



Want to make more courses available to your students?

Do you have students desiring or needing courses that you are having difficulty providing? ACCESS Distance Learning delivers courses directly to your local classroom. Your school can now offer a distance learning option so every student has access to the courses needed to get the diploma he or she desires.

*"Having the **ACCESS** program has made me talk to students differently about college, because before it we didn't have much to offer them to challenge them and prepare them to go straight to a 4-year college. Now I don't take any excuses."
- School counselor*

*"**ACCESS** is meeting a need, I don't know what would happen now with funding cuts with schools that can't meet these needs."
- South Alabama High School Teacher*



LEARN MORE AT

<http://accessdl.state.al.us>

ACCESS Distance Learning
Technology Initiatives
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Montgomery, AL 36130-2101
334-242-9594



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JOSEPH B. MORTON, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

No person shall be denied employment, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity on the basis of disability, gender, race, religion, national origin, color, age or genetics. Ref: Sec. 1983, Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C.; Title VI and VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Sec. 504; Age Discrimination in Employment Act; The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; Equal Pay Act of 1963; Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972; Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008; Title IX Coordinator, P.O. Box 302101, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101 or call (334) 242-8165.

A GUIDE FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Want options for more variety in courses offered?



ACCESS: A Distance and Blended Learning Model for Alabama

What is

ACCESS Distance Learning?

ACCESS Distance Learning (Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators, and Students Statewide), an education initiative of the Alabama Department of Education, provides opportunities and options for Alabama high school students to engage in Advanced Placement (AP), elective, and other courses to which they may not otherwise have access.

What are the Advantages of ACCESS Distance Learning?

- Instant Expansion of Course Offerings
- Advanced Diploma and Advanced Level Courses in Areas Such as Foreign Languages, Electives, and Higher Mathematics
- Advanced Placement and/or Dual Credit Courses
- State-Approved Curricula Using the Latest Interactive Instructional Models
- Alabama Certified Teachers as E-teachers at Delivery Schools for Students Who are Supported by Facilitators at Each Receiving School
- High Quality Interactive Internet-Delivered Asynchronous Instruction for Web-Based Courses
- Synchronous (Real-Time) Instruction Utilizing Multipoint Videoconferencing Equipment for VCI (Videoconferencing Instruction) and Blended Courses
- Equal Access to High Quality Instruction

What are the costs?

Courses are provided during the regular school day at no cost to students under state rules established to govern the program through Alabama's ACCESS Distance Learning funds.

What materials are needed?

It will be the responsibility of the local school/school system to provide computers, Internet connection, software, and textbooks.

What is expected of a distance learning student?

Students are expected to participate in daily learning activities such as discussions, projects, labs, group work, and writing workshops. Sound familiar? Distance learning instructors guide students through content-approved courses that are primarily Web-based or VCI-based but which incorporate a blend of the two course delivery methods.

What courses are offered and how should courses be requested?

For a complete and updated list of courses, visit the ACCESS Distance Learning Web site. Guidance Counselors can request courses online at <http://accessdl.state.al.us>.

How do I know if a student is a good candidate for ACCESS Distance Learning?

In general, students and educators rapidly adapt to the distance learning format. Many higher education institutions already have standard distance learning courses. The following are some of the characteristics of more successful Web-based learners:

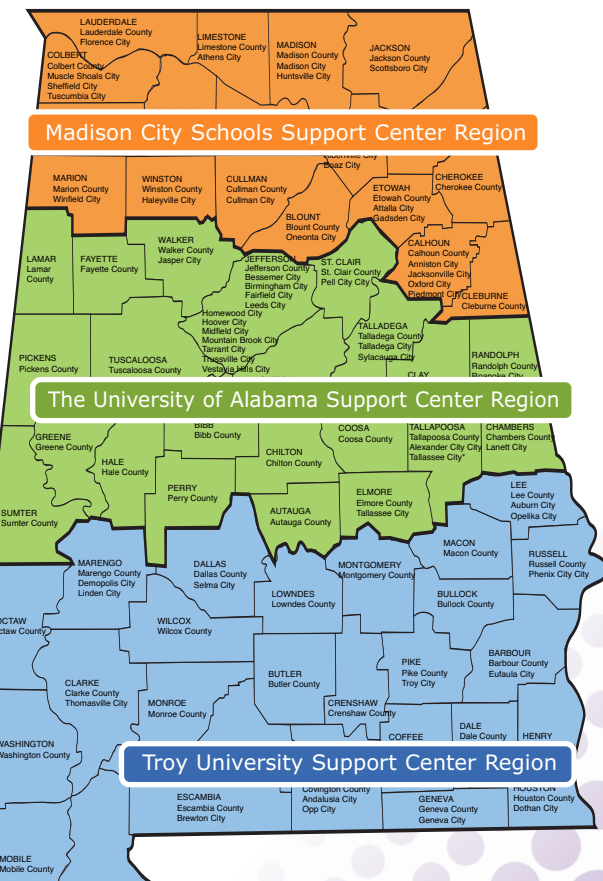
- Independent Learners
- Computer Literate Individuals
- Effective Written Communicators
- Open Communicators (*Willing to Ask for Help and Share Problems and/or Concerns*)
- Interested Online Learners

What are the Course Delivery Methods?

- Some courses are primarily Web-based Asynchronous Courses that utilize a Web site portal, multimedia content, and a highly qualified and certified Alabama teacher. Schools provide onsite access to computers with reliable Internet connections.
- Some courses are primarily VCI Synchronous Courses that include real-time/synchronous (*two-way audio/two-way video*) instruction and an Alabama-certified highly qualified e-teacher. To participate, schools must provide a reliable Internet-connected computer and access to a VCI equipped, H.323 standard school lab. Student schedules must also be compatible with those of delivery sites.
- Blended Courses utilize a combination of Web-based and VCI-based instruction. All ACCESS courses now utilize the blended model.



ACCESS Distance Learning Support Center Regions



For complete information, visit <http://accessdl.state.al.us>