



STUDENT HANDBOOK
SUMMER SCHOOL 2020

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IS ONLINE LEARNING FOR ME?

Any pace, any place, any time learning sounds great and it is for many students. Most students like the flexibility of being able to work on assignments when and where it is convenient for them. Students must be motivated, self-disciplined and have good time management skills. The online course grades will become part of the student's permanent school record. Be sure to discuss taking an online course with your parents and guidance counselor about your readiness for online learning. Consider the following questions to help determine if online learning is right for you:

- Do you have access to a computer and the internet to work on your courses outside of the school?
- Do you have an active email address that you can access? (School email accounts might block our emails. It is best to use a gmail or yahoo account.)
- Are you self-motivated and self-disciplined?
- Do you have good time management skills?
- Are you willing to initiate a conversation with a teacher and ask for assistance when needed?
- Can you use teacher comments on assignments to improve your work?
- Do you have good technology skills beyond social media?
- Do you have approximately 16 hours a week to dedicate to each of your online courses?

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Students can work on the online course anytime, anywhere that they have Internet access (at home, school, or a library).
- Each student will receive a confidential username and password.
- Each course has a teacher facilitating the student's learning path.
- Students complete lessons at their own pace within the 6-week timeframe for Summer School and submit them to the teacher through a secure website.
- A pacing guide is available within the course to use as time management tool.
- Due dates are listed for all assignments to assist students in completing the course on schedule.
- Students have online discussions and/or chats in a secure environment.
- It is recommended that a student enroll in no more than two courses.
- Students may enroll in only one (1) Physical Education course per session.
- Final exams will not be proctored this summer due to COVID-19
- Credit for each course is awarded by the student's home school of enrollment.
- All courses are accredited and designed according to Indiana State Standards.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students must be in contact with the teacher by telephone or email within the first 7 days of class. The teacher's phone number can be found on the Course Home page.
- Students must complete all activities in the Welcome folder and a minimum of 20% of the course assignments by June 22, 2020, to remain enrolled. Students who do not meet this requirement will be automatically withdrawn from the course.
- Students are given 6 weeks to complete the course, including the final exam. Students who do not complete the course and take the final exam will fail the course.

- Pacing Guide and target dates for completing assignments are set by the teacher to help students progress through the course within the session's timeframe.
- Students should check his/her email daily.
- Students should consider that an online course requires additional time and effort. Time management is essential. Online learning is more convenient and flexible; but is in some ways more difficult. Students should plan on spending approximately 16 hours each week working per course; 30 to 32 hours if enrolled in two courses.

STUDENT SUPPORT

- Students are supported by their counselor, parent, Indiana Online teacher and the Help Desk. Technical support is available 8am to 10pm, 7 days a week. Help is just a few clicks away! To submit a ticket, simply go to the [Indiana Online web site](#), click on Helpdesk, and then complete the form. Be sure to include the student's name, course title, and specific information such as the unit and/or assignment titles. Screen shots are helpful too. The more information you provide, the better able our tech staff will be able to assist you!

STUDENT ONLINE LEARNING TIPS

- **Communication** - Most of online communication is done through writing. It is vitally important in an online course that you communicate well because your teacher cannot see the look on your face or hear your voice. You will be responsible for being persistent about asking questions or asking for help when you don't understand something.
- **Time Commitment** - Make sure to "pace" yourself to finish the course and take the final exam by July 19th
 - Use the Pacing Guide in the course to help keep you on track. Set deadlines for yourself and follow them! Commit to approximately 16 hours each week per course and schedule regular study times during the week. Regular, short periods of working time are better than long stints of cramming in the last week.
- **Reading** - Because almost all the directions and information in an online course is in a form of written words, it is very important that you read both carefully and thoroughly. Also keep in mind that your teacher will be reading what you write just as carefully, so take care to proofread what you have written before you submit it!
- **Participate** - In an online course, it is not enough just to log in. You need to "speak up" so that your teacher and your classmates know you are there! That means asking questions, reading and sending e-mail, and posting your comments, questions, and concerns on discussions, if applicable.
- **Patience** - As much as you may want your question answered right away, you will often wait up to 24 hours for a response from your teacher. Please try to be patient. Make a note of where you left off in the assignment and where you had a question. Then go on with other coursework until your question has been answered.
- **Internet & Computer** - Make sure that your Internet connection and computer are both working and stable! Have a plan "B" if it is not - where else could you go to work? Is the public library or school an option? "My computer crashed" is not an acceptable reason to drop or fail your online course.
- **Syllabus** - Become familiar with the course syllabus and pacing guide that is found within the course. You are responsible for knowing about and meeting the deadlines and requirements!

- **Backup** - Save a backup copy of all assignments that you create in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) or Google (Docs, Sheets, and Slides). You may be asked to revise or edit your work and re-submit it.
- **Don't give up!** – Some students may find taking an online course very challenging for a number of different reasons. Be persistent about trying again and asking for help. Ignoring a problem will never make it go away!

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Parents are always encouraged to participate in the educational process of their children. Indiana Online welcomes parent participation and can provide access to the online environment as well as updated information concerning student progress. During registration, if the parent provides a different email than the student's email address, the system will automatically establish a Mentor account for the parent and email the login information to the parent's email two weeks after the course begins. Parents will be able to log into the system to view the student's progress.
- Should there ever be any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the teacher.

COUNSELOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- School counselors play a very important role in the enrollment process. Not only do they assist with course selection and the decision making process for the student, but counselors are the main source of contact for Indiana Online information.
- Counselors should make sure that each student is aware of the enrollment process, time commitment and the policies before the student enrolls in a course.
- Counselors must approve the request for enrollment of the student and will be the contact person for the student.

ENROLLMENT / REGISTRATION

Indiana Online offers one (1) Summer School session which begins June 8 and ends July 19. The Summer School enrollment window is April 6 through June 5, 2020. Schools may request to open enrollment early or extend past June 5th. The Guidance Counselor approval is necessary to enroll in an Indiana Online course.

- Meet with your guidance counselor to determine the correct course.
- Complete the online enrollment. <http://indianaonline.org>
- If the student is enrolling in two courses, they must be enrolled in both courses before the enrollment ends on June 5th.
- The student will be required to work in BOTH courses and /or semesters at the same time, except for the SEQUENTIAL courses listed below.
- If the student is enrolled in the sequential courses (listed below) the student **MUST** complete the first semester by June 24th to be eligible to move on into the second semester and complete it by July 19th. Students may take both course final exams during the sixth week; or take the first semester exam in June.
- Sequential Courses:

Algebra I & Algebra II
Geometry 1 & 2

Chinese I & Chinese II
French I & French II

Chemistry 1 & 2

Spanish I, Spanish II & Spanish III

American Sign Language I, II, & III (Not recommended to due the amount of work involved)

- If a student is withdrawn from the second semester due to not completing first semester by July 3rd, the student may continue to work towards completion in the first semester by July 19th.
- If a payment is required, it can be made online by credit card or select pay later by check.
- If a payment is required it must be made in full by June 22, 2020. The student's account will be automatically deactivated if payment has not been received.
- Once the student submits the requested course of enrollment, an email is generated to the selected counselor for his/her approval.
- The student will receive an email notification upon the counselor's approval.
- Students will receive a username & partial password prior to June 8, 2020.

TUITION

Please refer to the [school list](#) to determine the cost associated with the student's school.

Credit Cards (Visa or Mastercard) are accepted online during the registration process. Payment must be made in full by June 22, 2020. The student's account will be automatically deactivated if payment has not been received. If the student is paying by check, the check should be payable to CIESC and the student's name should be noted in the memo area.

Checks should be mailed to:

CIESC Attention: Indiana Online
3500 DePauw Boulevard Pyramid Two – Suite 2020
Indianapolis, IN 46268

TECHNOLOGY, TEXTBOOKS, AND COURSE MATERIALS

- The student must have an active email address, daily Internet access and possess basic computer skills.
- The recommended browsers are Google Chrome or Firefox. Safari will work but can sometimes be problematic depending on the course. Please do not use Internet Explorer or Microsoft Edge.
- Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint. If you don't have MS Office, you may use Google (Docs, Sheet, Slides) to create your assignment documents.
- Courses may be mobile friendly, (excluding the use of a smart phone) but may have certain content topics that require Adobe Flash or Java. These will not be accessible on an iPad. If you're using an iPad and have trouble accessing content, check with your teacher to see if it requires Flash or Java.
- It is strongly recommended to have high speed cable or DSL Internet access.

In most cases, online textbooks and/or reference materials are used. Students may be assigned a password that needs to be kept confidential. Online textbook fees may apply. **Additional materials may be necessary for some courses and will be the student's responsibility.** American Sign Language courses require a webcam. Advanced Placement and Ivy Tech Dual Credit courses may require a textbook to be purchased. Discount internet sites may be provided for purchasing suggestions. Check

the [Course Listing](#) posted on the web site for Required Materials **before** the course begins.

PASSWORD AND LOGIN

Students will be emailed a username and password during the enrollment process and again on June 8, 2020, when Summer School begins. The student's login information is emailed to the **student's email account** provided at the time of registration. Students must have an active email account at the time of registration to receive his/her login information.

FINAL EXAMS

Students may take their final exam once they have completed all their course work with the exception of Physical Education. Physical Education students cannot take their final exams before July 4, 2020. The final exam must be taken by July 19th. There are NO exceptions.

- All required assignments, quizzes and tests should be completed before taking the final exam. Students will receive zeros on all incomplete assignments.
- The final exam is 20% of the student's overall course grade.
- Students should complete a "Student Evaluation" prior to taking the final exam.
- Final exams must be completed during the allotted time frame, typically 90 minutes.
- During the final exam, students may be permitted to use tools such as calculators, pencil, paper, course notes if specified by the teacher. Students who attempt to use such tools during the final exam without specific permission from the teacher will be penalized.
- Students **are not allowed** to have a cell phone or smart watch on them while taking the final exam.
- The final exam may NOT be printed out. Students must complete the exam on the computer during the allotted time frame.

CREDIT

The courses are equal to 1 semester credit. The credit is awarded by the student's home school of enrollment. Indiana Online will report the grade the student earned to the school by Monday, July 27, 2020.

WITHDRAWAL

- Should a student choose to withdrawal from a course on or before June 22 2020, there will be no penalty as long as the student has completed the withdrawal request which is a link found within the student's account.
- Should a student choose not complete the course after June 22, 2020 no refund will be issued, if a payment was made. A failing grade will be reported to the student's high school.
- Students must complete the Welcome folder and at least 20% of the course assignments by June 22, 2020. Students who do not meet this requirement will be automatically withdrawn from the course, and a Withdraw will be reported to the school.
- If a student is automatically withdrawn due to not meeting the 20% completion benchmark, the student may submit a petition by going to the Indiana Online web site and clicking on Help Desk asking to be re-enrolled. The petition must be received by June 26, 2020.

COURSE CANCELLATION

Indiana Online reserves the right to cancel any course offerings listed as being “offered” when enrollment does not surpass an acceptable level.

STATE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Indiana Online courses are designed according to [Indiana State Standards](#). Content meets and exceeds standards for each subject area.

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Participation in Indiana Online provides students with opportunities to learn, engage, communicate, and develop skills that will prepare them for work, life, and citizenship. Indiana Online is committed to helping students develop college and career technology and communication skills. Indiana Online’s technology curriculum recognizes the FCC’s Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) standards and includes an emphasis on online safety.

This Acceptable Use Policy outlines the guidelines and behaviors that all users (administrators, teachers, students and parents) are expected to follow when participating in the Indiana Online program.

- All technologies provided within the Indiana Online websites are intended for educational purposes.
- Students are expected to communicate with appropriate, safe and courteous conduct.
- All activity within the course Learning Management System website may be monitored and retained.
- Access to online content via the Indiana Online websites may be restricted in accordance with the policies and federal regulations, such as the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).
- Indiana Online makes a reasonable effort to ensure students’ safety and security online, but will not be held accountable for any harm or damages that result from use of Indiana Online websites
- Users of the Indiana Online program are expected to alert the administrative staff immediately of any concerns for safety or security.
- Misuse of the course Learning Management System can result in disciplinary action.

Unacceptable Use Examples:

- Use Indiana Online technologies in a way that could be personally or physically harmful.
- Inappropriate use of the course Learning Management System, video conferencing, online collaboration, message boards, email, telecommunications, texting, or Skype.
- Access, create, send or receive, store, or display obscene or inappropriate images and/or content.
- Engage in cyberbullying, harassment, or disrespectful conduct toward others.
- Create or send threatening or libelous communications or communications which include vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language.
- Access or use other individuals’ accounts, information, or files without permission.
- Access to websites, files, or resources using another individual’s passwords without permission.
- Damage, disable, or otherwise disrupt the operation of the course Learning Management System.
- Violate any local, state, or federal statutes, including but not limited to copyright law.

Violations of this policy may have disciplinary repercussions, including:

- Expulsion from the Indiana Online program resulting in failure of the course.
- Notification to parent and school.
- Legal action and/or prosecution.

CODE OF CONDUCT

You, your teacher and the other members of your online course are all expected to conduct yourselves with the same level of respect, professionalism and courtesy as you would in a classroom environment. All communication that is conducted via the phone, email, discussion board or chat room must be done in an appropriate manner and tone.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

The temptation to cheat while taking an online course may be especially great; after all, a teacher isn't there to watch you while you complete your work. Be fair to yourself and other students by avoiding the temptation. Do your own work. We fully expect you to complete all course work honestly. Cheating involves submitting work in a written assignment or exam that is not your own. Honesty is the policy!

Cheating includes:

- Copying someone else's work.
- Allowing someone else to copy your work.
- Having someone else complete your work for you.
- Using unauthorized material to help you complete your work.

Plagiarism is a type of cheating when you steal someone else's work and present it as your own. Indiana Online has established steps to take when a teacher identifies an assignment and confirms that a student has plagiarized. Each step occurs after students have been warned and have had a chance to complete a new assignment.

- **First Step:** The student, parent, and Indiana Online will be emailed with the assignment and the website(s) the student copied the information. The student will be reminded of the Academic Integrity Contract the student signed and that work must be completed in their own words. (Teacher allows student to resubmit the work) The student and parent will be warned if plagiarism occurs again, the student will receive a failing grade on that assignment and not be allowed to re-submit work.
- **Second Step:** The student, parent, the student's school counselor, and Indiana Online will be emailed with the assignment and the website(s) the student copied the information and note that this is their second violation. Student will receive a 0 (F) for the assignment and will not be allowed to resubmit the work. The student and parent will be warned that the next occurrence will result in a full letter reduction of the final grade.
- **Third Step:** The student, parent, the student's school counselor, and Indiana Online will be emailed with the assignment and the website(s) the student copied the information that the student will receive a 0 (F) for the assignment and will not be allowed to resubmit the work, and that their overall final grade will be reduced by a full letter grade since this is their third violation. This will occur when publishing the final grade.

- Fourth Step:** The student, parent, the student’s school counselor, and Indiana Online will be emailed with the assignment and the website(s) the student copied the information that they automatically failed the course. This will occur when publishing the final grade along with the notice that they automatically failed the course.

GRADING CRITERIA

The introduction section of each course will cover the specific grading criteria. A letter or number grade, as well as your teacher’s comments, may accompany assignments. **You must complete all required assignments, quizzes and tests before a final grade can be issued. Students will receive zeros on all incomplete assignments.** When you have completed the course, the teacher will calculate and post the final grade within the course for your review. Indiana Online will also report your final grade to the high school by July 27, 2020.

Grading Scale

A+	97-100
A	93-96
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62

GRADE DISPUTE POLICY

When disagreements or misunderstandings arise between an Indiana Online teacher and students, parents, and/or facilitator, the parties involved should first communicate with each other to attempt to resolve differences. If a resolution is not reached, the final grade reported can be appealed. The appeal should be submitted no later than ten school days into the next semester based on the Indiana Online [Academic Calendar](#). A parent, legal guardian or facilitator must submit appeals. To appeal a grade, the parent or legal guardian must complete a [Grade Dispute form](#). Within the form, include as much detail as possible and the specific reasons the reported grade is inaccurate. References to particular assignments that may have the incorrect grade reported can prove helpful. Additionally, any relevant documents such as email correspondence should be included. Screenshots of the completion percentage widget or grades **will not** be accepted. The sender of the appeal will receive a response within one school day acknowledging the receipt of the appeal. Upon the conclusion of the investigation, the person who filed the appeal will receive notice of the findings. Grades from a previous semester that are appealed more than ten school days into the subsequent semester will not be investigated.

IEP/504

The unique learning environment that Indiana Online provides is a valuable alternative for students with an educational plan. Not only do we design our courses to be accessible to students of a variety of levels and learning preferences, but we also consider the individual needs of our students. Indiana Online is an option for students, including those who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), 504 plan, EL Plan or Hospital Homebound status to take courses for high school credit, provided that online courses are an appropriate instructional delivery method for the individual student. Parent and school staff may utilize the Online Readiness information as one indicator to determine if online is an appropriate placement for the student.

If a student with an IEP or 504 plan is enrolled in an Indiana Online course, it is the responsibility of the local school system to ensure all requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 are being met. Indiana Online will provide reasonable modifications and accommodations documented on the IEP or 504 plan as appropriate. Since Indiana Online courses are aligned to state education standards, content cannot be removed. There are some instances in which accommodations listed in the IEP or 504 plan are not conducive to the online environment and may not be provided. When this is the case, a staff member of Indiana Online will contact the school or parent to discuss the reasons why online learning may not be conducive for their student. The school or homeschool parent will need to provide such accommodations to support the student in accordance with the individualized plan.

To see a list variety of interventions and supports implemented, visit our [Policy page](#) on our website.