

Is VISION for me?

To prospective VISION applicants and their families,

Schooling at home can be an enriching choice for a family. In making that decision, please carefully consider the following before you return your application.

The VISION Program DOES

Provide consulting and support in all program areas.

Help find resources for curriculum choices and provide funding for materials.

Offer various classes and Educators to Supplement the Learning Plan.

Do what is necessary to assist in Developing a successful learning program.

The VISION Program DOES NOT

Make decisions for the Learner regarding educational choices.

Act as a school and make curriculum choices for Learners.

Act as a school and provide teachers on a regular basis to teach course content.

Do for Learner and family what they can do for themselves.

The Delta County School District requires a minimum of 360 hours per semester of documented learning hours. Of those hours, 90 must be spent with an educator who is not living in the Learner's home. As yourself these questions:

- Am I available to the Learner an average of 4 hours per day, 5 days per week to be the primary educator?
- If not, can I make plans for someone else to fill that role in the Learner's life?
- Will the Learner have transportation to participate in outside learning hours?
- Is the Learner sufficiently motivated to continue his/her education in a less structured environment?
- Can the Learner be happy in a learning environment with less social contact than a traditional classroom? In other words, will the Learner miss being around his/her friends each day?
- This program requires ongoing documentation of the learning process through weekly on-line journaling with your Resource Consultant, as well as the enrollment paperwork to participate. Accountability for funds dispersed is a necessary part of the process. Am I willing and do I have the time to complete the paperwork required by the program? (Approximately 3 hours per month per Learner.)
- Do I have, or am I willing, to develop a system that will keep my records organized and available for scrutiny by the School District if requested?

If you cannot answer "Yes" to most of these questions, then perhaps the VISION Home and Community Program is not for you. In that case, our office will be able to help you examine other programs within the VISION Coalition that may be better suited for the Learner.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Delta VISION Home & Community Program (VHCP) is one of three VHCP's within Delta County. It is an alternative public school within the Delta County School District. It is funded with public monies and its students are public school students. The DVHCP has a legal contract with the Delta County School District regarding the specifics of the relationship and includes the Colorado state waivers necessary for this program to function as a public school. Unlike the conventional schools, the Delta VHCP is a year round school based upon documented learning hours pertaining specifically to an individualized Learning Plan, not attendance days at a brick and mortar school. This program is an educational choice within the Delta County School District 50J. Enrollment is based upon agreement to and compliance of the program requirements.

The educational path for a student within the Delta VHCP requires a significantly different approach and involvement level from the Learner and the family. This program is designed as a parent-guided educational opportunity for Learners. Thus, the majority of the direct supervision and support is provided by the parents. Parents and Learners work with a Resource Consultant (RC). Resource Consultants are VISION HCP staff members who work directly with Learners and families and who serve as liaisons between the Learner and the VISION HCP. Each RC forms a written agreement with each Learner and family and will meet weekly, every other week or monthly for about an hour to check-in with the Learner and parents. These individuals (Learner, parent, and RC) are the consensus group. They design a Learning Plan which outlines skills, needs, resources and goals for the Learner for the school year. Each Learner receives access to \$2,150 which is used to provide the resources necessary for the successful implementation of the Learning Plan. Some items that can be funded include: textbooks, classes, tutors, and project materials. All non-consumable items are Delta VHCP property and must be returned to the program upon exit from the program or when no longer in use by the Learner. The consensus group engages in a Weekly Journal document located online. This document records the 720 learning hours per year (180 hours must be completed with an educator who is not a relative) which is outlined in the Learning Plan and Learner Schedule of Hours and the progress of the learner as it relates to the Learning Plan. RCs will seek clarity about the progress of a Learner and suggest resources for a Learner within this document. A Highly Qualified Consultant will also collaborate with the consensus group through monthly communication within the Weekly Journal document. These Consultants will share their expertise through individual suggestions, as well as, provide monthly skills workshops for parents or Learners. As an added accountability measure Learners within the DVHCP must participate in the state mandated tests (CSAP, ACT, and DIBELS), as well as, the program initiated test (Scantron).

VISION HCP Learners can receive a VISION HCP Credit Diploma, a VISION HCP Community Diploma, a GED, or transfer to another program. VISION HCP builds the diploma around the Learner rather than the other way around. The goal is for a Learner to graduate from the VISION HCP with knowledge of himself, the qualities of character and the skills and support to successfully begin the next step of his life. The VISION HCP Diploma recognizes a variety of types of learning and ways of demonstrating knowledge. Credit toward the diploma can be obtained from testing, classes, challenges or world experience.

This program is based on the integrity of all who participate in it. This includes the Learners, RCs, Educators and the Learners' families. Building and maintaining strong relationships is a very important factor in this program. The relationships in the program extend into the community when the Learners work with Educators from the population and network to provide diverse learning environments. Anyone can strive for his or her dreams with a strong support system in place. The following rules are designed to support Learners in their education while maintaining the necessary accountability for participating within a public school. A full DVHCP procedure manual will be provided upon request; however, as a family in the DVHCP, this handbook should satisfy all necessary requirements and information to provide a successful educational experience for the Learner.

MISSION

The VISION Home and Community Program promotes meaningful choice and diverse opportunity within public education by supporting the development of the optimal learning environment for each learner and optimal teaching environment for each teacher.

PHILOSOPHY

We believe that children naturally learn and that given a safe, nurturing environment laden with opportunity and positive role models, all people naturally grow to their highest potential.

Each person is unique and must be encouraged in his or her individual search for fulfillment. Each person is also part of a community and must be encouraged in his or her search for common purpose and ways to serve. These two searches are mutually strengthening and inseparable.

We believe that we will be served well by taking to heart the following principles:

1. Support and trust each young person.
2. Support and trust each parent.
3. Approach and honor all others with love and respect.
4. Never sacrifice the well being of a child for the future of the program.
5. Program accountability is built on the integrity of individuals and relationships.
6. Leadership that facilitates; membership that participates.
7. Promote open and inclusive conversation. Strive for consensus.
8. Do not hurry; the quality of the process is the goal.
9. Maintain humor, humility and flexibility.
10. Never give up on anybody; keep the door open.
11. Do not do for others what they can do for themselves.
12. The deepest learning often comes within the context of relationship.
13. Facilitate informed, careful and unpressured choice. True commitment and a sense of responsibility usually follow.
14. Examine carefully what we model, for that is what we teach.
15. When mistakes are realized, be open, and accept responsibility immediately.
16. Worthwhile policies permeate every level of an organization.
17. Meaningful future lives flow from meaningful present lives.
18. Inspired teachers are learning; inspired learners are teaching.
19. Listen well and do not respond until you find compassion and respect.
20. Question everything, especially when the children's eyes cease to shine.

Delta VISION Home and Community Program Application

We are excited that you want to be part of the VISION Home and Community Program (VHCP). Please complete this application (one for each child) and send it to the Delta VHCP office. The mailing and physical address for the office is 1080 Pioneer Road - Delta, CO 81416. We will contact you for an orientation as openings become available. You will become officially enrolled in VISION HCP upon completion of a written agreement with a Resource Consultant, completion of a VISION HCP Contract and completion of all other enrollment procedures. Until then, feel free to visit us and utilize our experience or resource directories.

Date: _____

Learner's Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Parent's/Guardian's Name(s): **Father** _____
(First and Last Name)

Mother _____

Who has primary custody of the child? _____

Father/Guardian information:

Physical Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mother/Guardian information:

Physical Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact: Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Telephone number: _____

The following information is required by the State of Colorado for students enrolled in public school. Therefore, the VISION HCP will be providing this information to the Delta County School District upon enrollment.

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: Male: _____ Female: _____

Ethnic Background: (Please choose one)

- Caucasian*
- Asian*
- Hispanic*
- African American*

Is the Learner learning English as a second language? Yes: _____ No: _____

Does the Learner have a current IEP (Individualized Education Plan) or 504 on file with the Special Services Office for the Delta County School District? IEP Yes: _____ No: _____ 504 Yes: _____ No: _____

Does the Learner have an IEP or 504 on file at another Special Services Office? Yes: _____ No: _____ *If yes, please list contact information for that office: _____*

Does the Learner have a physical handicap? Yes: _____ No: _____ *If yes, please describe: _____*

What school year is the Learner applying for: _____ (example: 2009-2010) Learner's grade level for that year: _____

What county does the Learner reside in? _____ Are they in the Olathe School District? _____

Where has the Learner been enrolled most recently?

_____ *Traditional Public School - if so, which one?* _____

_____ *Home schooling*

_____ *Neither - if neither, please explain:* _____

Does the Learner have a sibling currently enrolled in the program? _____ Yes _____ No