

What is HAVA?

HAVA or Hamburg Area Virtual Academy is the district's full-time online learning program.

Does the family pay for HAVA or virtual courses?

No. The school district covers the courses' tuition. The school district also supplies a computer and a printer if needed. The family is responsible for supplying internet access for when students work from home. Some dual-credit courses do require the family to pay the additional cost for the college credit.

Do Hamburg teachers teach the virtual courses?

No. The school district purchases virtual learning services from 3 providers: Edgenuity, Accelerate, and Pearson Connexus. Their teachers teach the courses and supply content support.

What do I do if I have technical difficulties?

First, contact the providers technology support. Once you discuss the problem with them, they can either help you correct it or refer you to Hamburg IT if the problem is the computer.

Do HAVA courses follow the same curriculum as in-the-building courses?

No. HAVA courses cover about the same content but in a different sequence and format. Therefore, it is highly recommended that students enter HAVA at the beginning of the semester and do not attempt to start a virtual class mid semester.

Are HAVA students able to participate in extra-curricular activities offered in the district?

Yes. HAVA students are eligible for all the same service as students who attend school in the buildings.

Do HAVA students work online live with other students?

No. All the HAVA providers deliver asynchronous learning which means the courses are self-paced. Elementary Core courses do offer a weekly live lesson with the teacher.

When do HAVA students have to be online?

All virtual courses are self-paced and do not require a student to be online at a certain time. Students may work on courses at any time, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. It is best that students and parents set a schedule that works for them.

How is attendance recorded for HAVA students?

To be considered present in school on any school day, the student must log in and complete all assignments scheduled in each course calendar each school day, at any time during that date. If the student falls behind in a course or is failing any course, at least 45 minutes of work must be completed in any and each course that is behind pace or has a failing average. When a student does not meet these minimum requirements, a parent must submit an excuse stating why the student did not work the minimum amount that day. That excuse will be forwarded to the attendance office and be determined as an excused or an unexcused absence.

How is instruction delivered to the HAVA students?

Middle and High School students are enrolled in a program called Edgenuity. Edgenuity instruction is delivered through video instruction and reading materials. There are Guided Notes with most core courses that can be completed as students view the videos to help with learning the material to complete the assignments, quizzes, and tests. Please click the link below to see an example of a lesson.

[Edgenuity Student Experience](#)

Elementary students use a program called Accelerate. A demo account can be shared upon request.

What if HAVA students need help with content or assignments?

If students have questions about an assignment or need further explanation of content, they should book "Zoom" meetings with their virtual instructors. Programs clearly outline how to contact teachers.

Can HAVA students return to in-person instruction?

HAVA students are asked to make a semester commitment (two quarters) as the district must pay for full courses without reimbursement. However, a student may return to in-person instruction for the following semester. Students/Parents should notify the Virtual Learning Facilitator or the counselor two weeks BEFORE the semester begins so that an in-person schedule can be created.

Is there a contact at the Hamburg Area School District that can help navigate the virtual learning programs, offer support, and answer questions?

Yes, there is a Hamburg Area School District Virtual Learning Facilitator that can be reached by email, minpon@hasdhawks.org, or by phone, 610-562-2241 Extension 2325. Please contact Mindy Ponter with any further questions regarding Hamburg Area's Virtual Learning Academy.

Are all questions answered? If yes, what are the next steps?

Once the parent and student decide to pursue a HAVA transfer, what is the process?

1. Obtain a HAVA Program Inquiry Form from the counseling office or print one from the HASD Virtual Learning website.
2. Complete the HAVA Program Inquiry Form and return it to the counseling office at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the semester, (**the 1st week in August** for the beginning of the school year OR **the last week in December** for the second semester.)
3. A school counselor will email/call to discuss the transfer and provide the enrollment documents **if** the transfer is approved by the administration.
4. The enrollment documents must be returned to the counselor **within 3 days of receiving them.**
5. The parent and the student must attend an Orientation Meeting with the Virtual Learning Facilitator.
6. After the Orientation Meeting, the student will begin completing online courses.