

ABSTRACT

School closures across Alabama have impacted over 820,000 public and private school students as a result of the devastating effects of COVID-19. To mitigate any negative impact of school closures on academic performance and student outcomes, the Alabama State Department of Education will provide a comprehensive statewide K-12 virtual school for the students in Alabama as an option for students not returning to the traditional classroom or in a blended model as outlined in the ALSDE Roadmap to Successful Reopening for 2020-2021.

The ALSDE understands that not all students have access to required resources to fully implement remote learning and proposes to provide microgrants to parents, as needed, internet access and hotspots, access to dual enrollment, access to remote learning options, and services for students requiring special services like speech and occupational therapy or tutoring with a priority given to the most disadvantaged students and students attending failing schools. The ALSDE Statewide Virtual School and Digital Content Microgrant Program will include a custom software solution to accept microgrant applications, parental feedback, and maintain account information.