



COVID-19 RESPONSE: Frequently Asked Question (FAQ)

[Note: Due to the uncertain situation of the pandemic, all responses below are subject to change.]
[Updated April 8, 2020]

Is VCA modifying the remaining 2019-2020 academic calendar?

No. We are maintaining our current academic calendar, including the Easter Break. There will be no remote instruction offered from April 10 to 17, 2020. We are planning to conduct all year-end culminating events (e.g., Senior Awards, Graduation) with the hope that we will be able to return to campus after May 15. However, we are also developing alternate plans for these important events should we not be able to gather on campus until a later date.

Is VCA prorating or refunding any fees?

Yes. For example, the athletic fee credits are based on the number of weeks the sport practiced/played divided by the total number of weeks of scheduled practice and play (until the final scheduled game). The priority of awarding the credits is as follows: any outstanding negative balances on lunch accounts, etc., then tuition, then if tuition is paid in full, VCA will apply a credit to next year's tuition. All tuition and fees should be paid in full as we have transitioned to remote learning. Tuition collected during this time ensures that your child's academic experience is uninterrupted. We are committed and continue to meet our monthly financial obligations, nearly 100% of which are fixed costs (e.g., teacher's salaries, insurance, educational resources). We need parents to remain in partnership with us to meet those obligations. Thank you.

Will VCA faculty and staff receive additional compensation for their overtime?

No. Although we recognize that since March 13th our faculty and staff have all been contributing many long hours of additional work, far beyond that which any of us could have planned for; we have no financial resources available to compensate them for their amazing efforts.

Can we assist other VCA families who may be experiencing financial hardship?

Yes. We have initiated a *VCA Tuition Assistance Fund* to which you may make tax-deductible donations. Donations to this fund will be used exclusively to assist current VCA families who have lost employment due to the pandemic to meet their tuition obligation.

I just lost my job, is there any additional help VCA can provide?

Yes. We are always willing and able to work with our families who are experiencing temporary financial hardship. If you have lost your job due to the pandemic, please contact our Business Office immediately.

What happens if my child receives a state scholarship?

We expect the final payments to be made by the state so long as the student continues and completes the academic sessions with VCA through remote learning. This applies to all state scholarships. Scholarship recipients have attendance requirements and must attend any online sessions and complete assignments on time.

How is attendance being recorded for my child?

We are utilizing the student's activity in Google Classroom as evidence that they are attending



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school. Thus, it is vitally important that students both login and complete some level of activity within Google Classroom every scheduled school day. This may require checking into a “Home Room” and/or answering a daily question to confirm that they are “present.”

Has the deadline for NC Opportunity Scholarships been modified?

Yes. The NC Opportunity Scholarship Deadline has been extended from March 1 to August 31. The Opportunity Scholarship program provides tuition assistance of up to \$4,200 per year for awarded students who enroll in a participating nonpublic school. For more information on eligibility requirements visit their website at <http://ncseaa.edu/OSG.htm>

I missed the re-enrollment deadline. Is there a financial penalty?

No. Considering the financial strain on families during this difficult time, the re-enrollment cost will remain at \$150 through the end of April (4/30/2020) the re-enrollment cost will increase to \$250 on May 1, 2020. If you have already re-enrolled for the upcoming 2020/21 academic year, thank you! We look forward to partnering with you!

I recently saw an article that mentioned public schools in NC were passing seniors if they were passing on March 13. Are we following suit?

No. We are fully committed to supporting and preparing our seniors to the fullest extent possible and maintain our commitment to deliver as high a quality educational experience for our students for the balance of the school year.

Will standardized testing still be completed in the 2019-2020 school year?

No and Yes. We will not be conducting standardized testing between now and the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. However, we will fulfill the 2019-2020 standardized testing requirement at the start of the 2020-2021 school year. We have moved our Spring '2020 testing dates to be completed on September 1-4, 2020. This will provide us with excellent and timely data to identify learning deficiencies to inform instruction that will need to be addressed as we launch into the new school year.

For future updates, be sure to subscribe to the Superintendent's Vlog at <http://bit.ly/DrTravisVLOG>.