



ROCKET ONLINE SCHOOLS **STUDENT HANDBOOK**

In Partnership With

Eminence R-1 School District



Rocket Online Schools
2025-2026 Student Handbook

www.ROCS.org

(888) 303-7077

Table of Contents

Welcome to ROCS	3
About Rocket Online	4
ROCS School Calendar	5
ROCS Parent-Student-School Contract	6
MOCAP Program Law & Policies	7
Enrollment Procedures	8
Attendance Policy	9
Transfer & Withdrawal	10
Academic Expectations & Policies	11
Student Conduct & Communication	13
State Testing Requirements	17
Graduation & Career Planning	18
Special Education Services & Notices	19
Extracurricular Activities	22
Technology Policies	23
FERPA & Directory Information	25
Every Student Succeeds Act	27
Stay Connected	30

WELCOME TO ROCS



Our Promise

Our mission is to provide a flexible and individualized education to a diverse range of students. Allowing students to work at their own pace to maximize the benefits of a world-class education.

Our Vision

By providing a flexible education with a highly valuable curriculum, our students will have the educational foundation necessary to pursue their dreams.

About ROCS

ROCS is a fully accredited, free online public school offering students in grades K-12 the flexibility to learn from anywhere, at any time, with a curriculum exceeding state and national standards. Through a combination of licensed teachers, award winning curriculum, distinctive electives, free technology tools and creative community experiences, ROCS offers an online solution for families seeking an individualized approach to their children's education.

Asynchronous Learning

Asynchronous classes run on a more relaxed schedule, with students accessing class materials during different hours and from different locations. Students have the flexibility to learn from anywhere at any time.

This Handbook is provided to inform parents/guardians and students of general policies, procedures, and guidelines for Rocket Online Schools (ROCS).

If you have specific questions, please contact your advisor.



2025-2026 School Calendar

EMINENCE R-I SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO BOX 730
EMINENCE, MO 65466

573-226-3252 (FAX) 573-226-3250

Aug 12-14	Teacher In-Service
Aug 18	First Day of School
Oct 9	End of First Quarter
Oct 16	Parent Teacher Conferences
Nov 17-20	No School-Deer Season Break
Nov 26-27	No School-Thanksgiving Break
Dec 23	End of Second Quarter/1st Semester
Dec 24-Jan 2	No School-Christmas Break
Mar 5	End of Third Quarter
Mar 10-13	Beta Convention-Branson, MO
Apr 17	Prom
May 8	High School Graduation
May 14	Last Day of School-Dismiss at Noon

8th Grade & Kindergarten Graduations - TBD in the Spring of 2026

148 full days & 1 partial day

July 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Notes

- School Closed
- Professional Development Day (No School)
- Board Meeting
- Important Events

 First & Last Day of School

ROCS Parent/Guardian - Student - School Contract

2025 - 2026

Each student should be supported to reach their potential for intellectual, emotional, and physical growth. To achieve this, the home and school must work together by recognizing and agreeing upon the responsibilities of each party in the learning process.

This contract is an academic agreement between Rocket Online Schools (ROCS) ,

_____, and _____
(parent/guardian) (student)

WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM THE STUDENT:

Student Responsibility

- Work hard and accept responsibility for your own learning.
- Communicate with and respond to advisors within 24 hours with any necessary information.
- Check ROCS email on a daily basis and respond as needed, as this is our primary communication tool.
- **Work at least 30 hours in a combination of courseware and offline activities each week.**
- Ask for help from instructors as needed.
- Retain an accurate schedule of commitments (i.e. classes, work, study, meals, exercise, etc).
- Take part in the Missouri Assessment Program and End of Course Exams in the spring, if applicable to your grade level.
- Maintain a good standing and demonstrate continual progress in all classes. EFFORT = SUCCESS. Progress through grade levels successfully and earn a high school diploma.
-

WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM THE PARENT(S):

- Meet the child's need for "on site" support in supervision, basic content related questions, emotional support, and overall progress of content. For students in lower grades, the parent plays an active role to guide student learning. As students move into the upper and middle grades, ideally, they take on more responsibility for their own learning.
- Provide a place with accessible internet for your child.
- Create a quiet and productive work environment for student success.
- Help design a learning schedule and uphold academic expectations for the student.
- Contact your child's advisor for an expected absence of 3 or more days. Students should, whenever possible, work ahead before a planned absence. With the flexibility of online learning, there are student absences that cannot be foreseen. Communicate with advisors in all circumstances in which students may have difficulty in making progress in their classes.
- Communicate with your child's advisor/teacher via email, phone call, or text. Respond to your child's advisor/teacher communication within 24 hours.
- If your child takes state assessments "in-person", arrange the necessary transportation.
- Actively monitor your child's grades and progress using the parent portal in courseware and Teacher Ease.

WHAT IS EXPECTED of ROCS:

- Follow all state guidelines and mandates for social emotional learning, individual plans of study, state assessments/state practice exams, and any other requirements as deemed necessary.
- Provide individualized support to students, parents and families on a continual basis.
- Communicate with students and families at least once per week either by email, phone call, text or live meeting.
- Build strong positive relationships with students and parents/guardians in and environment of supportive trust.
- Support students in completing 30 hours per week in courseware and other learning activities.
- Have each appropriate grade level take part in the Missouri state assessments in the spring.
-
- We have read and agree to the above statements.

Parent/Guardian _____ Signature Date _____

Student _____ Signature Date _____

MOCAP Law & Policies

Rocket Online School is a K-12 virtual, public school under the Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program (MOCAP) within the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and in partnership with our host district, Eminence R-I School.

MOCAP providers are governed by the policies of Revised Statute 161.670 (August 28, 2025) regarding student attendance, withdrawal policies, state aid, and other important policies. These policies have been incorporated into the Rocket Online School handbook to reflect the most current legal guidance for virtual school programs:

- **MOCAP courses are aligned to Missouri Learning Standards and taught by Missouri certified teachers.**
- **Full-time enrolled students are transferred to the MOCAP provider host district.**
- **Students who do not participate in full-time MOCAP coursework will be transferred back to their resident district.**
- **MOCAP students are required to take Missouri state assessments.**
- **Districts are not required to provide technology to MOCAP students.**

For more information, please visit <https://mocap.mo.gov>.

Enrollment Procedures

We are so excited you are applying with Rocket Online in Missouri!

Step 1: Check for eligibility. Students must be a current resident of Missouri, at least age 5 by August 1 and will not turn 21 during the enrollment period, and able to submit all necessary paperwork for a complete application.

Step 2: Gather important documents and information:

- **Proof of Missouri Residency** (Examples: Driver's License or State ID, recent Utility Bill, Rental or Mortgage Statement, Government Mail, etc.)
- **Birth Certificate** (Students who have never been previously enrolled in a public school or are newly entering Kindergarten students. Kindergarten students must be 5 years of age by August 1, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year.)
- **Immunization Record or Signed Waiver**
- **Court Documents** (Custody Agreements for Parental Contacts, Foster Placement or State Custody, or other as needed)
- **Transcripts** (Any student who has previously earned high school credits at a public, private, or home school will need to gather transcripts from all previous high schools attended. Homeschool students should provide a transcript or use the template provided by the ROCS Registrar's Office)

Step 3: Submit application at <https://www.rocs.org>. Applications and supporting documents will be reviewed as they are received and students will be enrolled according to eligibility and space availability.

Step 4: Once approved for enrollment, the student and family will receive official notice and enrollment will be officially transferred to ROCS/Eminence R-I School. The student and family will be contacted to set up course scheduling, curriculum logins, and technology needs directly following official enrollment.

For further information or questions, please contact the ROCS Enrollment Team at (888) 303-7077 or email at support@rocs.org.

Attendance Policies

Students with high levels of attendance and course participation are more successful in the virtual classroom. Our attendance policy is designed to support student success within the unique challenges and benefits of a virtual environment.

Students are expected to participate daily in virtual learning. Participation is defined as submission of course assignments, making regular weekly progress to stay on pace with course activities, and maintaining contact (email, voice call, or Google Meet) with course instructors at least once during the school week.

Attendance is recorded weekly for all students and is determined by:

1. Regular weekly participation and no missing assignments,
2. Slightly off pace but full participation for the current week OR
3. Significantly off pace but meeting weekly with instructor(s) to catch up missing assignments and ensure future participation.

Students who do not show participation/attendance for one school week (Sunday-Saturday) will be contacted by a Student Success Coach for outreach.

Students who do not show participation/attendance for two school weeks will be contacted by a ROCS administrator and given a withdrawal warning.

Students who do not show participation/attendance after three school weeks will be withdrawn from the ROCS program and returned to the students' resident school district for further educational options.

State agencies may also be contacted if lack of attendance constitutes negligence or a legal concern.

Students who are withdrawn from Rocket Online Schools either for lack of attendance or by the student's choice are not allowed to re-enroll in the Rocket Online program for the remainder of the school year per Missouri state law.

Transfer & Withdrawal Policies

Transfer Students

Students entering the ROCS program with high school credits from another school program may transfer those credits by submitting an official transcript to the ROCS Registrar.

Once received, the Registrar team will evaluate the transcript for course credits and place the student in appropriate high school courses satisfying core course requirements first and then electives.

To be eligible for graduation from the ROCS program, students must earn at least 6 credits after transferring to the program.

Withdrawing from the ROCS Program

Students wishing to withdraw from the ROCS school program must complete exit paperwork with the ROCS Registrar. Students have the following options to withdraw from the ROCS program:

- Request a transfer back to the student's resident school district
- Complete an Intent to Homeschool form and file with Registrar
- Transfer to another MOCAP virtual school program

Please note that failure to formally withdraw from the ROCS program may result in a negative school attendance record and referral to local state agencies for truancy. Filing the withdrawal paperwork clearly states the educational plan and standing for your child and avoids unnecessary confusion or penalties.

Academic Expectations

The mission of Rocket Online is to provide a virtual environment where diverse learners can be successful in a flexible format. To achieve academic success, students are expected to:

- Enroll in a minimum of 6 courses per semester.
- Participate in coursework each school day.
- Respond promptly to school emails and phone calls with courteous communication.
- Stay on pace with assigned coursework as indicated on weekly progress reports
- Extend respect and kindness to fellow ROCS students, instructors, and staff members.

After the third week of the semester, any student who is failing three or more courses will be placed on academic probation and required to meet with an Academic Success Coach and/or instructors weekly until grades are improved and assignments are on pace.

If a student does not engage in the Academic Success outreach program and grades are not improved, then the student may be returned to the resident school district for further educational options.

Students have the opportunity to appeal this decision within one week of receiving notice of academic probation or withdrawal.

Students who are withdrawn for academic reasons will not be allowed to re-enroll in the Rocket Online program for the remainder of the academic year.

Academic Monitoring & Progress

ROCS students and caregivers receive regular progress reports and updates about student academic work. Caregivers may access up-to-date information on a student's courses and progress via the Parent Portal in each Learning Management System. If you need assistance accessing the Parent Portals please contact support@rocs.org.

Instructors email progress reports each week as well as a formal report card at the end of each semester. Caregivers are encouraged to keep regular contact with a student's instructor(s) to discuss any concerns and to maintain informed communication.

Further progress is assessed and communicated through regular reading assessments in the elementary classrooms in compliance with the Missouri state Reading Success Program. Elementary students will be required to complete reading assessments three times each year and frequent progress monitoring will be provided if indicated by assessment results.

In order to handle emergencies, maintain contact, and keep school records current, please notify ROCS central office of changes to your address or phone number as soon as they occur. If you or your student move out of the state of Missouri, your student is no longer considered a resident and will be unenrolled from ROCS MO.

Academic Honesty Policy

ROCS students are required to follow school policies for academic honesty and conduct. Students in violation of these policies may be removed from ROCS courses based on the severity of the incident.

Academic dishonesty can appear in multiple forms but generally applies to students using another person's or program's work as their own intelligence. The following are examples of academic dishonesty but are not limited to this list:

- Copied responses from Artificial Intelligence programs, websites, or search engines for graded assignments
- Electronically generated answers to graded tests and quizzes
- Using online translation software to complete world language courses
- Using math problem-solving software for graded assignments
- Plagiarism of human authored works and creative material
- Completion of a student's work by a caregiver or peer
- Other behaviors historically categorized as academic dishonesty

Students who are suspected of violating this academic policy will receive reduced points on the graded assignment and will be required to meet with the course instructor to clarify expectations for academic honesty before repeating the course assignment or exam.

Live Conference & Learning Sessions

A majority of ROCS coursework is asynchronous (not in real-time) however there will be occasions that students and caregivers will be requested to attend student conferences and live sessions on Google Meet.

During these sessions the following conduct is required to ensure a quality experience for all participants.

- Arrive on time to the scheduled session or meeting.
- Use only your real name when joining the Google Meet.
- Check that your background is free from distractions.
- Mute your microphone upon entering and keep it muted unless you intend to speak to the group.
- Keep your camera on at all times during the session.
- Dress appropriately and without facial or head coverings unless previously approved by the instructor.
- Familiarize yourself with features on Google Meet so you can fully participate in the conference or learning session
- Communicate respectfully with your instructor and fellow students in the learning sessions.
- The chat feature is public, recorded, and intended for use relevant to the lesson only.
- Participate in session and meeting activities to gain full learning potential.
- If you are not able to attend a scheduled live session or meeting please notify your instructor in advance.

Academic Support Resources

Rocket Online offers a host of services to support diverse learners achieve success in their coursework.

- Academic Success Coaches are available to assist students in applying proactive strategies for learning and time management as well as support students who are at-risk of academic probation.
- Bilingual Support team members specialize in supporting students with Spanish as a primary language.
- Our Learning Management Systems feature adaptations to support learners such as text to speech reader, language translation tools, highlighter and marking tools, dictionary lookup, and in some assignments, a speech to text writing tool.
- Teachers offer individualized academic assistance as well as regular office hours for students to ask questions and review course material.

For more information on any of these services please contact the ROCS team at (888) 303-7077 or email at support@rocs.org.

Caregiver Involvement & Support

We are so thankful for the effort and time that caregivers invest in their student's education through ROCS. Virtual school requires a different level of commitment from caregivers and we recognize that this investment is a labor of love.

To help support caregivers, ROCS offers the following support:

- Direct access to instructors and course materials via the online learning platform
- Weekly progress reports to communicate with instructors on student's needs and strengths
- Parent portal access for further announcements, real-time student progress, and messaging
- ROCS Team Members available Monday through Friday during normal business hours to answer questions and provide additional resources.
- Bilingual team members to support Spanish-speaking families and students.
- Technology support through ROCS provided Chromebooks and software

Please let us know what else you might need to excel in this important work as your student's caregiver.

Missouri State Testing Requirements

Rocket Online is a K-12 virtual, public school and is required to participate in all state assessments as outlined by Missouri state law. Testing components may include but are not limited to:

- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment for all incoming kindergarten students
- Reading Diagnostic Assessments for grades K-3 as part of the Missouri Reading Success Plan
- Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) tests in Math and ELA for grades 3-8 along with Science in grades 5 and 8.
- End of Course (EOC) exams for grades 9-12 to include Algebra I, Biology, English II, and American Government.
- A Civics Exam, US Constitution test, and Missouri Constitution test are also required as part of the American Government course.

Testing for all of these assessments may be delivered virtually and may require the participation of both students and caregivers. For the 2025-2026 school year, the MAP and EOC tests will be administered virtually through the students' Chromebooks but will also require a secondary device (such as a cell phone with a camera and microphone) to satisfy state test security requirements.

High School Graduation Requirements

ROCS and Eminence R-I Required Courses	Credits Required for Graduation
English I, II, III, IV (or Senior student choice)	4
Mathematics	3
Science (Physical Science/Biology required)	3
Social Studies (American History, World History, and Government required)	3
Fine Arts	1
Practical Arts	1
Physical Education	1
Health (CPR training required)	0.5
Personal Finance	0.5
Electives	7
Total	24

Note: Students transferring from a previous high school or home school program must complete 6 credit hours in the ROCS program to be eligible for graduation.

Special Education Services

Rocket Online Schools offers a free and appropriate public education through an inclusive environment and specialized services for students with disabilities.

These services may include accommodations, modifications, auxiliary therapies, and direct instruction according to a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan and that are able to be provided within a virtual environment. All Special Education services are provided under the direction of Eminence R-I Schools and are delivered virtually.

If your student has a current IEP or 504 through the resident sending school district, please request that those records be forwarded to the Eminence R-I Special Education office. If you feel your child is in need of special education services but does not currently have an IEP or 504, please contact our Special Education Director at spedmo@rocs.org.

Civil Rights Notification

Civil Rights Notification for Rocket Online School MO (ROCS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or handicap/disability as to treatment of students in programs and as to employment. Persons having inquiries concerning the school's compliance with Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, Americans with Disability Act, and the Age Discrimination Act may contact the school's ADA and Section 504 coordinator, at support@rocs.org or (888) 303-7077. Title VI, Title IX and Section 504 ADA complaints may also be filed with the Regional Office for Civil Rights. Address correspondence to: U.S. Department of Education, Region VII, Office for Civil Rights, 10220 North Executive Hills Boulevard, Kansas City, MO 64153.

Child Find Public Notice (IDEA & 504)

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate, and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, children who live outside the District but are attending a private school within the District, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, children who are wards of the state, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education services even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The District assures it will provide a free appropriate public education (“FAPE”) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 who are under its jurisdiction. Special education disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disturbance, hearing impairment and deafness, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness, and young child with a developmental delay.

The District provides the following assurance that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of the identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents/guardians have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the District to meet the requirements of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”).

The District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”). This plan contains the District’s policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the District’s assurance that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (“GEPA”). This plan may be reviewed at the host school district during regular school hours on days school is in session.

Under Section 504, the District, as a recipient of federal financial assistance from the United States Department of Education and as an operator of a public elementary or secondary education program and/or activity, is required to undertake to identify and locate every qualified person residing in the District who is not receiving a public education; and take appropriate steps to notify disabled personal and their parents or guardians of the District’s duty.

The District assures that it will, pursuant to Section 504, provide a free appropriate public education to each qualified disabled person in the District’s jurisdiction regardless of the nature or severity of the person’s disability. For purposes of Section 504, the provision of an appropriate education is the provision of regular or special and related aids and services that are (i) designed to meet individual educational needs of disabled persons as adequately as the needs of non-disabled persons are met and (ii) based on adherence to procedures which satisfy the requirements of Section 504 federal regulations.

This notice is provided as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Questions, complaints or requests for additional information regarding the ADA and Section 504 may be forwarded to the Eminence R-I School District, Office of Special Education, 17829 South Sixth Street, Eminence, MO 65466 (573) 226-3252..

Medicaid School-Based Services Notice

NOTIFICATION DIRECT SERVICE CLAIMING – MEDICAID INSURANCE - INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)

For a number of years Missouri has participated in a Federal program called, Medicaid School-Based Services. This program helps school districts by providing partial reimbursement for some medically-related services listed on a student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP). Under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), school districts are permitted to seek payment from public insurance programs such as Medicaid (MO HealthNet in Missouri) for some IEP related services provided at school.

In 2013 the requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) have changed and now school districts are required to provide parents with written notification before they access public insurance for the first time and then every year thereafter. This notification is to inform you of the requirements under IDEA, regarding written notification and consent to access public insurance, such as MO HealthNet.

Do I need to do anything?

You will be asked to provide a one-time written parental consent to release information from your child's educational records or information about the services your child receives through his or her IEP. This information is needed for the purpose of billing MO HealthNet and seeking partial reimbursement for some medically-related IEP services.

What type of information will be in the consent form?

The consent form must inform you of the personally identifiable information that may be disclosed (including your child's name, birth date, Medicaid number or other ID, disability, IEP and evaluations, type of service, times and dates of service and progress notes), the purpose of the disclosure (e.g., payment from MO HealthNet) and the agency that will be receiving the information.

What does it mean if I give my consent?

By consenting, you state that you understand and agree that MO HealthNet insurance will be billed to partially pay the cost of IEP related services and that the necessary information about your child and his or her IEP services may be shared with MO HealthNet Division, a contracted billing agent, and/or a physician to obtain necessary supporting documentation (e.g. physician scripts, referrals) in order for the billing to be done. There will be no cost to you for the services.

Am I required to enroll with MO HealthNet Division (MHD) for public insurance?

You are not required to sign up for or enroll in public insurance for your child to receive a free appropriate public education, including IEP services.

Will my consent affect my family's MO HealthNet benefits?

No. Reimbursed services provided by your school district do not limit or reduce lifetime coverage or benefits, change eligibility, affect benefits, count against visit or funding limits in MO HealthNet programs or increase costs to you.

What if I change my mind?

You have the right to withdraw consent to disclose your child's personally identifiable information to MO HealthNet Division for billing purposes at any time.

Will my consent or refusal to give consent affect my child's IEP services?

No. Your school district must provide all required IEP services to your child at no cost to you, whether you give consent or refuse to give consent for purposes of the school accessing your MO HealthNet benefits.

What if I have a question?

Please call your school district's Special Education Department with any questions or concerns. Our School District of Springfield, R-12, and ("District") receives funding from the Medicaid Direct Service Claiming (DSC) program for IEP covered services to eligible children through the Missouri's Medicaid agency – MO HealthNet. This is a state-approved program that allows our District to receive reimbursement from federal funds for providing some health-related covered services to eligible children in the District. Examples of covered services include speech therapy, assistance with daily living skills, physical therapy, and nursing services. We are required to notify you of our participation and the IDEA regulations stated below.

The District, working with the MO HealthNet, will need to determine if your child is eligible or should become eligible in the school-based Medicaid program. Your written consent indicates that you understand and agree that the District will submit your child's information to MO HealthNet and their authorized agencies to verify eligibility and submit claims for the DSC program. The District may use Medicaid benefits in which a child participates to provide or pay for services documented in the child's Individualized Education Program ("IEP"). Parents are not required to sign up for or enroll in Medicaid to receive IEP services or a free appropriate public education from the District, nor are they responsible for any out-of-pocket expenses for these IEP services. Also, the District's access to these benefits is not allowed if it would have a negative impact on your public insurance.

We will provide the required special education or related services to your child at no cost to you whether or not you grant your written consent. Your consent is voluntary and may be revoked at any time. The District's use of this reimbursement program does not in any way affect or impact other Medicaid benefits to which the child is entitled, including any otherwise eligible services out of the school.

Local School Sports & Activities

Participation in school sports and activities is governed by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). Senate Bill 63, 2025, allows students who are enrolled full-time in virtual public schools to participate in school activities sanctioned under MSHSAA in the district of residence as long as the student is eligible under all other eligibility standards.

Academic Eligibility Standards Include:

Grades 9-12

- Only a Full-Time Virtual School Student is eligible.
- Students promoted to grade 9 for the first time are eligible.
- For the preceding semester, students must have earned a minimum of three units of credit or have earned credit in 80% of maximum allowable credits earned at your school, whichever is greater.
- For the current semester, students must be enrolled in and regularly attending courses that offer a minimum of five units of credit.

Grades 6-8

- Students must be enrolled in a normal course load for your grade.
- Students are ineligible if they failed more than one class the previous grading period.
- Students must have been promoted to a higher grade prior to the first day of classes for the new school year.
- Students promoted to the 6th or 7th grade are considered academically eligible for the first grading period after promotion.

In addition to the above academic standards, students must be eligible under the other essential rules and regulations which can be found at <https://www.mshsaa.org/Activities/Eligibility/EligibilityStandards.aspx>.

Students must be enrolled in Rocket Online Schools within the first 11 days of the semester which begins on August 18, 2025.

Students enrolling in Rocket Online Schools and living in a K-8 district can participate in any high school that students from that K-8 district would normally attend.

For further information about participation in extracurricular activities sanctioned by MSHSAA, please contact a Rocket Online Schools administrator.

Technology Information & Support

Students with official enrollment in the Rocket Online Schools program may request a Chromebook for use in virtual learning. Provided Chromebooks will meet the technology requirements for Rocket Online courses and learning management systems. A current residential address must be provided at time of enrollment to ensure timely and efficient delivery of requested Chromebooks.

It is the responsibility of the caregiver to provide access to a computer and Internet for their student until a device can be delivered. **Failure to participate in a course while waiting for technology to be delivered may result in academic and attendance probation.**

Families should have an emergency technology plan in place in the event that a ROCS issued device or Internet service is not available. Local public libraries offer computers and internet access that may be a good option for backup technology support to stay current with coursework.

ROCS provides Chromebooks as a courtesy but it is not required under Missouri state law. Replacement of damaged or misused Chromebooks is the responsibility of the caregiver after the first Chromebook or device has been issued to the student. For further information or questions, please contact ROCS Technical Support at support@rocs.org.

Children's Internet Protection Act

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) was enacted by Congress in 2000 to address concerns about children's access to obscene or harmful content over the Internet. CIPA imposes certain requirements on schools or libraries that receive discounts for Internet access or internal connections through the E-rate program – a program that makes certain communications services and products more affordable for eligible schools and libraries. In early 2001, the FCC issued rules implementing CIPA and provided updates to those rules in 2011.

What CIPA requires

Schools and libraries subject to CIPA certify that they have an Internet safety policy that includes technology protection measures. The protection measures must block or filter Internet access to pictures that are: (a) obscene; (b) child pornography; or (c) harmful to minors (for computers that are accessed by minors). Before adopting this Internet safety policy, schools and libraries must provide reasonable notice and hold at least one public hearing or meeting to address the proposal.

Schools subject to CIPA have two additional certification requirements: 1) their Internet safety policies must include monitoring the online activities of minors; and 2) as required by the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, they must provide for educating minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Schools and libraries subject to CIPA are required to adopt and implement an Internet safety policy addressing:

- Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet;
- The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- Unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unlawful activities by minors online;
- Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and
- Measures restricting minors' access to materials harmful to them.

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), parents of students and eligible students (those who are 18 or older) are afforded various rights with regard to educational records which are kept and maintained by Rocket Online School MO (ROCS). In accordance with FERPA, you are required to be notified of those rights which include:

1. The right to review and inspect all of your educational records except those which are specifically exempt. Records will be available within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Requests to inspect records are to be made at the school of attendance.
2. The right to prevent disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in your educational records to other persons with certain limited expectations. Disclosure of information from your educational records to other persons will occur only if:
 - a. the school has your prior written consent for disclosure;
 - b. the information is considered “directory information” and you have not objected to the release of such information; or
 - c. disclosure without your prior consent is permitted by law. Including:
 - i. The school may disclose, without your consent, personally identifiable information to school officials with a legitimate educational interest.
 - ii. The school may disclose, without your consent, education records to officials of another district in which a student seeks to enroll or intends to enroll.
3. The right to request that your educational records be amended if you believe the records are misleading, inaccurate, or otherwise in violation of your rights. This includes the right to request a hearing at which you may present evidence to show why the record should be changed if your request for an amendment to your records is denied in the first instance.
4. The right to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office at the U.S. Department of Education if you believe that Rocket Online School MO (ROCS) has failed to comply with FERPA’s requirements. The address of this office is 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-4605.
5. The right to obtain a copy of Rocket Online School MO (ROCS) policies for complying with FERPA. A copy may be obtained from the ROCS central office..

Directory Information

For purposes of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, Eminence R-1 School District and ROCS MO designates the following information contained in educational records as directory information, which may be disclosed for any purpose without your prior consent. This information would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed.

The following information is considered directory information: name, address, telephone number, electronic mail address, photograph (including video and the internet), date and place of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, grade level enrollment status (e.g. undergraduate or graduate; full-time or part-time), participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, and class designation. In addition, the district and/or any of its employees or agents may use the student's likeness, or voice, or all to be recorded and exhibited as still photographs, transparencies, motion pictures, television, videotape recordings or other similar media, including internet applications.

The custodian of records shall make student recruiting information (name, address and telephone listing) available to military recruiters and postsecondary institutions unless parents or eligible students request the information not be released without written consent.

You have a right to refuse to permit the designation of any or all of the above information as directory information, video and still photograph information, or student recruiting information. If you refuse, please notify your advisor in writing. If a written refusal is not received, Rocket Online School MO (ROCS) assumes you have no objection to the release of the directory information or recruiting information designated.

**Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)**

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

This guide explains how to file a complaint about any of the programs¹ that are administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)².

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Complaint Procedures for ESSA Programs Table of Contents	
General Information 1. What is a complaint under ESSA? 2. Who may file a complaint? 3. How can a complaint be filed?	
Complaints filed with LEA 4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated? 5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?	Complaints filed with the Department 6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department? 7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated? 8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?
Appeals 9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated? 10. What happens if the complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?	

1. What is a complaint?

For these purposes, a complaint is a written allegation that a local education agency (LEA) or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) has violated a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA.

2. Who may file a complaint?

Any individual or organization may file a complaint.

3. How can a complaint be filed?

Complaints can be filed with the LEA or with the Department.

4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?

Complaints filed with the LEA are to be investigated and attempted to be resolved according to the locally developed and adopted procedures.

5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?

A complaint not resolved at the local level may be appealed to the Department.

¹ Programs include Title I, A, B, C, D, Title II, Title III, Title IV, A, Title V

Revised 4/17

² In compliance with ESSA Title VIII- Part C, Sec. 8304(a)(3)(C)

Local education agencies are required to disseminate, free of charge, this information regarding ESSA complaint procedures to parents of students and appropriate private school officials or representatives.

6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department?

A complaint filed with the Department must be a written, signed statement that includes:

1. A statement that a requirement that applies to an ESSA program has been violated by the LEA or the Department, and
2. The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated.

7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?

The investigation and complaint resolution proceedings will be completed within a time limit of forty-five calendar days. That time limit can be extended by the agreement of all parties.

The following activities will occur in the investigation:

1. **Record.** A written record of the investigation will be kept.
2. **Notification of LEA.** The LEA will be notified of the complaint within five days of the complaint being filed.
3. **Resolution at LEA.** The LEA will then initiate its local complaint procedures in an effort to first resolve the complaint at the local level.
4. **Report by LEA.** Within thirty-five days of the complaint being filed, the LEA will submit a written summary of the LEA investigation and complaint resolution. This report is considered public record and may be made available to parents, teachers, and other members of the general public.
5. **Verification.** Within five days of receiving the written summary of a complaint resolution, the Department will verify the resolution of the complaint through an on-site visit, letter, or telephone call(s).
6. **Appeal.** The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the U.S. Department of Education.

8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?

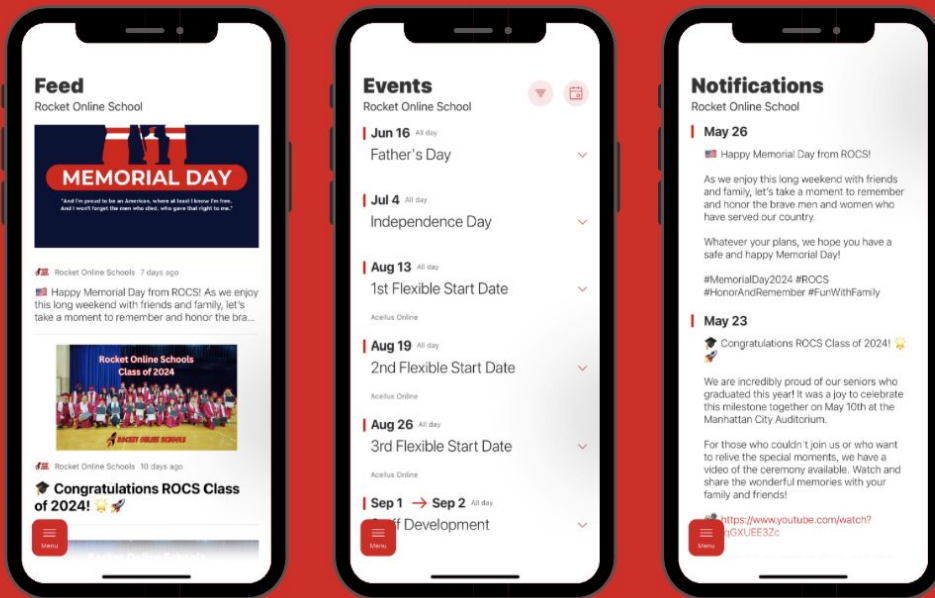
In addition to the procedures listed in number 7 above, complaints related to equitable services will also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, and they will receive all information related to the investigation and resolution of the complaint. Also, appeals to the United States Department of Education must be filed no longer than thirty days following the Department's resolution of the complaint (or its failure to resolve the complaint).

9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated?

The Department will initiate an investigation within ten days, which will be concluded within thirty days from the day of the appeal. This investigation may be continued beyond the thirty day limit at the discretion of the Department. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Department will communicate the decision and reasons for the decision to the complainant and the LEA. Recommendations and details of the decision are to be implemented within fifteen days of the decision being delivered to the LEA.

10. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?

The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the United States Department of Education.



Scan Here to
Download



Stay Connected

Download the ROCS App
today. No account needed.

Need Help?

(888) 303-7077

support@rocs.org

FOLLOW US ON

facebook.com/ROCS.org

instagram.com/rocketschools

x.com/ROCSVirtual