

Distance Education Survey

This survey is being conducted by a research team from the Center for Education Policy, Applied Research, and Evaluation at the University of Southern Maine, on behalf of the Maine Department of Education. As requested in Maine legislation, this research is being conducted in order to determine the extent of distance education opportunities being offered across the State. The research team will report its findings to the Department of Education and to the State Legislature.

Your participation in the survey is voluntary, and your identity and responses will be kept confidential. The survey asks you to answer questions about your experience with distance education courses (online courses, videoconferencing via ATM or Polycom), in which students at your school are participating. Your views about distance education are important, and we hope you will take a few minutes to answer the survey questions.

Please note: Some questions ask only about online courses and not about videoconferencing courses. This is a result of the Maine Department of Education having previously collected the necessary student information regarding student use of videoconferencing technologies.

Thank you for your participation.

If you have any questions, you may e-mail the research team directly at cepare@usm.maine.edu.

For the purposes of this survey, please consider the following definitions:

Online courses: a course where most or all of the content is delivered online and that typically has no face-to-face meetings.

Videoconferencing courses: a course that utilizes the Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) technology or Polycom, in which students in one location may participate in courses taught at another location.

Courses: Courses taken by students in which they earn credit towards being granted a diploma

1. Please enter the complete name of your school in the box below.

School Name

2. During the past two complete school years (2005-06, 2006-07), did students at your school participate in **online courses**?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. During the past two complete school years (2005-06, 2006-07), how many of your students were enrolled in online courses in the following subject areas? (please choose the number enrolled)	2005-06 # enrolled online	2006-07 # enrolled online
a. English/language arts	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
b. Social studies/social sciences (including history)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
c. Computer science	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
d. Natural/physical science (e.g. biology, chemistry, physics)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
e. Mathematics	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
f. Foreign languages	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
g. Advanced Placement level courses	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
h. Other (please specify below) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

4. During the past two complete school years (2005-06, 2006-07), what are the reasons WHY your school CHOSE to participate in distance education courses? (check all that apply)	Videoconferencing (e.g. ATM)	Online
a. Students were able to take courses to which they might not otherwise have access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Students were able to access courses that might otherwise conflict with their schedule	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Students were able to take Advanced Placement (AP) courses that might not be offered at their school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Students were able to communicate with students/teachers from other schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Teachers were able to learn new technologies/teaching skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Teachers were able to interact with a larger number of students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Teachers were able to teach courses not otherwise offered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Other (please specify): <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. During the past two complete school years (2005-06, 2006-07), what are the reasons WHY your school CHOSE NOT to participate in distance education courses? (check all that apply)	Videoconferencing (e.g. ATM)	Online
a. Students' schedules do not allow them to take classes in other districts with different class schedules	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Course offerings were not in line with the course needs of students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Costs associated with enrolling students in distance education courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Local school policies inhibit students taking distance education policies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Lack of awareness of distance education opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Teachers' schedules do not allow them to teach students in other districts with different class schedules	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Teachers are not compensated for teaching extra students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Lack of teacher preparation in delivering distance education courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Other (please specify): <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. During the past two complete school years (2005-06, 2006-07), which of the following entities delivered online courses in which students in your school were enrolled AND how many students were enrolled in each course? (enter appropriate information in the box)	Online course provider name (1)	# of students enrolled	Online course provider name (2)	# of students enrolled
a. your own school	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
b. other schools in your district	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
c. Education service agencies in the state not including the Maine Department of Education or local school districts	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
d. Another school district or schools in Maine	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
e. State virtual school in another state (e.g. Florida Virtual School)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
f. districts or schools in other states	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
g. post secondary institution	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
h. independent vendor (e.g. The Virtual High School)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
i. Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

7. During the past two complete school years (2005-06, 2006-07), did your school provide a technology assistance person in the room where students were participating in online or videoconferencing courses?		
	Videoconferencing (e.g. ATM)	Online
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. During the past two complete schools years (2005-06, 2006-07), approximately how much money did your school spend for online courses for students?	Course fees	Books, materials, lab fees	Subscription fees	Teacher training fees	Site coordinator fees	Other	Specify other
2005-06	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2006-07	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

9. During the past two complete schools years (2005-06, 2006-07), approximately how much money did your school spend for video-conferencing courses (e.g. ATM) for students?	Course fees	Books, materials, lab fees	Subscription fees	Teacher training fees	Site coordinator fees	Other	Specify other
2005-06	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2006-07	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

10. For each of the past two complete school years (2005-06, 2006-07), please list the subscription cost your school paid beyond the standard e-rate covered by the State of Maine.	
2005-06	\$ <input type="text"/>
2006-07	\$ <input type="text"/>

11. Does your school currently have a policy for participation in distance education courses?	
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. Are there any other distance education technologies that your school is currently using ? (Please list)

1.

2.

3.

4.

13. If more were available, would you be interested in receiving additional distance education courses?

Yes

No

14. Do you have any suggestions for increasing student participation in distance learning (online, videoconferencing) activities at your school?