

**Shenango Area School District  
Return to School  
FAQS #3 (Shenango Cyber Academy edition)**

Here at Shenango, we know we can provide the highest quality education to students attending school within our walls. Most students benefit greatly from in person instruction. However, we do understand the concerns families have during this time and may not feel that attendance at a brick and mortar school is the best choice for their student. This may have led families to explore other options for the upcoming school year. While cyber options are not optimal, Shenango does provide a better opportunity for families not comfortable with attending in person, but a better option than cyber programs provided from outside the district. If this something your family may be interested in, please read the FAQ related to cyber options provided by the district and reach out to your building principal(s) or our SCA Coordinator, Jackie Lash.

**What is Shenango Cyber Academy (SCA)?**

Shenango Area School District offers students the opportunity to attend a full-time cyber school if they are unable to attend school in-person for a variety of reasons. Compared to enrolling in a Cyber Charter School, SCA allows children to continue progressing toward a Shenango diploma, fully participate in extracurricular activities sponsored by the district, and remain connected with Shenango faculty and resources. Students who enroll in the SCA receive support from the Shenango Cyber Coordinator and online teachers from Edgenuity. For SCA students who complete all SASD graduation requirements, an SASD diploma will be earned and students are eligible to participate in commencement ceremonies.

**Is there a cost to attend Shenango Cyber Academy (SCA)?**

It is important to know that there is no such thing as a free cyber school. When a student enrolls in an 'outside' cyber charter program it costs the district and taxpayers over \$14,000 per year per student plus additional costs. When students enroll in the Shenango Cyber Academy it costs approximately \$1,500 per semester depending on the amount of courses taken. SCA does not replicate all of the benefits of a traditional Shenango education, but it does offer a flexible quality online education, and at a fraction of the cost to you and other Shenango taxpayers when compared with Charter Schools (like PA Cyber, Agora and others).

**Why should I choose Shenango Cyber Academy (SCA) over another cyber charter program?**

- As an SCA student, your child will remain a Wildcat, enrolled in Shenango and earning a Shenango diploma.
- The course and curriculum selections align with Shenango's. This is important to help students transition to a cyber program or back into Shenango should they return in a future semester.
- Compared to attending another cyber charter, enrolling in SCA allows for a personalized education for both the students and families. A Shenango faculty member is assigned to your family and supports you throughout the process. SCA students will remain in contact with Shenango faculty and will have ongoing access to our guidance, technology, athletic, activities and other resources
- If your decision to attend SCA is due to concerns over Covid-19, an eventual return in the absence of Covid-19 concerns will be smoother than students who return from other cyber programs.
- By staying part of the Shenango Area School District, students will also receive a Shenango High School diploma upon completion of graduation requirements.
- Students enrolled in SCA will have open and full access to Shenango athletic programs and student activities, the same as students attending in person.

**Will my child have access to a computer?**

Yes, the district provides equipment for use for full-time cyber students. Students may also use their own home computer as long as it has essential software.

**What classes will my child take?**

Edgenuity has a wide variety of online courses. The SCA Coordinator will work with your current school counselors and teachers to develop a schedule of classes that resembles a Shenango High School schedule as closely as possible and keeps the student on track for graduation from Shenango.

**Can I enroll as a part-time SCA student?**

At this time, students may only enroll in SCA as full-time students. This means that students may not take a combination of Shenango High School and Cyber Academy courses simultaneously.

**Who will deliver the instruction?**

All of the coursework for which students enroll is developed by Edgenuity, a leading provider of K–12 online learning solutions. A certified teacher will be provided by Shenango Area School District to work closely with SCA students. Additionally, students will receive online support by course teachers who assist in monitoring online academic attendance and progress.

**Will my child be able to participate in school-related sports and activities?**

Yes. Your child can participate in all school-related athletics and activities just as they had before enrolling in SCA. Each student is still considered a Shenango Area School District student.

**If my child has an IEP or 504 plan, can they still participate in cyber studies?**

All school district students have the opportunity to participate in the cyber program. However, students with an IEP plan must first attend a meeting with their IEP team. During this meeting, important details and specific needs will be reviewed to ensure the delivery of an appropriate schedule of classes and supports.

**Can students work on Saturdays and Sundays instead of during the week?**

Students must attend their online studies EACH school day and may utilize the weekends to catch up with their studies or work ahead in their studies.

**What if my student wants to return to the building (brick and mortar) vs. cyber education?**

Students are still enrolled at Shenango and can transition back to the traditional in-person setting. Typically students/families work with their school counselor and the cyber coordinator to transition back at an optimal time (end of a nine weeks).

**How will SCA be monitored and provide additional academic support?**

The certified Shenango instructor will closely monitor the academic progress of each student. There will be an induction meeting and orientation to ensure that students understand expectations and are comfortable working independently. Ongoing monitoring and communication with students and parents will occur during enrollment to ensure that students are always in a position to be successful and to benefit from online opportunities.

