

Scholar Academy
Policy: Learner Validated Program Policy
Approved: September 9, 2021

Purpose

The Board of Directors of Scholar Academy (the “School”) adopts this policy to apply in the event the School implements an online learning program, blended learning program, or personal, competency-based learning program (collectively referred to as a “learner validated program”) for the 2020-2021 and/or 2021-2022 school year. The Board is adopting this policy to help the School be able to provide a quality education to all of its students in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy complements the School’s Attendance/Truancy Policy.

Policy

In 2020, the School received approval from the Utah State Charter School Board to implement a learner validated program during the 2020-2021 and/or 2021-2022 school year. If the School elects to implement such a program during one or both of those school years, the School shall follow all applicable laws related to the program, including Utah Administrative Code Rules R277-419 and R277-607.

Consistent with R277-419, the School’s Director shall establish administrative procedures that designate a learner validated enrollment measurement to document the learner validated membership or enrollment status for each student that is enrolled in a learner validated program at the School. The learner validated enrollment measurement established by the Director may include some or all of the following components, in addition to other components, as determined by the Director:

- (a) A minimum student login or teacher contact requirement;
- (b) Required periodic contact with a licensed educator;
- (c) A minimum hourly requirement, per day or per week, when students are engaged in coursework; or
- (d) Required timelines for a student to provide or demonstrate completed assignments, coursework, or progress toward academic goals.

The Director’s administrative procedures shall also address:

- (a) How attendance for students in a learner validated program at the School will be entered and where educators will document the learner validated program attendance within their student information system; and
- (b) The conditions under which the School will mark a student in a learner validated program at the School truant (i.e., absent for half a school day or more).

The School shall document the enrollment status of each student in a learner validated program at the School in compliance with this policy and the Director’s administrative procedures at least once every ten consecutive school days.

The School shall also appropriately adjust and update student membership records in the School's student information system for participating students that did not meet the learner validated enrollment measurement. The School shall withdraw a student in a learner validated program at the School from membership in the School if:

- (a) The School has not personally engaged with the student during the prior ten consecutive school days; or
- (b) The student has had ten consecutive school days of unexcused absences.

When a student in a learner validated program at the School has an unexcused absence, the School will notify the student's parent/guardian in the same manner as outlined in the School's [Attendance/Tuancy Policy].