



ACCESS Distance Learning

Opens a New
World of Possibilities
for Alabama Students.

"ACCESS can show the world that metropolitan areas are not the only places that embrace technology. Students coming from all locales need to have adequate technology training and the ability to learn at their maximum potential. Maybe now the rest of the nation can spread the word about the not-so-secret success in the south."

- Converge, Summer 2007



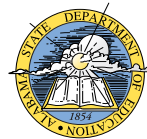
"I think they feel more confident in their ability. They are not intimidated. They see that they are as smart as other students, and it kind of broadens their experience."
- ACCESS Teacher



LEARN MORE AT

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

ACCESS Distance Learning
Technology Initiatives
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JOSEPH B. MORTON, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

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A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS



Connect to online classes with **ACCESS** Distance Learning!



ACCESS: A Distance and Blended
Learning Model for Alabama

Why ACCESS Distance Learning?

- Many rural and low-income schools have limited course offerings for students.
- Some schools find it difficult to offer all courses needed for the Alabama High School Diploma with Advanced Academic Endorsement.
- Students in Alabama schools will benefit from additional Advanced Placement (AP) or college-level courses.
- Many schools cannot offer courses like physics, calculus, or Latin.



ACCESS Distance Learning Objectives:

- Provide access to Advanced Placement and/or Dual Credit courses.
- Provide access to additional elective courses.
- Effectively use existing resources and distance learning offerings, including sharing teachers between districts, to positively impact education statewide.
- Provide teachers with additional multimedia and technology tools to enhance instruction.
- Promote E-learning experiences for all students.

"I wasn't able to take AP History before, but with ACCESS I can and I've been able to increase the rigor of my course load." – ACCESS Student

"(The confidence) is so important. I mean, that's something you keep throughout your life."

– ACCESS Teacher/Facilitator

What are the Course Delivery Methods?

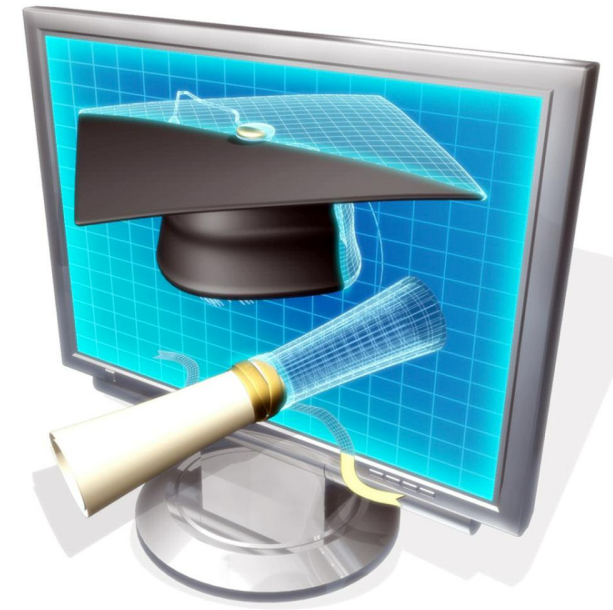
- **Web-Based Asynchronous Courses** utilize a Web site portal, multimedia content, and a highly qualified and certified Alabama teacher. Schools provide onsite access to computers with reliable Internet connections.
- **IVC Synchronous Courses** include real-time/synchronous (*two-way audio/two-way video*) instruction and an Alabama-certified e-teacher. To participate, schools must provide a reliable Internet-connected computer and access to an IVC 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 IVC-based instruction.

"I am just back from HIGH FIVING a student who almost cried and from talking to his mother who did cry – he is the first in his family to graduate. He needed one class to walk across the stage and ACCESS gave him that opportunity. This is a wonderful program – it makes a difference in a big way. Thank you."

– Facilitator, Uniontown, Alabama

ACCESS Distance Learning Vision

The state of Alabama will provide equal access to high quality instruction to improve student achievement through distance learning opportunities.



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

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