

History of the Texas Virtual School Network

The Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) provides high-quality electronic courses to Texas students. The TxVSN provides students throughout the state with access to online courses that address all of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and meet national standards for quality online courses.

The state virtual school network includes the TxVSN statewide catalog of supplemental online courses for grades 9 through 12 and the full-time virtual TxVSN Online Schools (OLS) program for grades 3 through 12.

The following is a brief history of the programs that make up the TxVSN:

2001	SB 975 (77 th Texas Legislature) authorizes the Commissioner of Education to establish an electronic course pilot program.
2001-2002	The Virtual School Pilot (VSP) programs take place in fall 2001 and spring 2002.
2004-2005	The initial Electronic Course Pilot (eCP) Application to Participate is released. Three Local Education Agencies (LEAs) participate in the eCP: Houston ISD, ResponsiveEd, and Southwest Schools.
Spring 2006	Students are first served through the eCP.
2007	SB 1788 (80 th Texas Legislature) establishes the state virtual school network.
April 2008	Contracts are awarded for TxVSN Central Operations and TxVSN Course Review.
2008-2009	The Electronic Course Pilot becomes the Electronic Course Program.
January 2009	The TxVSN course catalog opens with courses from three TxVSN provider districts.
2009	HB 3646 (81 st Texas Legislature) creates the state virtual school allotment and incorporates the eCP into the Texas Virtual School Network.
2009-2010	The TxVSN course catalog begins offering dual credit courses.
January 2010	The number of districts receiving courses through TxVSN course catalog exceeds 300.
May 2010	The TxVSN course catalog offers all courses required for graduation on the Recommended High School Program.
June 2010	Fifteen TxVSN provider districts participate in the TxVSN statewide course catalog.
Summer 2011	Southwest Schools withdraws from the TxVSN OLS.
2011	SB 1 (82 nd Texas Legislature, first-called session) repeals the state virtual school allotment.
2011-2012	The Electronic Course Program becomes the TxVSN Online Schools (OLS) Program. Texarkana ISD begins participating in the TxVSN OLS. Virtual Learning Scholarships are made available to districts enrolling students in courses through the TxVSN course catalog. TxVSN dropout recovery pilot is implemented. Three Local Education Agencies (LEAs) participate in the pilot: Pasadena ISD, Santa Fe ISD, and Spring ISD
2012-2013	The TxVSN OLS will serve students in all grades 3 to 12 for the first time.