

# CLEARINGHOUSE FOR MILITARY FAMILY READINESS

## Virtual Learning Options in Colorado During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Resource Review

Clearinghouse Technical Assistance Team

As of August 4, 2020

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**PennState**

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## Introduction

The Technical Assistance (TA) team at the Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness at Penn State (Clearinghouse) conducted a rapid review of publicly available online resources on the topic of virtual learning in Colorado. This report provides information on virtual learning options for students in Colorado. Please note that this list is not exhaustive, nor are the resources provided endorsed by the Clearinghouse.

## Virtual Learning Options for Students in Colorado

### Colorado Digital Learning Solutions

Colorado Digital Learning Solutions (CDLS), while not an independent online school, is the state-supported online program that is now rolling out schooling options for the 2020-2021 school year. CDLS is part of the Colorado Empowered Learning Initiative ([www.colorado.gov/pacific/cel](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cel)) that aims to enhance equity and access in K-12 education through blended learning. Many Colorado schools that are switching to online or blended instruction will be using CDLS for the 2020-2021 school year. These districts can be identified via the map on the FAQ page (see link below).

### Contact information

- Home Page: <https://www.coloradodls.org/>
- FAQs: <https://www.coloradodls.org/about>
- Email: [info@coloradodls.org](mailto:info@coloradodls.org)
- Phone: (720) 458-4154

### Online Schools and Programs

The Colorado Department of Education has developed a repository of available online schools and programs, which include multi-district online charter schools, multi-district online schools, single district online schools, and single district online programs. In Colorado, there are 36 single district online schools or programs. In other words, a child must be a resident of that school district to be eligible to enroll in that online school or program. There are also 28 multi-district online schools, including online charter schools. Multi-district online schools may accept students from across the state of Colorado regardless of their home school district. To learn about the wide variety of online public schools in Colorado, please visit the home page listed below. Additionally, the Colorado Department of Education provides learning from home resources for students and guardians to supplement online education. These resources can be found at [www.cde.state.co.us/learningathome/remoteteachingresources](http://www.cde.state.co.us/learningathome/remoteteachingresources).

## Contact information

- Home Page: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/onlinelearning/schools>
- FAQs: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/onlinelearning/faq>
- Additional Questions: Please contact Renee Martinez by email [martinez\\_r@cde.state.co.us](mailto:martinez_r@cde.state.co.us) or phone 303-866-6864.

## Additional Virtual Schools

The following list is a sample of virtual school options that should be accessible to students in Colorado. The schools listed below are tuition-based schools that are not directly provided through the Colorado Department of Education. As laws vary by state, please visit the Colorado Department of Education website (<https://www.cde.state.co.us/>) to understand the requirements associated with taking classes through an external entity, and how those courses may affect graduation from a Colorado school system.

Please note that this list is not exhaustive, nor are the schools listed endorsed by the Clearinghouse.

### Apex Learning Virtual School

Apex Learning Virtual School (ALVS) offers both full-time high school and middle school experiences, as well as single course credits such as Advanced Placement courses. According to the website, ALVS is accredited by AdvancED, and courses have been approved by the NCAA, University of California, and the College Board.

## Contact information

- Home page: <https://www.apexlearningvs.com/>
- Email: [alvs@apexlearning.com](mailto:alvs@apexlearning.com)
- Phone: 855-550-2547

### Florida Virtual School Global

Florida Virtual School (FLVS) Global is a tuition-based school for K-12 students not residing in the state of Florida. FLVS Global is not a diploma granting institution and may be ideal for students who need to take one or two online courses in addition to their traditional school courses. According to the website, FLVS Global is accredited through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Association of Schools and Colleges, North Central Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, and Northwest Accreditation Commission) and able to offer NCAA-approved core courses.

## Contact information

Home page: <https://www.flvs.net/global>

FAQs: <https://www.flvsglobal.net/faq/>

Contact us: <https://www.flvsglobal.net/contact-us/>

## Pearson's Online Academy

Pearson Online Academy, previously International Connections Academy, is an online private school for students in grades K-12. According to the website, Pearson's Online Academy is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement, Middle States Association of Colleges & Schools, Northwest Accreditation Commission, and North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement.

## Contact information

- Home page: <https://www.pearsononlineacademy.com/>
- FAQs: <https://www.pearsononlineacademy.com/more-information/about-online-education#evaluate>
- Request More Information: <https://www.pearsononlineacademy.com/request-info>

## WiloStar3D

WiloStar3D is an online homeschooling program that is pioneering the use of 3D virtual worlds to educate students in grades 6-12. According to the website, WiloStar3D is fully accredited by AdvancED, implements accommodations for students based on individual needs, and charges \$3,040.00 per year for grades 6-8 and \$3,540.00 for grades 9-12.

## Contact information

- Home page: <https://wilostar3d.com/>
- FAQs: <https://wilostar3d.com/online-homeschooling-frequently-asked-questions/>
- Contact Us: <https://wilostar3d.com/contact-us/>

## Additional Assistance

The TA specialists at the Clearinghouse are happy to assist you. We provide support to professionals as they examine and make informed decisions about which programs fit specific situations and are worth the investment. Whether it is connecting you with the resources and tools to conduct a needs assessment in your community, suggesting the best evidence-based program or practice for your situation, or developing an evaluation plan, our team of experts is a call or email away.

Please visit our website at [www.militaryfamilies.psu.edu](http://www.militaryfamilies.psu.edu) or call 1-877-382-9185 to speak with a TA specialist.

## **Suggested Citation**

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