

Miami-Dade Online Academy
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
6101 NW 2nd Avenue, Suite 2-414 Miami, FL 33127
Tel: 305-756-2929 Fax 305-751-1613
<http://mdo.dadeschools.net> (website)
mdo@dadeschools.net (e-mail)
Dr. Ludy Lopez, Principal



School Profile Information:

Miami-Dade Online Academy (MDO) was created by the State of Florida in 2009 to offer parents an option to teach their students at home using a standards-based curriculum. The virtual doors opened in 2009 with 52 students from kindergarten through 12th grade. Families choose in this program to run a public school in their home. The fact that the school is ran in the student's home surrounded by their family fosters a nurturing and respectful environment. This program in this environment has proven to give student's greater opportunities to be successful in society.

Miami-Dade Online Academy is an accredited Miami-Dade County public school offering parents and students a comprehensive Kindergarten through twelfth grade full-time virtual educational program, delivered anytime and anywhere. Students are free to work from any venue, at any time, giving them the opportunity to excel academically, as a professional athlete, and/or participate in extracurricular activities. Students of all ages flourish in this program. Students are not bound by a conventional school site schedule; they have the freedom to be self-directed and take charge of their education.

Miami-Dade Online Academy abides by all the State of Florida and Miami-Dade County Public School's promotional and graduation requirements. After an academic advisement session where the parent and student work together in a welcoming and encouraging environment with the school counselor, students are enrolled in a maximum of six (6) virtual courses per year. Students are assigned Florida certified teachers who are responsible for teaching online virtual classes. He or she is an expert at the content of their course and with that confidence guides the student in a respect, fairness, and inclusive course free of bias and judgements. The teacher grades assignments with individualized feedback, monitors the student's progress with encouragement, communicating progress with the Learning Coach and student in accepting conversation via Zoom, email, text, or phone call. During each month the teachers and Learning Coaches schedule monthly live virtual evaluations free of bias or judgement, providing students with fair academic challenges, and responding respectfully with an education plan for struggling students, when necessary. The teacher individualizes each plan based on the student's needs with the consent of the learning coach and student's and academic level.

Learning Coaches are typically one of the parent/guardians or an authorized adult who is trained to monitor the student, communicate with the teacher, manage public school requirements at home, and enter daily attendance. Students work with their Learning Coach every day in their nurturing home using their daily planner to follow the course work strategically created by a professional teacher. Parents and students schedule their school time at their convenience in their chosen venue. Depending on the student's maturity level, the Learning Coach gradually teaches the student how to pace himself or herself and work independently; however, always monitoring the student's progress on a daily basis. Students earn their grades by the end of the semester and are promoted based on the Student Progression Plan.

Each year, approximately 300 to 350 students in grades K through 12 choose to be educated at Miami-Dade Online Academy, on a full-time basis. According to the 2015-2022 Membership Statistics, Miami-Dade Online Academy's student body is comprised of a diverse population composed of 68.8% Hispanic/Latino, 18.3% Black, 11% White, 1.6% Asian and .3% Other.

Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculation and Ranking

Beginning with Grade 9, all subjects - whether passed or failed- are included in the computation. A minimum of 24 credits is required for graduation. AP and Dual Enrollment courses are weighted by two extra points and Honors classes are weighted by one extra point. Grades are recorded on the official transcript and grade point averages are recalculated in January, June, and August. District policy eliminated class rank beginning with the Class of 2009. Students' rank is determined by their grade point averages and classified as Suma Cum laude, Magna Cum laude and Cum Laude.

Curriculum Features are unique and support a rigorous educational program. Academically challenging courses are available to all students in grades K through 12th.

- **Advanced level courses**
 - Offered as appropriate in grades 6-8
 - Students demonstrating mastery in Pre-algebra and the sciences can take required high school credit mathematics and science courses.
- **Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) Programs**
 - Classes labeled as Honors and AP offered in grades 9-12, as appropriate.
- **Honors level coursework**
 - Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Sciences, Science, Psychology, and Foreign Language.
- **Advanced Placement Offerings**
 - English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Calculus, United States History, American Government, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Biology, Spanish, Psychology, Statistics, Art History, Human Geography
- **Dual Enrollment program**
 - Enables students to enroll in college courses and earn college credits at local institutions of higher education.
 - Miami-Dade Online currently partner with Miami Dade College allowing students to aim to earn an Associates of Arts degree from Miami Dade College.
 - Another institution of choice is Florida International University (FIU) and student are advised to follow courses based on FIU's undergraduate core requirements.

Post-Secondary Placement

MDO has an 99% graduation rate and our graduating seniors have enrolled in the following post-secondary institutions: Barry University; Boston College; Cornell University; Florida International University; Harvard University; The Juilliard School; Laguna College of Art and Design in California; Miami-Dade College; Nova Southeastern University; and University of Applied Sciences in Aachen, Germany.