

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

We empower students with the tools and experiences needed to create an individualized path to lifelong personal success through a culture that encourages growth, service, and exploration.

OUR HISTORY

Willamette Connections Academy is a tuition free virtual public school serving students in grades K-12 from across the state. Our students come from urban, suburban, and rural communities. The school was founded during the 2019-2020 school year as a K-12 school. The school's first 12th grade class graduated in June of 2020.

OUR PROGRAM

Willamette Connections Academy is a four-year comprehensive high school program serving students throughout Oregon in grades K-12. Here are some important facts about our program:

- The school has 53 certified/licensed professional staff. Many of the teachers and staff hold multiple state teaching certifications in a variety of areas, along with master's degrees and higher.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of September and June.
- Students on the traditional pacing can earn up to 6 credits during the school year. The typical course load is 6 classes per semester. However, students can take additional courses if requested by student or caretaker.
- The school operates on a semester system.
- One semester class equals one-half of a high school credit.
- Students who have taken high school level courses while in middle school may have been granted high school credit.
- Willamette Connections Academy adheres to all state testing requirements and additionally encourages students to take the appropriate college entrance and preparatory exams necessary for reaching their personal and academic goals. Required State Testing: SBAC; Optional Testing: PSAT 9/10, PSAT 10, SAT, ACT WorkKeys.

CONTACT INFORMATION

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/oregon-virtual-school/about>

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Chris Long

PRINCIPAL: Heather Engelhardt

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL K-12: Kate Mohr
MANAGER OF

COUNSELING: Angela Smith

MANAGER OF SPECIAL

EDUCATION: Nicki Renardo

LEAD ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Kristy Eckhardt

ACCREDITATIONS

Willamette Connections Academy is accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, the Northwest Accreditation Commission, and the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), which are accrediting divisions of Cognia.

ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

Willamette Connections Academy's core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to Honors, College Preparatory, and Basic programs.

Honors course offerings: Algebra I and II, English, American Government, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science, Marine Science, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, U.S. History, and World History.

Advanced Placement (AP) course offerings: Spanish, English, Calculus, Statistics, Computer Science, Biology, Microeconomics, Psychology, U.S. History, Environmental Science.

Pearson Accelerated Pathways Dual Credit Offerings: Approved WillCA students can earn dual credits from Accelerated Pathways online colleges. Credits earned at Accelerated Pathways colleges also satisfy credit requirements for graduation at Willamette Connections Academy. Courses include: English Composition I, English Composition II, Introduction to Literature, Introduction to Sociology, Introduction to Psychology, Essentials of Speech, American Government, American History I, American History II, Introduction to Biology, Environmental Science, Anatomy & Physiology, Introduction to Criminal Justice, Introduction to Business, Macro-economics, Micro-economics.

Please feel free to view all our high school courses at <https://www.connectionsacademy.com/oregon-virtual-school>.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Standard Diploma Option

24 credits are required for Oregon graduation. Specific requirements for the standard diploma are:

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	3
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Physical Education	1
Health	1
Second Language, Career Technical Education, The Arts	3
Career Education	0.5
Senior Success (Includes extended application)	0.5
Other Electives	5
Total	24

Honors Diploma Option

Students may obtain an Oregon Honors Diploma Seal by completing the following graduation requirements with a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher:

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts (Including 2 credits of Honors or AP-Level ELA courses)	4
Math (Including Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra 2)	4
Science (Including Inquiry and Lab experience, and 2 credits of Honors or AP-level courses)	4
Social Studies (Including 1 credit of an Honors or AP-level course)	3
Health	1
Physical Education	1
Second Language	2
CTE or the Arts	2
Senior Success (Includes extended application)	0.5
Career Education	0.5
Electives	5
Total	27

GRADE SCALE

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Honors or Advanced Placement courses.

Grade	Numerical Percentage	Passing?	Non-Weighted	Weighted (Honors)	Weighted (AP)
A+	97-100	Yes	4.00	4.50	5.00
A	92-96	Yes	4.00	4.50	5.00
A-	90-91	Yes	3.67	4.17	4.67
B+	87-89	Yes	3.33	3.83	4.33
B	82-86	Yes	3.00	3.50	4.00
B-	80-81	Yes	2.67	3.17	3.67
C+	77-79	Yes	2.33	2.83	3.33
C	72-76	Yes	2.00	2.50	3.00
C-	70-71	Yes	1.67	2.17	2.67
D+	67-69	Yes	1.33	1.83	2.33
D	62-66	Yes	1.00	1.50	2.00
D-	60-61	Yes	.67	1.17	1.67
F	0-59	No	0.00	0.00	0.00