



## FAQs for OSSM Virtual Program

- What is the schedule for this course?
  - Most courses start in August and end in May. There are two semesters. Depending on interest and instructor availability, some classes may also be offered January to May only (one semester). Contact Ms. Decker at [Jessica.Decker@ossm.edu](mailto:Jessica.Decker@ossm.edu) to inquire about this option.
- How much does it cost?
  - Tuition and supplies are free; however, OSSM is unable to cover the cost of the AP test. Students are responsible for the cost of the AP test.
- How are students' grades recorded on transcripts?
  - Policies vary by school, and students must get permission from their current high school to enroll in the OSSM Virtual Program. Grades are typically recorded as ½ credit in both fall and spring. Each high school determines whether or not it's weighted.
- What will current high school personnel (typically the counselor) need to do?
  - High school personnel must coordinate with OSSM and the student for enrollment logistics. The school must also register students for AP exams.
- How much time should students spend on this course?
  - Homework varies by course. Most require one hour per day for a year-round class, though this varies based on course, student, and time of year.
- Does the Virtual Program have snow days?
  - Because classes are virtual, the OSSM Virtual Program does not observe snow days. If students don't have internet access at home, time can be made up with the instructor.
- Absences & Attendance
  - One of the most attractive benefits of the Virtual Program is that it allows students to continue to participate in extracurricular activities at their home high schools. While many of the assignments are virtual, students must continue to complete assignments and engage with the coursework, which includes meeting with instructors at dedicated times. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the program or a failing grade.
- Progress Reports
  - Reports are sent at pre-scheduled times at the end of quarters 1 and 3. Official grades are sent following quarters 2 and 4.
- What platform does the Virtual Program use?
  - This can vary by instructor. Some may use Teams, others Canvas, others email alone.
- What does the enrollment process look like?
  - Interested students must submit an application (admission process). Details are on the OSSM website ([www.ossm.edu](http://www.ossm.edu)) under the "Virtual" tab.

- What are the pre-requisites for enrolling in the VP?
  - Requirements vary by class. (these are what OSSM expects to offer next year, though all except AP Physics C:E&M must meet a minimum enrollment of five students to have a dedicated instructor. Otherwise, classes are offered through a self-study option that must be approved by the instructor. For example, AP Env Sci & AP Physics 2 are being offered this year as primarily self-study. Typically, this means the program director provides students with a skeleton schedule and arranges assignments. Students are expected to work very independently since instructors have limited availability.

OSSM Course	Prerequisite(s)
AP Chemistry	Algebra II & Physical Science (chemistry strongly recommended)
AP Precalculus	Algebra II
AP Environmental Science	Algebra II & Physical Science (biology and chemistry recommended)
AP Physics 1	Algebra II & Physical Science
AP Physics 2	AP Physics I
AP Physics C: Mechanics	AP Precalculus, or equivalent. Very strong Algebra II students may be considered.
AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism	AP Physics C: Mechanics & AP Calculus AB, or equivalents (Calc BC recommended)
AP Calculus AB/BC (offered as a combined course over two semesters)	AP Precalculus, or equivalent. Very strong Algebra II students may be considered.
AP Statistics	Algebra II

- What if I want to take a different course than is currently available?
  - If there is a class you do not see, please contact Jessica Decker. If there is sufficient interest, the class may be offered although OSSM cannot guarantee class availability.
- Will I be required to meet at dedicated times?
  - Generally, no. This varies somewhat by course and instructor, but we are committed to making our courses work for you regardless of your schedule.