setup

→ How do A8 programs track attendance?

- ◆ Programs will have the option to utilize different structures for this, based on course-by-course setup decisions. One option is through Virtual & Performance-based structures in [704 KAR 3:305](#). A second option is now available through [704 KAR 3:535](#) which allows districts to receive 'seat-time attendance' for students enrolled full-time.

- **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- [Virtual & Performance-based Setup Guidance](#)
- [Virtual & Attendance-based Setup Guidance](#) (seat-time)
- [Data Standard - Pupil Attendance](#)
- [Data Standard - Course](#)

→ Do we have to use one or the other?

- ◆ No. You can use both if it meets the needs of the district/program.

Accountability

→ Where will accountability for A8 program students track to?

- ◆ This will be determined through the student's primary and partial/secondary enrollment status.
- ◆ **NOTE:** There is currently no specific provision in [703 KAR 5:240](#) Accountability Administrative Procedures and Guidelines for tracking of students enrolled in A8 programs. The regulation is being prepared for proposed amendments and is expected to go to the Kentucky Board of Education in April 2024 to start the legislative process. The Office of Assessment and Accountability will provide updates and guidance when details are finalized.

- **Questions?** Contact dacinfo@education.ky.gov

→ Is there a financial dashboard requirement in the school report card for A8 programs?

- ◆ No.

Graduation

→ Are there any special requirements for graduation through an A8 program?

- ◆ No. The same [minimum graduation requirements](#) established by the Kentucky Board of Education apply as well as those adopted by the local board of education.

→ Which Diploma would students receive in an A8 program?

- ◆ The local Board of Education establishes graduation and diploma requirements. For instance, a local board may elect the same graduation requirements and diploma as the A1 high school in their district.

Extra Curricular/Co Curricular Activities

→ Can students participate in clubs, programs and school activities?

- ◆ Yes, per local district policy.

→ Can students participate in KHSAA sanctioned sports and activities?

- ◆ Yes, dependent on enrollment status and local district policy. To be eligible, students must be enrolled full-time and concurrently in an appropriate A1 school as verified by Infinite Campus.

Program Requirements [ILP, ILPA, Monitoring]

- Can students in an A8 program continue their ILP from a formerly or concurrently enrolled A1 school?
 - ◆ Yes.
- Can a student start a new ILP?
 - ◆ Yes. *As in an A1 school, students begin an ILP in 6th grade.*
- Do students need to complete an ILPA in an A8 program?
 - ◆ No. *The ILPA is only required for students enrolled in A5 or A6 programs per 704 KAR 19:002.*
- Will there be monitoring visits for A8 programs?
 - ◆ No. *The [Kentucky Digital Learning Guidelines](#) contain principles for the continuous improvement of online, virtual, and remote learning programs to which district Superintendents attest to in the annual assurances.*

Other

- Are students in an A8 program permitted on campus during school hours?
 - ◆ Yes. *A program may utilize student time on campus for interventions, testing, participation in performance classes such as band or career and technical education courses, and other possible scenarios. Programs should have a system to determine when a student is on campus and align with the attendance verification structures for the course enrollment.*

A8 Program Creation

- How do we create an A8 program?
 - ◆ *Districts should leverage the [District and School Collection Repository](#) (DASCR) to add an A8 program.*
- Can we modify an A5 program to become an A8?
 - ◆ Yes. *Districts should also leverage the DASCR in this instance to modify/transition an existing A5 program to an A8.*
- When's the cutoff for creating/modifying an A8 for school year 23-24?
 - ◆ *October 1st, 2023. If you'd like to create/modify beyond this date, please contact Ben Maynard for assistance and information.*
- Who do we contact if we have questions about our DASCR submission or program design?
 - ◆ *Shravanthi Raghavapuram | Office of the Commissioner*
shravanthi.raghavapuram@education.ky.gov
 - ◆ *Rodney Bennett | Office of Finance and Operations*
rodney.bennett@education.ky.gov
 - ◆ *Ben Maynard | Office of Education Technology*
ben.maynard@education.ky.gov



Helpful Links for More Information

[Online, Virtual, and Remote Learning Program Toolkit](#)

[Kentucky Digital Learning Guidelines](#)

NEW [704 KAR 3:535. Full-time enrolled online, virtual and remote learning programs](#)

[Virtual/Performance-Based Course Setup and Attendance Verification](#)

[Virtual & Attendance-based Setup Guidance \(seat-time\)](#)

[Course Data Standard](#)

[Data Standard - Enrollment](#)

[Data Standard - Graduation](#)

[Non-Resident Student Policy Information](#)

[Class Size in Virtual Courses and Programs](#)

[704 KAR 19:002. Alternative education programs](#)

[704 KAR 3:305. Minimum requirements for high school graduation](#)

[Guidance for Alternative Education Programs](#)

[Pupil Attendance Program Documents](#)

[DASCR](#)

[Model Curriculum Framework](#)

[Ky Online Learning Experience Collaborative](#)

[KY High School Athletic Association \(KHSAA\) Bylaws](#)

[703 KAR 5:240](#)

This information has been collected to aid district/program leaders in the planning and design of online/virtual program opportunities. Last update to information was 2/1/24. Check back frequently as information may be added based upon questions received. Questions? Contact ben.maynard@education.ky.gov