



Calcasieu Parish School Board

Remove Barriers and Create Equitable, Inclusive Learning Experiences for All Children

The Initiative

Calcasieu Parish School Board created the Virtual Instruction Program (VIP) for all students across the school system to access high-quality courses and curricula. It is a synchronous teaching model where instructors with hard-to-staff credentials are housed in one location to deliver instruction to students in all high schools in the school system.

Staffing

The VIP teaching staff consists of 12 teachers with unique teaching credentials. Many are the only educators in the school system that can teach the courses being offered through VIP. The VIP model also provides a certified math teacher to multiple schools in need.

Structure

Calcasieu Parish is a large district geographically with over 75 miles separating the most easterly and westerly schools. There are extremely small high schools that graduate approximately 20 students while large high schools may graduate over 550 students. These factors, along with staffing courses for dual enrollment and STEM, can make it challenging to offer equitable courses to students in every high school. Therefore, Calcasieu Parish School Board's vision shifted to leveraging staff certifications and bringing these highly credentialed teachers to one location to provide courses for all schools instead of just one school.

In addition, Calcasieu Parish believes in building partnerships to enhance students' learning opportunities while also challenging the school system to be innovative in its approaches to delivering high-quality experiences to their students. Through this initiative, the school system expanded its partnership with [SOWELA Technical College](#) to cultivate a high-impact system. With this, their approach to delivering synchronous instruction includes cutting-edge technology resources like eGlass, stream deck, and Class Technologies, as well as innovative teaching practices to remove barriers that can be encountered in an online learning environment.

In Conclusion

The VIP initiative is removing barriers by leveraging partnerships and providing quality instruction to students in a non-traditional manner that positively impacts student success. Through the VIP course offerings, students have the opportunity to earn over 60 hours of free college credits to students in every high school. While Calcasieu Parish School Board is proud of the accomplishments of the VIP program thus far, plans are underway to expand to the STEM Computing Pathway next year.

- To learn more about past Models of Excellence recipients, visit the [School and School System Awards](#) page.
- For questions, contact modelsofexcellence@la.gov.