

Harrisburg School District

FAQs for “Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program” (MOCAP)

The Harrisburg R-VIII School District meets the curricular and instructional needs of all students by offering a range of course offerings and educational opportunities. In cases where a student’s need is not being met by these offerings and opportunities, Senate Bill 603 (also known as “MOCAP”) provides one possible avenue to address the gap. MOCAP was passed with the intent to:

- Expand the range of course offerings and opportunities for students
- Provide access to courses when there are no qualified teachers to lead the course
- Allow access to courses not available at the local school district

In accordance with Senate Bill 603, students who have been enrolled full time in a public or charter school for at least one semester immediately prior, may enroll part-time or full-time in the Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program. Enrollment must be approved by the Harrisburg School District. A student with a documented medical or psychological condition that prevented the student from attending school during the previous semester shall be exempt from the requirement that a student is enrolled full-time in and attended a public school for at least one semester in order to enroll in Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program courses.

Does this apply to K-12 students?

Yes, but courses and vendors must be approved by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). To determine if a course is approved, visit the DESE MOCAP web site:

<https://mocap.mo.gov/>

Are students who participate in MOCAP courses considered to be “homeschooled?”

No. In accordance with Senate Bill 603, only registered and enrolled students are eligible to participate in MOCAP through the Harrisburg School District. If a student is unenrolled from the Harrisburg School District at any time, the student’s Harrisburg-sponsored participation in MOCAP courses also ends.

Must MOCAP students live within the Harrisburg School District boundaries?

Yes. By law, a registered student must reside within the district boundaries or pay tuition to the Harrisburg School District, currently established by the Board of Education at \$8,165 per student, per year. If a student moves out of the district at any time, the student is unenrolled from the Harrisburg School District and Harrisburg-sponsored participation in MOCAP courses also ends.

What is the cost?

The cost of approved courses will be paid by the Harrisburg R-VIII School District. However, the district will monitor student progress in the MOCAP classes and if adequate progress is not made, the district retains the option to cancel the course and return the student to in-district courses.

What is the process for a student/family to request a MOCAP course?

Individuals will follow the same school enrollment and registration practices and timelines as they would for face-to-face classes. Students enroll in MOCAP courses the same way they enroll in regular Harrisburg courses. To request enrollment for a MOCAP course, please complete the MOCAP enrollment form and take the form to your school counselor. Because significant changes in educational placements within a semester are not generally in the best interest of a student, enrollment for MOCAP courses ends on the first day of the semester; enrollment requests received after this date will be for the following semester.

What courses are offered?

You can view the listing of DESE-approved courses in the catalogue at <https://mocap.mo.gov/>

When can MOCAP courses be taken?

MOCAP courses are available during the regular fall and spring semesters.

On what timeline must MOCAP courses be completed?

MOCAP courses follow the same school calendar as courses completed on the Harrisburg campus. Students enrolled in MOCAP courses must complete all course requirements by the end of the semester as stated on the Board-approved district calendar. As stated above, the district will monitor student progress and if adequate progress is not made, the district retains the option to cancel the course and return the student to in-district courses.

Can MOCAP students participate in other school events?

Participation in school events will be determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with district policy and statute. Requests for participation in school events should be made to the building principal.

Will the district provide technology, supervision, or a space to access this online learning?

The intent of MOCAP courses is to expand the options available to students by providing state-approved classes that function outside of the traditional school environment. MOCAP courses are not taught or supervised by Harrisburg faculty members. The district is not obligated to provide student computers, equipment, or Internet access except for eligible students with a disability in compliance with federal

and state law. In most cases, the district will **not** provide a physical location in the school or adult supervision for students enrolled in MOCAP courses.

Will exceptional learners such as ELL, 504, or IEP students be provided support?

Because MOCAP courses are not taught by Harrisburg faculty, support will be provided through the course vendor, not the Harrisburg School District faculty.

How will this affect MSHSAA and NCAA eligibility?

MSHSAA and NCAA eligibility can be impacted by off-campus coursework. MSHSAA eligibility must be approved by the building administration and district activities director. If the student has any interest in participation in school athletics or activities, the parent should contact the district activities director **prior** to enrollment in a virtual education program. If the student has questions about potential future impact to NCAA eligibility, the family should contact the student’s counselor **prior** to enrollment in a MOCAP course.

Could a request for online learning be denied?

Yes, denial is possible if the request is not in the best educational interest of the student. Below are some possible reasons for denial. This listing is not all-inclusive.

- The student has not been a full-time student in a public or charter school for at least one full semester prior to the request
- All prerequisite courses have not been successfully completed
- The course request does not align with Harrisburg School District graduation requirements
- The student is already carrying the maximum academic load
- The student has not demonstrated success in previous online courses (if applicable)
- The student has not demonstrated readiness for independent coursework
- The requested course has not been demonstrated to align with the Missouri Learning Standards
- The course vendor has not demonstrated courses will be taught by a Missouri certified teacher
- The request to change placement comes in the middle of the academic term
- There is no pattern of student successful completion of the requested vendor course/program

If denied, is there an appeal process?

An appeal process is provided in accordance with Board policy. In the case of a denial of MOCAP request, individuals will receive written notification of denial and their path to appeal the decision.

Where can I read the text of the law?

<http://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=161.670&bid=35970&hl=>

Is this Board policy?

The Harrisburg School District has adopted Board policy in compliance with Senate Bill 603.

Policy relating to MOCAP consists of two documents: Policy and Regulation 6190 Virtual Education.

Additional Questions?

Contact your building administration.