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| **Types of Massachusetts Virtual Schools –** [**G.L. c. 71, § 94**](https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXII/Chapter71/Section94) | | | | |
| **Category** | **Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools (CMVS 1)** | | **Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools (CMVS 2)** | **Single District Virtual School (SDVS)** |
| ***Is there a statewide limit?*** | Not more than 10 CMVS 1 may operate at any time.  Full-time CMVS 1 enrollment may not exceed 2 percent of the total number of Massachusetts public school students. | | Statewide limit of 10 schools does not apply to CMVS 2s if they only enroll students who reside in the school district, in the school districts that signed an agreement, or in the school districts that are members of an education collaborative. The statewide limit on enrollment of 2 percent does apply. | No limit. |
| ***Who can apply or form the school?*** | (a) a public school district or districts;  (b) an education collaborative;  (c) an institution of higher education;  (d) a non-profit entity;  (e) two or more certified teachers; or  (f) parents.  Private and parochial schools and for-profit entities shall not be eligible to submit a proposal. | (a) a public school district or districts; or  (b) an education collaborative | | A school district may create a Single District Virtual School by submitting a proposal to the Commissioner for review and comment four months ahead of opening. |
| ***Approval process – Is a certificate needed?*** | BESE grants a certificate to a CMVS board of trustees. | | | No certificate required; BESE has no approval or oversight authority over SDVSs. A SDVS requires approval of the local school committee. |
| ***Is a board of trustees required?*** | A board of trustees is required by statute. The school operates as an autonomous entity governed by a board of trustees. | | | Not required. SDVS is a school of the district with oversight provided by the local school committee. |
| ***Funding*** | CMVSs are funded through payments from sending districts at a per pupil tuition rate set by the Board. | | | SDVSs receive funding through an allocation from its school committee. |
| ***Who is the appointing authority for boards of trustees?*** | The applicant group proposes the members of the board of trustees for appointment. The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education or the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education appoint the members of the board of trustees. | | The school committee(s) of the district(s) or the member school committees of the collaborative that formed the CMVS 2 appoint the members of the board of trustees. | Not applicable |
| ***Which students may enroll?*** | As specified in the approved certificate terms, the CMVS 1 may enroll students who reside in any Massachusetts district or who reside in a sub-set of districts. | | CMVS 2s may only enroll students who live in the district(s) that formed the school, in districts that are parties to an agreement, or districts that are members of the collaborative that formed the school. | A SDVS is a school of the district and enrolls only students residing in the school district. |