

**ABOUT OUR SCHOOL****OUR MISSION**

The Mission of Alabama Connections Academy is to partner with students and families, focusing on individual student success in a flexible learning environment.

**OUR HISTORY**

Alabama Connections Academy (ALCA) began providing virtual, public education to students across Alabama in August 2017. Located in Athens, AL, ALCA serves students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. The school is recognized by the Alabama State Department of Education as a Limestone County School District public school and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), an accrediting division of Cognia, formerly AdvancED.

**OUR PROGRAM**

Rooted in the belief that All Learners Can Achieve, Alabama Connections Academy students are able to audition, rehearse, work, participate in research, intern, practice, and compete without having to compromise their educational standards. What started with a small staff of teachers and a group of committed students eager for a new way to learn has grown into a school culture that encourages individuality and provides the opportunity for students to pursue their passion.

Alabama Connections Academy serves elementary school students in grades K-5, middle school students in grades 6-8 and high school students in grades 9-12. Current enrollment for all grades is 4,432 students.

- High school students complete courses on a block schedule typically completing 4 courses in quarters 1 and 2 (fall semester) and 4 courses in quarters 3 and 4 (spring semester). Earning up to 8 course credits each school year.
- The formula for awarding credit is based on 140 clock hours = 1.0 credit.
- Elementary and middle school students complete courses yearlong awarding grades each 9 weeks.
- Alabama Connections Academy's core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to 11 Advanced Placement Courses and 14 Honors Courses.

**SCHOLARSHIP DATA**

Graduates from the class of 2020 earned a combined total of \$1,183,611 toward their post-secondary educational pursuits.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

ConnectionsAcademy.com

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**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

**PRINCIPAL:** Jodie Dean

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL(S):**

Carrie Fox (K-5)

Kelly Flores (6-8)

Casey Wigginton (9-12)

Crystal Dodd (9-12)

**MANAGER OF COUNSELING:**

Shelia Daniel

**MANAGER OF SPECIAL  
EDUCATION:** Mari Adkins**ACCREDITATIONS****TOP 5 STATE SCHOOLS  
STUDENTS ARE ACCEPTED TO**

- University of Alabama
- Auburn University
- Troy State
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of North Alabama



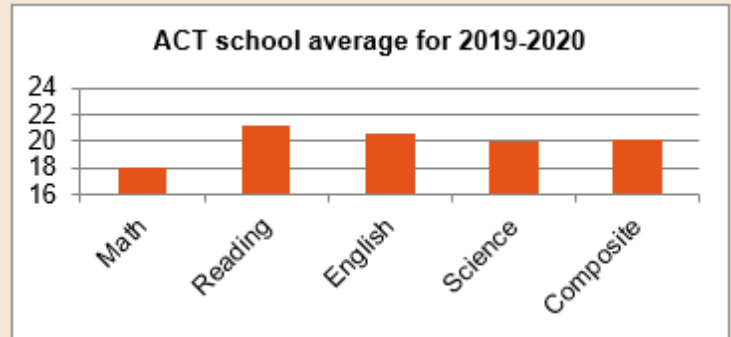
## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

24 units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
English Language Arts	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Social Studies	4
Career Technical/Fine Arts/World Languages	3
Career Preparation	1
Health	.5
Beginning Kinesiology	1
Additional courses*	2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>

## AVERAGE TEST SCORES

Alabama Connections Academy students participate in all state required testing and high school students are encouraged to take the ACT, SAT and Advanced Placement Exams.



## COVID RESPONSE

Using the guidelines provided by the Alabama State Department of Education, ALCA took steps to ensure students impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic were given the opportunity to focus first on family and second on school. ALCA's virtual platform and experienced virtual educators made it possible for students to avoid the statewide shutdown and continue their learning. Quarter 3 and 4 grades per school policy were averaged to award a final course grade and credit. All final grades are factored into the cumulative GPA.



## GRADE SCALE

Additional quality points are reflected in the students GPA. Grades posted are actual and do not have additional points weighting added to them. Courses receiving additional quality points will have Honors, Dual Enrollment (DE) or Advanced Placement (AP) in the course name.

Grade	Numerical Percentage	GPA 4 point scale	Weighted (Honors)	Weighted (AP)
<b>A</b>	90–100	4.00	4.50	5.00
<b>B</b>	80–89	3.00	3.50	4.00
<b>C</b>	70–79	2.00	2.50	3.00
<b>D</b>	60–69	1.00	1.50	2.00
<b>F</b>	0–59	0.00	0.00	0.00



## AP AND HONORS COURSE OFFERINGS

AP Courses		Honors Courses	
Art History	English Literature	Algebra I	English 9-12
Biology	Spanish Language	Algebra II	Geometry
Calculus AB	Statistics	American Govt	Physical Science
Chemistry	US History	Biology	Pre-Calculus
Computer Science	US Govt & Politics	Calculus	US History
English Language		Chemistry	US Govt
		Earth Science	World History