



# **Gwinnett Online Campus** Information and Registration Packet for 2011–12 School Year

**Registration Deadline:** February 28, 2011



**2595 Beaver Ruin Rd., Building F**  
**Norcross, GA 30071**  
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## **Gwinnett Online Campus 2011-12 Full-Time Student Registration Packet and General Information**

**Beginning in August of 2011, Gwinnett County Public Schools will offer students a new way to earn a diploma... online through Gwinnett Online Campus.** The school district will open the virtual doors to its online high school. The mission of Gwinnett Online Campus is to enhance the learning of students in a world-class virtual environment, empowering them with the 21st century knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the local, national, and global community. We are confident we can deliver on this promise as Online Campus has been helping students successfully learn online through summer school and 7<sup>th</sup> period classes for 11 years. Building on this past success and prompted by high levels of interest from students, Gwinnett Online Campus is now ready to serve high school students on a full-time basis.

Online Campus offers courses and the district's AKS-based curriculum (which includes all state performance standards) found at traditional high schools. While what students learn may be the same, how students learn will differ in many ways. Online students will have homework, must meet deadlines, will be required to participate in class discussions, and their learning will be assessed much like their peers at other high schools. The difference is that these activities will occur over the Internet and students may complete coursework during the time of day that best fits their schedules. Online Campus students will take three online classes each mini-semester, earning six credits during the four mini-semesters. The school's mini-semesters begin in August, October, January, and March. A key to the mini-semester system is that students have the opportunity to take an additional class each mini-semester for a fee, allowing them to accrue credits that will help them graduate earlier.

A key for all online learners is the fact that they must log in to class daily. They will need a computer and reliable Internet access in order to complete their coursework. Students and teachers will communicate on a daily basis about assignments and upcoming assessments. This communication will take place through email, phone calls, discussion boards, virtual classrooms, and other web 2.0 tools.

Another key to success at Gwinnett Online Campus is having a clear understanding of what is required of online learners. Courses are challenging and each student's academic success will require dedication, responsibility, and motivation on the student's part. Parents also will have a role in the online learning community, much like they do at traditional high schools. We encourage parents to engage with their student, monitor their student's progress, and communicate regularly with teachers.

As a non-traditional Gwinnett County high school, Gwinnett online students will have to meet all state and local credit and assessment requirements prior to receiving a Gwinnett County Public Schools diploma.

We encourage interested students to learn more about this new opportunity. Review the following registration materials, visit the Gwinnett Online Campus website, and attend one of six planned information sessions. If a student enrolls in Online Campus for the Fall of 2011 and then determines that the virtual high school is not a good fit for the student they will have the option to transfer back to their traditional high school at the end of the traditional first or second semester in December or May.

In its inaugural year as a Gwinnett high school, Gwinnett Online Campus will serve students in grades 9–12. Current students in grades 8–11 are eligible to enroll. Enrolling students and their parents/guardians must reside in the Gwinnett County Public Schools attendance zone. Online Campus will accept all interested students unless there are more applicants than spaces available, in which case a random lottery will be used to determine enrollment.

At Gwinnett County Online Campus we look forward to serving your high school students in the coming year. The deadline for enrolling in this new virtual high school is **February 28, 2011**. Don't miss out on this opportunity to get a world-class education on the world wide web.

## Information Sessions

Online Campus will hold a series of virtual and face-to-face information sessions to provide an overview of the new virtual high school and to answer questions from prospective students and their parents.

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, January 27, 2011	7 p.m.	Online meeting via <b><i>Elluminate</i></b> , a web-based conferencing program. It's easy to use and you can "attend" the meeting by clicking on the link posted on <a href="http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com">gwinnettonlinecampus.com</a> .
Tuesday, February 1, 2011	11 a.m.	Online meeting via <b><i>Elluminate</i></b> , a web-based conferencing program. It's easy to use and you can "attend" the meeting by clicking on the link posted on <a href="http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com">gwinnettonlinecampus.com</a> .
Thursday, February 3, 2011	7 p.m.	Online meeting via <b><i>Elluminate</i></b> , a web-based conferencing program. It's easy to use and you can "attend" the meeting by clicking on the link posted on <a href="http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com">gwinnettonlinecampus.com</a> .
Tuesday, February 8, 2011	7 p.m.	Online Campus, Bldg A in Theater 2595 Beaver Ruin Road Norcross, GA 30071
Thursday, February 10, 2011	7 p.m.	Online meeting via <b><i>Elluminate</i></b> , a web-based conferencing program. It's easy to use and you can "attend" the meeting by clicking on the link posted on <a href="http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com">gwinnettonlinecampus.com</a> .
Thursday, February 17, 2011	7 p.m.	Online Campus, Bldg A in Theater 2595 Beaver Ruin Road Norcross, GA 30071

For questions or further information about this new virtual high school, our online courses, and/or the registration process, please refer to the Gwinnett Online Campus website ([gwinnettonlinecampus.com](http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com)) or call 770-326-8082.

## Indicators of Success

Gwinnett Online Campus welcomes all rising 9th -12th grade students for the 2011-2012 school year. Successful online learners share a number of common characteristics, including the following:

- They are self-directed, completing assignments in a more flexible setting with less direct supervision.
- They have a high comfort level with computers and are able to work with a number of programs effectively.
- They use e-mail, an Internet browser, and a wide range of software.
- They like to read and write.
- They are inquisitive and ask many questions of themselves and others and know how to find the answers.
- They are comfortable as an independent learner.
- They are able to stay on task.
- As an online learner, they are effective in asking for help when it is needed and communicate with their teachers in an online environment.
- They organize their work and time effectively.
- They have a study area available that provides reliable Internet access.
- They have a parent/guardian who supports them as they learn and who is an active participant in the online learning environment.

## **Registration Process and Deadlines**

**Students interested in attending Gwinnett Online Campus as full-time students must send the completed registration forms directly to Online Campus no later than February 28, 2011.**

- The Front Office at Online Campus closes at 3:00 pm; walk in and faxes must be received by that time. Do not submit the registration forms to the school your child currently attends. Applications not received by Gwinnett Online Campus or not postmarked by February 28, 2011, will not be accepted... NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Online Campus staff will confirm receipt of registration forms via the e-mail address on the registration forms.
- Students currently enrolled in a GCPS school will be transferred for the upcoming school year from their current attendance zone to Gwinnett Online Campus upon completion of the registration process. Online Campus staff members will send an e-mail to confirm enrollment once the registration process is completed.

### **Mail or deliver registration forms to:**

Gwinnett Online Campus  
2595 Beaver Ruin Road, Building F  
Norcross, GA 30071  
770-326-8082  
Fax: 770-326-8064  
[gwinnettonlinecampus.com](http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com)  
gwinnettonline@gwinnett.k12.ga.us

## **Eligibility Requirements for Enrollment**

Online Campus will accept students who reside within the Gwinnett County Public Schools attendance zone and are eligible to attend a Gwinnett County public high school. The student's custodial parent(s) or guardian(s) also must reside within the school district of GCPS.

Online Campus will accept all interested students, unless there are more applicants than spaces available, in which case a random lottery will be used to determine enrollment. If a lottery is required to identify the students who are eligible to enroll, it will take place in March at the district's Instructional Support Center (ISC) in Suwanee, Georgia. If a lottery is required, all registrants will receive a letter describing the lottery details and stating their lottery number. Students with selected numbers will be notified via e-mail and notification sent to the home address provided on the registration form. Selected lottery numbers also will be posted on the school's website.

## Curriculum

Gwinnett Online Campus will operate on a mini-semester schedule. In general, students take three courses per mini-semester as a part of their virtual school day. Once a student has shown they are able to successfully complete this full load, they may take an additional class on a tuition basis. Mini-semesters begin in August, October, January, and March.

### Sample Four Year Plan

#### Freshman Year

Fall		Spring	
Mini 1	Mini 2	Mini 3	Mini 4
Integrated Algebra – S1	Integrated Algebra – S2	Honors Biology - S1	Honors Biology – S2
Freshman Language Arts – S1	Freshman Language Arts – S2	World Geography – S1	World Geography – S2
Introduction to Health	Introduction to Lifetime Fitness (PE)	Spanish I – S1	Spanish I – S2

#### Sophomore Year

Fall		Spring	
Mini 1	Mini 2	Mini 3	Mini 4
Integrated Geometry – S1	Integrated Geometry – S2	Honors Chemistry – S1	Honors Chemistry – S2
Sophomore World Literature – S1	Sophomore World Literature – S2	Honors World History – S1	Honors World History – S2
Computer Applications I – S1	Computer Applications – S2	Spanish II – S1	Spanish II – S2

#### Junior Year

Fall		Spring	
Mini 1	Mini 2	Mini 3	Mini 4
Integrated Algebra II – S1	Integrated Algebra II – S2	Honors Physics – S1	Honors Physics – S2
Honors Junior American Literature – S1	Honors Junior American Literature – S2	Honors U.S. History – S1	Honors U.S. History – S2
Psychology	Sociology	Spanish III – S1	Spanish III – S2

#### Senior Year

Fall		Spring	
Mini 1	Mini 2	Mini 3	Mini 4
Integrated Trigonometry – S1	Integrated Trigonometry – S2	Astronomy – S1	Astronomy – S2
Beginning Programming – S1	Beginning Programming – S2	Fundamentals of Web Design – S1	Fundamentals of Web Design – S2
AP American Literature and Composition – S1 *		AP American Literature and Composition – S2 *	
AP Macroeconomics *		AP American Government *	

\* AP courses run on a full semester schedule

† Course taken on a tuition basis

With the mini-semester schedule, students have the opportunity to accelerate their pace of study on a tuition basis which will allow them to accrue additional credits during a mini-semester. This can help a student graduate early. Students will earn their diploma when they have met all state and local graduation requirements for assessments and credits successfully completed.

### Sample Accelerated Plan of Study

#### Summer Session Computer Apps A †

#### Year 1—Freshman Year

Fall		Spring	
Mini 1	Mini 2	Mini 3	Mini 4
Integrated Algebra – S1	Integrated Algebra – S2	Biology - S1	Biology – S2
Honors Freshman Language Arts – S1	Honors Freshman Language Arts – S2	World Geography – S1	World Geography – S2
Introduction to Health	Introduction to Lifetime Fitness (PE)	Honors Sophomore World Literature – S1	Honors Sophomore World Literature – S2
		Integrated Geometry – S1	Integrated Geometry – S2

#### Summer Session Business Essentials †

#### Year 2—Sophomore/Junior Year

Fall		Spring	
Mini 1	Mini 2	Mini 3	Mini 4
Spanish I – S1	Spanish I – S2	Spanish II – S1	Spanish II – S2
Integrated Algebra II – S1	Integrated Algebra II – S2	Beginning Programming A	Beginning Programming B
AP World History – S1 *		AP World History – S2 *	
AP Language and Composition – S1 *		AP Language and Composition – S2 *	
Chemistry – S1 †	Chemistry – S2 †	Physics – S1 †	Physics – S2 †

#### Summer Session Psychology † Sociology †

#### Year 3—Senior Year

Fall		Spring	
Mini 1	Mini 2	Mini 3	Mini 4
Integrated Trigonometry – S1	Integrated Trigonometry – S2	Fundamentals of Web Design – S1	Fundamentals of Web Design – S2
U.S. History – S1	U.S. History – S2	Latin I – S1	Latin I – S2
AP Literature and Composition – S1 *		AP Literature and Composition – S2 *	
AP Macroeconomics *		AP American Government *	

\* AP courses run on a full semester schedule

† Course taken on a tuition basis

# Gwinnett Online Campus

## Course Offering List for Full-Time Students

### HEALTH/PE

Introduction to Health  
Introduction to Lifetime Fitness (PE)

### LANGUAGE ARTS

CP Freshman Language Arts  
Honors & Gifted Language Arts  
CP Sophomore World Literature  
Honors & Gifted Sophomore World Literature  
CP Junior American Literature  
Honors & Gifted Junior American Literature  
CP Senior British Literature  
Honors British Literature  
CP Composition Workshop  
AP Literature & Composition  
AP Language & Composition

### MATHEMATICS

Integrated Algebra I  
Accelerated Integrated Algebra I  
Integrated Geometry  
Accelerated Integrated Geometry  
Integrated Algebra II  
Algebra II (old math curriculum)  
Accelerated Integrated Algebra II  
Integrated Trigonometry  
Trigonometry (old math curriculum)  
Discrete Math  
Statistics  
Money Management  
AP Statistics  
AP Calculus AB

### SCIENCE

CP Biology  
Honors Biology  
CP Chemistry  
Honors Chemistry  
CP Physics  
Honors Physics  
Astronomy  
Anatomy & Physiology  
Environmental Science  
Forensic Science  
AP Physics C  
AP Biology

### SOCIAL STUDIES

CP World Geography  
CP World History  
Honors World History  
CP U.S. History  
Honors U.S. History  
CP Political Systems  
Honors Political Systems  
CP Economics  
Honors Economics  
Controversial Issues  
Law  
Sociology  
Psychology  
AP Human Geography  
AP American Government  
AP Comparative Government  
AP Macroeconomics  
AP Psychology  
AP World History  
AP U.S. History  
AP European History

### TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Business Essentials  
Banking & Investing  
Accounting I  
Legal Environment of Business  
Business Communication & Presentation  
Computing in the Modern World  
Computer Applications I  
Fundamentals of Web Design  
Beginning Programming  
Advanced Web Development & Design  
Marketing Principals  
Business Ed Work Study I  
Business Ed Work Study II  
AP Computer Science

### MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

French I, II, & III  
German I, II, & III  
Latin I, II, & III  
Spanish I, II, & III

CP: College Preparatory AP: Advanced Placement
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## Gwinnett Online Campus Full-Time Student Registration Form 2011-2012

**Please complete all sections of the Registration Form and return directly to Gwinnett Online Campus no later than February 28, 2011. Registration Forms must be received or postmarked by February 28, 2011. Late forms will not be accepted. The Online Campus Front Office closes at 3:00 pm; hand delivered forms and faxes must be received by that time.**

Student Information			
Last Name	First Name	Middle	Sex: M/F
Street Address	City	Zip Code	
Home Phone (    )	Cell Phone (    )	Birth Date (month/day/year)	
School Now Attending	GCPS Student ID (if applicable)	Has This Student Ever Attended a GCPS School? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Student Email Address			

Parent/Guardian Information			
Last Name	First Name	Relationship to Student	
Home Phone (    )	Work Phone (    )	Cell Phone (    )	
Mailing Address (If different from above)	City	Zip Code	Is Parent/Guardian a resident of Gwinnett County? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Parent Email Address			

### Enrollment Agreement

I understand that by submitting this registration packet I am stating my intention to enroll my student as an active, full-time student at Gwinnett Online Campus for the 2011-2012 school year. As there is limited enrollment in the high school, if the number of registrations exceeds capacity a lottery will be held to determine student enrollment. My student and I understand that declining to attend Gwinnett Online Campus after the lottery may keep another student from being able to enroll.

I understand that students who complete this registration form and are enrolled in the online high school will not attend their zoned high school next school year. As a result, all of a student's records will be transferred to the new online high school upon completion of the current school year. I understand that the information provided during the registration and enrollment process will be used for advisement purposes only and will NOT be used for any other purpose. I understand that any current Gwinnett student or rising 9-12 grader who is a resident of Gwinnett County is eligible for enrollment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature      Date

***Both the guardian and student must sign this form to confirm that both parties agree to the conditions of registration and enrollment at Gwinnett Online Campus.***

## **Gwinnett County Online Campus FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

### **How will the online high school be different from traditional public schools?**

A Gwinnett Online Campus course is similar to a face-to-face class in the following ways: there are lessons, homework, due dates, class discussions, tests and teachers available to students throughout the duration of the course. The difference is that these activities occur over the Internet and students may complete course work during the time of day that best fits their schedules. Students are required to log in to class daily and will need a computer and reliable Internet access in order to complete their online course work.

### **What type of curriculum will Gwinnett Online Campus use?**

Online Campus follows the Gwinnett County Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) curriculum and offers a broad spectrum of online courses at the college prep, honors, gifted, and Advanced Placement levels.

### **Will Advanced Placement classes be offered?**

Yes. See [gwinnettonlinecampus.com](http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com) for a complete course list.

### **For 7<sup>th</sup> period and summer sessions, Online Campus has used a shortened semester system, will that be the way classes are organized for full-time students who attend?**

Online Campus will operate on a mini-semester system. Mini-semesters will be nine weeks long, and will start in August, October, January, and March. Students will take three classes every mini-semester, and have the option of taking a fourth class on a tuition basis if they are able to successfully complete a normal load.

### **Will diplomas be issued from Gwinnett Online Campus?**

Yes, students may earn a diploma from Online Campus.

### **Will the diploma from the online school be accepted for college admission?**

Yes, the diploma from Gwinnett Online Campus will be accepted just as the diploma of any other Gwinnett County public high school is accepted. All schools in the district—including Online Campus-- are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. As Online Campus begins serving students full-time and issuing diplomas to graduates, colleges and universities will recognize this accreditation, as well as the accolades the district has earned.

### **Are there required face-to-face meetings or classtime or is everything done online?**

As part of the registration process, parents or guardians will be expected to attend a meeting with their student to discuss the unique learning experience at Gwinnett Online Campus and to plan the student's course of study. Additionally, all science courses and the Introduction to Lifetime Fitness (PE) course require mandatory face-to-face meetings during the online semester. The teacher will provide specific dates and times to the students once classes begin or this information can be viewed on the school's website. Some courses require material pickup at the beginning of the term. In addition, all final exams, Georgia End of Course Tests (EOCTs), and state and local standardized tests are administered in person at the Gwinnett Online Campus facility or other locations across the district.

### **Will Gwinnett Online Campus serve all kinds of students? What about students who have special needs?**

All special education students in GCPS are provided a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. All placement decisions are made by the student's IEP team, and may or may not be directly delivered through Online Campus depending on the needs of the student and the availability of such services through Online Campus. The district will be responsible for assuring that appropriate services are provided to all students with an IEP.

### **Where would any face-to-face meetings take place? Will transportation be provided?**

Face-to-face meetings will be held at the Gwinnett Online Campus facility in Norcross. It is located at 2595 Beaver Ruin Road in Building F. Transportation is not provided.

### **How many full-time students will Gwinnett Online Campus serve in the fall of 2011?**

We expect to serve at least 300 full-time students. The school's maximum enrollment has yet to be determined.

**What if more people express interest in attending Gwinnett Online than spots are available? How will the district manage increased interest in the online high school should it occur?**

Online Campus seeks to accept all interested students, unless there are more registrants than spaces available, in which case a random lottery will be used to determine enrollment. If a lottery is required to identify the students who are eligible to enroll, it will take place in March at the district's Instructional Support Center (ISC) in Suwanee, Georgia. Before the lottery all registrants will receive a letter describing the lottery details and stating their lottery number. Students with selected numbers will be notified via the home address on the intent to register form.

**Gwinnett Online Campus has been around for some time, why is it now serving students full-time?**

GCPS is responding to community input that has indicated interest in full-time online education for grades 4-12.

**Will Gwinnett Online Campus still offer 7th period classes and credit recovery to students enrolled in other Gwinnett high schools or will that be done away with now that it will be a school serving full-time students of its own?**

All existing Online Campus services will remain in place. Students from other GCPS schools may continue to take online courses as a part of their school day, outside their school day on a tuition basis, and in online summer school.

**What evidence is there that students can learn and achieve in online classes?**

Gwinnett Online Campus has been in operation for 11 years. In that time, its End of Course Test results and grade distributions have consistently been equal to or better than that of like face-to-face programs.

**Is the school system planning on expanding this online school to other grade levels?**

The school system's initial plans are to open the online campus to full-time students in grades 9-12 in fall 2011, to students in grades 6-8 in fall 2012, and to students in grades 4-5 in fall 2013.

**How will the school system measure the effectiveness of the online charter school? Will it have to meet AYP?**

Gwinnett's Online Campus will be expected to meet all AYP requirements.

**Who can attend? Can students from other counties enroll as full-time students?**

Online Campus will enroll Gwinnett County students whose custodial parent(s) or guardian(s) reside within the Gwinnett County Public Schools' attendance zone.

**Can adults (not currently enrolled in GCPS) finish their high school diploma through Gwinnett Online Campus?**

No.

**How do I know if an online education is the right fit for my child?**

It is very important to determine if a student is well-suited for an online learning environment. The following are characteristics of good online learners:

- They are self-directed, completing assignments in a more flexible setting with less direct supervision.
- They have a high comfort level with computers and are able to work with a number of programs effectively.
- They use e-mail, an internet browser, and a wide range of software.
- They like to read and write.
- They are inquisitive and ask many questions of themselves and others and know how to find the answers.
- They are comfortable as an independent learner.
- They are able to stay on task.
- As an online learner, they are effective in asking for help when it is needed and communicate with their teachers in an online environment.
- They organize their work and time effectively.
- They have a study area available that provides reliable internet access.
- They have a parent/guardian who supports them as they learn and who is an active participant in the online learning environment.

**Will students have to take required county and state tests and meet all graduation requirements?**

Yes. Full-time Online Campus students will have to meet all of the graduation requirements just like students at other Gwinnett high schools. This includes taking required tests and meeting requirements regarding earning credits toward graduation.

**What happens if my child enrolls in the Online Campus as a full-time student and he or she does not do well in the online setting? Can he or she transfer back to his or her traditional high school?**

Gwinnett Online Campus is committed to helping its students succeed academically. If, however, a student decides to transfer back to his or her previous high school, that transfer will take place at the end of a semester (in January and at the end of the school year.)

**Will there be any extracurricular activities for Gwinnett Online Campus? Can a student participate in extracurricular activities at the high school they previously attended if they enroll full-time at Gwinnett Online Campus?**

It is anticipated that there will be some clubs and activities for online students based on student interest and available sponsors. Students may not participate in extracurricular activities at their previous school if enrolled as a full-time student at Gwinnett Online Campus.

**How will students and teachers communicate/build relationships?**

Teachers selected to teach at Gwinnett Online Campus implement a number of strategies to help students be successful in a virtual learning environment. Teachers hold virtual office hours at least once or twice per week, when students and/or parents can be assured that the teacher will be available online or by telephone for synchronous communication. Teachers will be expected to communicate with and provide grade updates to all students and parents at least weekly.

**What kind of interaction will be available for parents of online students? At my child's traditional high school, I can schedule a teacher conference... will that be available at the online school?**

Conferences may be scheduled using conference calls, virtual classroom software, or in person at the Gwinnett Online Campus offices located in Norcross.

**How do I find out more about Gwinnett Online Campus?**

Please visit [gwinnettonlinecampus.com](http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com) for the latest information.

**Will students be restricted to what they can take in their grade level or will they be able to take upper level classes-- move on when ready?**

Students may take an extra course per mini-semester on a tuition basis if they are approved, and during online summer school. Once a student finishes all graduation requirements they may explore postsecondary learning options.

**Will there be enough teachers to teach these courses?**

Yes. Gwinnett Online Campus has a strong cadre of teachers who have taught online classes over the past 10 years. The school will employ a combination of highly qualified full time and part time staff.

**Will my child's class options be limited by the availability of teachers to teach certain subjects online? Will fine arts classes, technical education, and other electives be available?**

Gwinnett Online Campus offers a robust number of technical education, foreign language, and other academic electives. Due to the nature of fine arts classes (i.e. band, chorus, etc.) offerings are limited in the online environment. Please see [gwinnettonlinecampus.com](http://gwinnettonlinecampus.com) for a listing of courses offered to full-time students. In addition, Online Campus students will have the opportunity to participate in Maxwell High School of Technology and the Grayson High School Technical Education Program.

**Will students taking 7<sup>th</sup> period classes be in the same class with full-time students?**

It is possible that full-time students, concurrently enrolled FTE students, and tuition students could all be in the same class.

**Will this be an option for homebound students or must students be there for a full semester unit?**

Homebound students who take online courses typically remain enrolled at their home school, but take online courses as a concurrently enrolled FTE student. Each homebound situation is unique and is handled independently.

**Will full-time Online Campus students be required to check in everyday online?**

Students are given a daily schedule to follow and due dates must be met.

**What happens if you miss too many classes?**

Online learning is production oriented. If a student misses due dates, he/she will not do well in their course(s). If a student chronically misses due dates and is considered truant they may be withdrawn from the online school.

**Will the school have counselors and others to help advise and offer support to students?**

Yes, Online Campus has a counselor on staff who will serve as the students' academic advisor. In addition, Online Campus acknowledges parents and guardians as an important part of the students' support team.

**How does the mini-semester system work?**

Mini-semesters will be nine weeks long, and will start in August, October, January, and March. Students will take three classes every mini, and have the option of taking a fourth class on a tuition basis. They also may take classes online through summer school.

**Can a student attend the online school and graduate early?**

Students may take advantage of the opportunity to take additional classes on a tuition basis each mini-semester and in summer school. It is possible for students to graduate early if they have met all graduation requirements prior to their scheduled graduation date.

**Will this school be accredited?**

All schools in the district—including Online Campus—are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.

**Since it will be a new school, will next year's seniors face any disadvantages when it comes to applying for college?**

Gwinnett Online Campus graduates will benefit from graduating from a Gwinnett County public high school. Each year, GCPS graduates earn acceptance to colleges and postsecondary schools throughout Georgia and the country. Gwinnett Online Campus will have a full-time counselor on staff who can assist the school's seniors as they move through the college application process.

**Will Gwinnett Online Campus High School be considered a charter school?**

Gwinnett County Public Schools has submitted a charter application to the state for the new online high school. We anticipate that the state will make a decision regarding the school's charter status later this spring. As the school system's plan is to open the school for grades 9-12 in the fall of 2011, plans are moving forward to open the school regardless of the charter status. The district will use its flexibility gained under IE2 to operate the school should the state not grant it charter status.

**Is Gwinnett Online Campus a form of home schooling?**

Online Campus is not a home school program or independent study. That said, many of the learner characteristics of homeschooled students are similar to those of successful online students. While there is great flexibility in that assignments may be completed at any time of day online, all due dates must be met. In addition, students will be required to meet all state and local standardized testing requirements. Online Campus uses Gwinnett County Public Schools' AKS curriculum.

**How will credits be determined for students who were previously home-schooled or who attended non-accredited schools?**

These students will be required to achieve a 70% or higher on tests that determine the student's mastery of past courses he or she has taken. In addition, prior to graduation, all students who transfer to Online Campus will be required to meet all high school graduation requirements, including earning passing scores on the Georgia High School Graduation Test and Gwinnett County's High School Gateway Test.

**Can full-time students in Gwinnett Online Campus be enrolled in another GCPS school?**

Students cannot be enrolled as a full-time student at two Gwinnett County high schools. However, Gwinnett Online Campus students can be concurrently enrolled in Maxwell High School of Technology or the technical education program at Grayson High as part of the student's coursework toward a diploma. A student would be expected to attend one of the two locations for ½ a day and take the remainder of their coursework online.