

Frequently Asked Questions for APAAS Program Models for 2020-2021

Updated July 16, 2021

Do APAAS students only have two models to choose from?

No. All students in IUSD have the choice to select, 100% online, hybrid, or 100% in person instruction. Families need to choose the model that best serves their unique needs. APAAS students will be placed within an APAAS cluster in the selected model at their school site or in the Virtual Academy.

What is a cluster in the traditional, hybrid and virtual model?

A cluster will be a large group of APAAS students that will be grouped together in any one of the three models. We expect that we will have clusters of students in each model. In the virtual model, there may be students from across the district in the same class. There may be other students in the same classroom from outside of the APAAS program.

If we choose a virtual academy will my child have instruction from their APAAS teacher?

If we choose the hybrid or traditional model, will we get our APAAS teacher?

The APAAS cluster within the Virtual program will be taught by a GATE certified or an APAAS teacher. It is our hope to align teachers and students when possible. Our first interest is allowing teachers and students to select a model of instruction that best supports their health needs.

Can you provide us with the model the APAAS teacher will be teaching next year so we can align our decision on that information?

All families are encouraged to choose a model that best supports their needs for well-being. Teachers are doing the same. This is a very complex situation and in many cases we don't know exactly which teachers will be teaching in which model at this time.

Will students get the full APAAS curriculum if we do 100% online?

The virtual program will be based on the Florida Virtual curriculum and aligned to IUSD standards. The assigned GATE certified or APAAS teacher will be providing an augmented curriculum to advanced learners. Please visit [this link](#) to learn more about the virtual program in IUSD.

How many hours a day will students meet with the teacher for the hybrid model?

Please review this video that helps to [explain the hybrid model](#).

How many hours a day will students meet with the teacher in the virtual model?

Please review this video to have a better understanding of the [virtual model](#). [Additionally these FAQs are specific to the virtual academy](#).

Can IUSD make a special exception for the APAAS program to provide instruction by an APAAS teacher in a recorded format?

No, the assigned teacher will be teaching only one of the three models- traditional, hybrid, or virtual. The same three educational models are available to all IUSD students.

Can I choose to attend my former school in fall and then return to the APAAS program if schools return to a traditional model?

If a student selects to participate in the virtual program, they will maintain their APAAS designation and be able to return to their APAAS school once we return to a traditional model. If a student returns to their home school for the hybrid or traditional model they will be declining their APAAS placement offer and would need to reapply the following year. APAAS children can select the hybrid or traditional model at their APAAS school.

Will we be able to switch to the virtual model if we do not feel comfortable with traditional?

While we do not recommend mid-year changes, we know that, depending on our local conditions, some families may feel comfortable returning their children to an in-person model or may decide, instead, that they want to select the IUSD Virtual Academy. We will work with families to accommodate these requests at the trimester or semester.

If we choose the virtual academy now and if things improve later in the year, will students be able to return to the traditional APAAS model?

All students may transfer models at the end of a trimester grading period dependent on space availability. However, we will not be implementing a traditional self-contained APAAS classroom during the 2020-21 school year.

Can APAAS programs from other schools be combined?

Students will remain at their school in an APAAS cluster in either the traditional or hybrid model. APAAS students that select virtual may be clustered with other APAAS students from across the district. It will depend on the numbers.

Will APAAS schools create a combo to accommodate the numbers for the traditional or hybrid program?

Depending on the enrollment at each school site and grade level, combination classes may occur at any school site in the traditional or hybrid models just as they do within a normal school year.