

Frequently Asked Questions

Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP)

Application Process

Question – Is there a deadline for submitting the application?

Answer – No. The application may be submitted at any time, though your district must receive approval from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) before initiating the program. The TEA will notify each applicant of its approval status to operate an OFSDP.

Question – Does a district or charter school have to reapply each year to participate in the program?

Answer – Yes. An application must be completed and submitted annually to participate in the OFSDP. The board of trustees of a school district or charter school must approve the application. The board must include the OFSDP as an item on a regular agenda for a board meeting providing options for public input concerning the proposed application before applying to operate an OFSDP.

Question – Where do I send the completed application?

Answer – Please send the application to:

Kimberley Rife
State Funding Division
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Eligibility

Question – Can all grade levels participate?

Answer – Yes. A student in any grade level is eligible to participate in an OFSDP if the student:

- is at risk of dropping out of school, as defined by the TEC, §29.081;

- is attending a campus implementing an innovative redesign;

- is attending an approved early college high school program, as defined by the TEC, §29.908; or

- as a result of attendance requirements under the TEC, §25.092, will be denied credit for one or more classes in which the student has been enrolled.

Question – Can a student attend class at any time?

Answer – A student must receive instruction in the OFSDP at least 45 minutes on a given day for instructional contact time to be recorded.

Question – If a student is enrolled in the OFSDP, is he or she eligible to participate in University Interscholastic League (UIL) competitions?

Answer – A student enrolled in an OFSDP may participate in a competition or other activity sanctioned or conducted under the authority of the UIL only if he or she meets all UIL eligibility criteria.

Funding

Question – When does the school district receive funding for OFSDP attendance?

Answer – The district will receive funding in September of the following school year. The State Funding Division uses the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) attendance data to calculate the amount of state funding earned for participation in the OFSDP.

Question – Is the OFSDP a grant program?

Answer – No. The OFSDP is **not a competitive grant program**. The OFSDP provides an alternate method of attendance accounting.

Question – Can a school district or charter school incorporate the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) program within the OFSDP?

Answer – No. TxVSN program instruction and content are delivered primarily over the Internet, with the student and teacher in different locations for a majority of the student's instructional period. OFSDP funding is based on the total eligible minutes of instructional *contact* time each student receives.

Question – Can a student earn more than the equivalent of one ADA in a 12-month period?

Answer – No. For funding purposes, attendance for a student for a 12-consecutive-month school year cannot exceed 1,080 instructional hours, or the equivalent of one student in average daily attendance with perfect attendance.