



Rules of
Department of Elementary and
Secondary Education
Division 50—Division of School Improvement
Chapter 500—Virtual Schools

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**Title 5—DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION
Division 50—Division of School
Improvement
Chapter 500—Virtual Schools**

**5 CSR 50-500.010 Virtual Instruction
Program**

PURPOSE: This rule establishes policies and procedures for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to implement a public virtual school program to serve school-age students residing in the state, as authorized by section 161.670, RSMo.

(1) General information. Missouri's Virtual Instruction Program (MoVIP) offers online courses to any kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) students residing in Missouri, subject to appropriations. All MoVIP teachers are Missouri certified in the subjects they teach. All courses offered through MoVIP are aligned with Missouri Show-Me Standards.

(2) Access. A school district shall not limit a student's access to MoVIP state-funded courses, even if the district offers the same course titles. School officials are encouraged to advise students who are considering MoVIP courses about whether those courses are appropriate, based on academic prerequisites and each student's age and academic readiness.

(A) State appropriations will pay for no more than six (6) virtual credits per school year for any one (1) student. A credit consists of two (2) semesters of work for a school year.

(B) A school district cannot limit the number of credits a student may earn through MoVIP during a single or multiple school years.

(C) Students may be allowed to take MoVIP courses during the regular school day as allowed by local district policies.

(3) Selection. In any fiscal year, the number of students seeking to enroll in courses through MoVIP may exceed the level of state funding appropriated to support the program. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will use a selection process to assure that students in all parts of the state have an equal opportunity to participate in the MoVIP program.

(4) Credit. Course credit issued through the MoVIP program shall be recognized by all

public school districts in Missouri, regardless of who paid for the MoVIP course (state reimbursement or private tuition).

(A) All courses offered by MoVIP must use course numbers established by DESE.

(B) MoVIP will officially notify school districts and parents about the completion of each course and about any change in a student's status (moving, dropping a course, etc.). When a course is completed, the notification will be in the form of a percentage of work satisfactorily completed, as opposed to a letter grade.

(C) School district policies governing how grades and credits are awarded must be applied to MoVIP courses and credits the same way they are applied to courses offered by the school district. Once a grade has been assigned for a course credit that was taken through the MoVIP program that credit shall be treated the same as any other course offered by the district.

(5) Special Education. MoVIP shall provide the services/accommodations set forth in a student's Individual Education Program (IEP) to enable a student to take the online courses offered by MoVIP. Provisions in the IEP for related services shall be the responsibility of the local school district where the student is enrolled, unless the student is a private school student accessing MoVIP. No IEP is needed for students not enrolled in a public school district. For those students, related services shall be provided by the local district to the extent required by their proportionate share requirement under state and federal regulations implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Districts must provide MoVIP with a copy of the current IEP for students enrolled in the public school district and participates in MoVIP.

(6) Multiple Providers. DESE shall ensure that multiple content providers are allowed in the event that more than one (1) vendor is determined to be in compliance with the provisions of section 161.670, RSMo, the requirements of this rule, and are determined to be responsive to the request for proposal issued by DESE.

(7) Funding. Districts that have resident students enrolled in MoVIP classes will receive a disbursement corresponding to fifteen percent (15%) of the total state aid attributable to such students under sections 163.031 and 163.043, RSMo.

*AUTHORITY: sections 161.092, 161.670, 163.031 and 163.043, RSMo Supp. 2007.**

Original rule filed Sept. 12, 2007, effective March 30, 2008.

**Original authority: 161.092, RSMo 1963, amended 1973, 2002, 2003; 161.670, RSMo 2006; 163.031, RSMo 1963, amended 1965, 1965, 1967, 1967, 1969, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1993, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2004, 2005, 2006; and 163.043, RSMo 2005.*