

## **Online Courses FAQs**

### **How much do courses cost?**

Courses range from \$120–\$350 per course/per student, averaging \$255 per course. College courses cost more and some courses require the purchase of additional materials, including textbooks. Schools can save up to \$125 per course by purchasing through the DLD.

### **How does the DLD select course providers and courses?**

In general, courses are asynchronous to allow scheduling flexibility; offered on flexible schedules whenever possible to accommodate school calendars; instructed by a certified online teacher; media-rich, engaging, and interactive; and designed to accommodate different learning styles. Our providers have above-average completion rates, excellent student support, reliable platforms, and good communications strategies with students and schools.

### **What kinds of support do students receive?**

Students enrolled in online courses are assigned a school-based Teacher/Mentor and an online tutor. Teacher/Mentors support students in a number of ways to ensure a positive and successful experience. Tutors interact with students online and help them with coursework.

### **How is high school credit counted for an online course?**

All of the course providers report grades and recommend credit that can be awarded at the discretion of the school principal or other district designee.

### **Are DLD online course providers accredited?**

Yes, but schools participating in online courses are responsible for adding credits to student transcripts. To learn more about the DLD course providers and their specific accreditations, please see the DLD's Course Catalog.

### **How do schools pay for online courses?**

Some schools set aside specific funding for courses, while others obtain grants. And some schools look closely at FTE funds that might be gained by retaining students because of their enrollment in online courses. Other schools use a cost-share model, where students are responsible for some of the cost.

### **Are there limits to how many online courses a school can enroll students in?**

There are no limits to online courses outside of what each school can afford. Schools are responsible for the cost of online courses. Best practices suggest that students ease into the number of online courses they take; however, schools ultimately decide how many classes a student can manage.

### **What if my school already offers a class that is also available through the DLD?**

Each school establishes a policy for which courses are made available to its students. Some schools decide not to offer online courses that duplicate classes taught at the school. Other schools do not restrict which online courses students can take.

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[www.learningcommons.org/educators/courses](http://www.learningcommons.org/educators/courses)

**Call us at 800.890.8592 to speak with our staff.**

The DLD is a department of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The DLC is a Washington-based nonprofit dedicated to helping all students achieve.