

# DeKalb Online Academy Beyond the School Day (BD)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1. What is a DOLA Beyond the Day course?

DOLA Beyond the Day courses are taken in addition to a student's regular schedule in his/her home school.

### 2. What type of work will I be required to complete in a DOLA Beyond the Day course?

Students are required to read content, complete assignments, take quizzes, and participate in viral discussions.

### 3. Is there a fee?

A fee is attached to Beyond the Day courses as they exceed the number of courses allowed in a normal schedule.

Half-unit (.5) courses cost \$250.00 for DeKalb County School District (DCSD) students

Whole-unit (1.0) courses cost \$500.00 for DCSD students

Half-unit (.5) courses cost \$300.00 for Non-DCSD students

Whole-unit (1.0) courses cost \$600.00 for Non-DCSD students

### 4. Do I have to attend classes?

DOLA courses are offered in a distance learning environment so that students can access their online courses at anytime to read assignments, participate in discussions, and submit completed assignments. Although there is no physical classroom to which students report, DeKalb OnLine Academy students are expected to attend and participate in their online classroom academic courses in the same way that they would attend and participate in classroom courses of the same type.

### 5. When and where do I attend class?

BD classes take place after a student's regular school day. However, students have access to their courses 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They can complete assignments, take quizzes, and post discussions at **any** time.

### 6. How do I access my classes?

After you are successfully enrolled in your DOLA course/s, use the following directions to log into your course/s:

Go to the DOLA homepage (<https://www.dekalbonlineacademy.org>).

Provide your identification information:

a. Type your username in the **Username** box.

i. This is simply the letter 's' followed by your student number (EXAMPLE: **S1234567**).

b. Type your password in the **Password** box.

i. This is the word **DEKALB** in all capital letters unless you have changed it.

Press the **Login** button. You should see your name under the **Welcome** box toward the top left of the page. You should also see your name in the blue bar toward the top right of the page.

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Scroll down to the bottom of the page. You should see the subject area, the semester, and the title of the course you are taking. If you see only the semester displayed, click on the **plus sign (+)** next to the semester in order to display your course.

Click on the title of the class. You are now on the homepage for your course. Read all of the information.

Click on the word **Content** in the gray bar toward the top left of the page.

## 7. Do I have a teacher?

Yes! DD students are carefully guided through their coursework by Georgia certified DeKalb County teachers. DOLA teachers have received training in pedagogy of online course development and instruction. They have also received training in the use of the software platform used to support DeKalb Online Academy (DOLA).

## 8. How do I contact my DOLA teacher?

You may contact your teacher by either paging, calling, or emailing him/her.

## 9. Will my teacher be online with me?

Yes and no. Your teacher is online during the school day. However, he/she may not be online after the end of the school day.

## 10. How much time do I devote to an online class?

Students should spend at least one to two hours daily on assignments for each online course. For example, students attending schools that have Block scheduling should spend at least 90 minutes a day on each course. Students attending schools that have Traditional scheduling should spend at least 55 minutes a day on each course. Students should also be mindful of each course's pacing chart in order to keep up with assignment submission dates and requirements.

## 11. Will I receive credit for the courses I take online?

DOLA BD courses are treated like any other course offered at the local school. Block courses are worth 1 Carnegie unit; Traditional courses are worth .5 Carnegie unit.

## ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

### 12. What are the eligibility requirements?

The only eligibility requirement for DCSD students is the payment.

## ENROLLMENT/REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### 13. How do I get enrolled in a DOLA Beyond the Day course?

To enroll in a DOLA Beyond the Day course, you and your parent must complete two important steps:

1. See your home school counselor. Counselors may register students for BD courses from **August 11<sup>th</sup>** through **September 21<sup>st</sup>** for Fall Semester and

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**December 1<sup>st</sup>** through **February 22<sup>nd</sup>** for Spring Semester.

2. Sign the DOLA Beyond the Day contract.
3. Get a copy of the DOLA Beyond the Day advisement form with the name/s of the course/s that you will take.

After you and your parent complete both steps, your counselor will give you additional steps to ensure that you are enrolled in DOLA Beyond the Day.

**\*\*A student is not enrolled in a BD course until payment is remitted.**

## 14. How many DOLA Beyond the Day courses may I take?

Students should see their counselors to determine the number of BD courses they may take.

## 15. When will DOLA Beyond the Day courses begin and end?

The courses will begin on **August 11<sup>th</sup>** for Fall Semester and **January 6<sup>th</sup>** for Spring Semester. They will end on **December 15<sup>th</sup>** for Fall Semester and **May 15<sup>th</sup>** for Spring Semester at 11:59 p.m.

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

### 16. What if I forget my password?

You should call (678) 676-1106 to have your password reset to DEKALB (in all capital letters). You can also go to your home school counselor. He/she will send an email to DOLA personnel so that your password can be reset.

### 17. May I get technical support?

Yes, you can receive technical support Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by calling (678) 676-1106.

### 18. Is there any support available after hours?

No, you may receive technical support Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by calling (678) 676-1106.

## MONITORING YOUR PROGRESS

### 19. How do I check my progress

Complete the following steps in order to check your progress as often as you desire:

1. go into your DOLA course;
2. click on **CLASSLIST** in the gray bar near the top of the page;
3. scroll to your name and click on the  symbol across from your name;

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4. click on the down arrow next to the **TOOL** box and choose **QUIZZES**;
5. click **APPLY**;
6. scroll down and examine the box labeled **QUIZZES SUMMARY**.
7. Repeat steps 2 through 6 to examine your progress with your **DROPBOX** assignments and **DISCUSSIONS**.

## Quizzes

The computer will average only the quizzes that have been completed. It does not factor in zeroes for quizzes that have not been completed. Given this limitation, an **ACCURATE** quiz average is not given until **EVERY** attempt (i.e., two out of two possible attempts) for **EACH** quiz (e.g., 8 out of 8 quizzes; 16 out of 16 quizzes; 10 out of 10 quizzes, etc.) is **completed**.

## Dropboxes

The computer will display a student's grade on each completed dropbox assignment. However, it will not determine an average for all of the completed assignments.

## Discussions

The computer will display the discussion title that a student has read and/or responded to. However, it will not display a grade.

**\*\*\*Be sure to contact your teacher, examine Parent Assistant, and check your current progress report in order to determine your average in your DOLA course.**

## 20. When will my grades be reported in the parent portal?

DOLA Beyond the Day grades will be reported at the 4.5-week, 9-week, 13.5-week, and 18-week reporting periods.

## EOCT INFORMATION

### 21. Do I have to take an EOCT for this course?

Possibly! Students taking the full unit or B Semester of the courses listed below **MUST** take an EOCT. The following EOCTs will be administered at students' home schools:

- **Mathematics**
  - CCGPS Coordinate Algebra
  - CCGPS Analytic Geometry
- **Social Studies**
  - United States History
  - Economics/Business/Free Enterprise
- **Science**
  - Biology
  - Physical Science

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- **English Language Arts**
  - Ninth Grade Literature and Composition
  - American Literature and Composition

## 22. How does the EOCT affect my final grade?

The EOCT is worth 15% or 20% of your final grade according to your 9<sup>th</sup> grade entry date. See your counselor regarding the EOCT percentage of your grade.

## 23. When will the EOCT exam(s) be administered?

EOCTs will be administered at students' home schools. Please see personnel at your home school to determine test dates for Fall and Spring Semesters.

## 24. What if I have already taken the EOCT for this course?

In order to receive credit, a student must take the EOCT upon completion of the EOCT course. A student **CANNOT** apply a previously taken EOCT to an EOCT course that he/she takes after completing the EOCT.

## NCAA INFORMATION

### 25. Will DOLA Beyond the Day courses jeopardize my NCAA eligibility?

**Possibly!** NCAA's general guidelines for credit recovery, online courses, and other non-traditional educational opportunities emphasize the need for consistent interaction between students and teachers. **NCAA personnel will check a student athlete's course activity to ensure that he/she logged in, interacted with the course teacher, and interacted with the course contents on a consistent basis throughout the entire semester. Be sure to go to the NCAA website to ensure that you will be able to meet their course activity requirements BEFORE beginning your DOLA Beyond the Day course.**