

## Maranatha Christian Academy Connect (MCA Connect) Policies and Procedures

We know that some families desire an alternate learning format outside of full-time on-campus enrollment. Maranatha Christian Academy offers students the opportunity to take on-campus or online courses through MCA Connect. These opportunities are provided after our full-time students have completed enrollment and selected their courses to which they will always be given priority over MCA Connect.

Grade 5-12 students not enrolled at Maranatha Christian Academy full-time may take core or elective courses where there is space available. We value the partnership with our families who choose to enroll their students full-time at MCA. These students and families are our first priority, and we make available every opportunity possible as part of their MCA experience. Maranatha Christian Academy cannot guarantee the availability of any MCA course for students in MCA Connect. MCA Connect students must meet the same admission requirements as full-time MCA students.

Learning Options through MCA Connect:

- A. **Hybrid Student:** Full-time Maranatha student taking a combination of on-campus and online classes at Maranatha. These students may qualify for a Maranatha diploma if they complete the credit requirements outlined in the Academy Handbook
- B. **Full-time online through Maranatha Christian Online School:** A student taking a full course load (6 classes per semester) through Maranatha Christian Online (MCO). These students may qualify for a Maranatha diploma if they fulfill the criteria outlined in the Online Academy Handbook.
- C. **Part-time or homeschool students:** Non-MCA students who wish to enroll in one or more of Maranatha Christian Academy's courses (either online or on-campus) to supplement their curriculum and/or participate in extracurricular programs at MCA.

### Policies included:

- I. Academic Policies
  - Course Availability
  - National Honor Society
  - College Guidance
  - Graduation
- II. Spiritual Development Experiences
  - Chapel and Character Hour/Discipleship Groups
  - Mission Trips/Service Projects
- III. Extracurriculars
  - Athletics
  - Fine Arts
  - Robotics
- IV. Student Life
  - Clubs/activities
  - Lunch
  - School events (ex. Prom, homecoming)
  - Time on campus
- V. Handbook and Exclusions
- VI. Fee Structure
- VII. Summary Table

## I. Academic Policies

### Course Availability

Grade 5-12 students not enrolled at Maranatha Christian Academy full-time may take core or elective courses where there is space available. These opportunities are provided after our full-time students have completed enrollment and selected their courses to which they will always be given priority over MCA Connect.

- Students may register for a MCA course based on availability.
- Students may access after-school help sessions for the course they are enrolled in (note – this is not available for online courses).
- Students may attend field trips of classes they are registered for (additional fees may apply)
- MCA Connect students who wish to audition for the Band/Jazz Band/Choir must be enrolled in the Upper School Band/Jazz Band/Choir course.
- Experience Maranatha – for students to be involved in our Experience Maranatha event, they must be enrolled in a relevant MCA course
- Yearbook is only eligible to hybrid MCA Connect students due to the on-campus requirement for capturing event photos for the yearbook.

### National Honor Society or National Junior Honor Society

MCA Connect students that are full-time hybrid or full-time online may participate in NHS or NJHS if they meet the requirements for participation.

- NJHS: 6-9 grade students who have a 3.5+ GPA and demonstrate strength in areas of service, leadership, and character are eligible for membership in the National Junior Honor Society
- NHS: High school students in grades 10-12 with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher who have attended Maranatha Christian for at least one semester are eligible for membership in the National Honor Society. Additional qualifications for acceptance are leadership, service, and character. Information about the selection process is provided to students in the fall.

Please inquire about the full requirements for participation. Both NJHS and NHS have a fee associated. Please see the fee schedule in section VI.

### College Guidance

It is the goal of the counseling department to assist students and parents in their academic journey through upper school and ultimately to a post-secondary decision. MCA Connect students enrolled full-time (either MCO or Hybrid) have access to Naviance, an online site that can be used by students and parents for a variety of purposes, including interest evaluations, setting goals, and more.

Additionally, MCA Connect students may attend our College planning events throughout the school year. Individual college planning sessions are reserved for students that are enrolled full-time on-campus at Maranatha Christian Academy.

### Graduation

MCA Connect Seniors who are enrolled full-time (online or hybrid) and eligible to graduate with MCA may participate in the graduation ceremony. Please be aware of the following Senior class events:

- Full-time students may attend Senior Lunch, Graduation, Senior moms' breakfast
- MCA Connect students are not eligible to attend the Senior Retreat.
- MCA Connect students are not considered for Valedictorian or Salutatorian.

## II. Spiritual Development Experiences

Students enrolled through MCA Connect may attend chapel each week. When arriving for chapel, students must check in and out at Student services and be dressed in appropriate dress code.

Other Spiritual development experiences indicated below are available to students provided they are registered and meet the criteria.

- Character Hour (Middle School)
- Discipleship Groups (D-Groups – High School)
- Service Project Days
- Mission Trips – students may be eligible if they commit to weekly attendance at chapel and D-Group as well as fulfill service project requirements.

## III. Extracurricular Policies

MCA Connect students may be eligible to participate in the following MCA activities. All stated participation is contingent upon enrollment in a relevant on-campus course. Additional fees incurred by MCA will be paid by MCA Connect students.

Full-time on-campus Maranatha Christian Academy students are given first consideration for participation in all activities. MCA Connect students may not take the place of a MCA student. For any MCA activity, event, group, program, etc. not addressed, please contact the MCA Connect office (Amy Clausen amy.clausen@mcamustangs.org) for clarification.

### Athletics

MCA Connect students can participate with MCA Athletics as long as:

1. The MCA Connect student is enrolled full-time (online or hybrid) at MCA
2. Homeschool or part-time students are not eligible to participate in any MCA athletics
3. The MCA Connect student must pay the registration fee and any other costs associated with Athletics (i.e., gear, uniforms, travel, etc.).

### Music Performances

Students that want to perform in Choir or Band performances must be enrolled in the relevant course since these performances are not extracurricular and are dependent on class attendance.

### Theater Productions

MCA Connect students who audition for MCA musicals or dramas are subject to the following policies:

- To audition for a play or musical, the student must be enrolled in an MCA Theatre or Choir course respectively during the academic year of participation.
- MCA Connect students are not considered for lead roles.\*
- Auditions are required for any part of an MCA production.
- MCA Connect students may work backstage on an MCA production.

### Competitive Robotics Teams

Students wanting to participate in Robotics must be enrolled in a STEAM elective in order to participate.

## IV. Student Life

Full-time MCA Connect students are eligible to participate in the following social events. The MCA Connect office will need to know if MCA Connect students are attending these events in advance. Homeschool students are not eligible to attend events if they are not enrolled in courses through MCA Connect.

- Dances
- Pep Rallies
- Prom
- Movie nights
- Lunch – students that have an on-campus class directly before or immediately after lunch may elect to stay on campus for lunch. Lunch fees apply.
- Clubs – full-time MCA Connect students may wish to enroll in a club. Activity fees may apply.
- School Pictures and Yearbook - MCA Connect full-time hybrid students may participate with school pictures for the yearbook (online or part-time/homeschool students do not).

### Time On Campus

MCA Connect students may only be on the Maranatha Christian Academy campus for their class times or activities unless prior arrangements are approved through the MCA Connect office (exceptions are to attend chapel, Character Hour, and D Groups). Special arrangements to stay on campus must be made through the MCA Connect office in order to maintain campus security. Arrangements made through a teacher or a friend are not considered approved. Maranatha Christian Academy cannot be held responsible for students left on campus before or after their designated class time. When students are on campus during the school day, they must be in approved dress code attire.

Note: a virtual extension fee may be applied for students who arrange to stay on campus between their courses. See the tuition schedule in section VI.

## V. Maranatha Christian Academy (MCA) Parent/Student Handbook

It is required that all MCA Connect students and parents review the Maranatha Christian Academy Parent/Student Handbook, Academic Handbook, and Honor Code, and agree to abide by policies in these documents. The handbooks contain information, not limited to but pertaining to vision, mission, purpose and philosophy, as well as, student discipline, communication, first aid and medication, inclement weather, lunch, security, and the Technology Acceptable Use Policy. Please review these handbooks with your student to familiarize your family with MCA.

Maranatha Christian Academy and MCA Connect review policies and procedures at the end of every school year. The school reserves the right to alter or change procedures before the next school year. Please contact the MCA Connect Office with questions. If there is a question as to whether or not a MCA Connect student may participate in a MCA program, activity, etc., please contact the MCA Connect Office.

### Exclusions

MCA Connect students are not eligible participate in school-sponsored class programs or clubs. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Middle School or High School Student Council
- Xtended Day Programming
- Awards Programs
- Events/Field Trips/Experiences that are part of a course that they are not enrolled in.
- MCA Connect students do not have school pictures through MCA, therefore are not included in the MCA yearbook
- Chapel Band

## **VI. Fee structure:**

MCA Connect students are responsible for tuition and related fees based on the Learning Option they have selected. Fees are described below:

### Maranatha Online Courses (2023-24 school year):

- \$50 application fee and \$50 enrollment fee
- \$597 per 0.5 credit course | \$777 per 1.0 credit course
- \$100 AP course fee | AP exam fee

### Maranatha on-campus courses (2023-24) (for hybrid, part-time, and homeschool students enrolling in a course on-campus)

- Middle school: semester course \$1035 | year-long course \$2070
- High school: semester course \$1104 | year-long course \$2207
- Course-related fees: some elective courses may require a fee for materials (e.g. art)
- AP exam fee
- Virtual extension fee per semester per course (for those who want to sit on campus for the course) \$150 Academic

### Support Fees

MCA Connect full-time hybrid students may be available for LSS or MCA accelerated if space is available.

Additional fees apply (see Learning Support Services fee schedule)

### Activity-related fees:

Participation in activities may require fees. MCA Connect students would be responsible for those fees in addition to the course fees. Some examples include:

- NHS fee \$35
- Athletics fee (per season, per sport)
- Drama fee

## VII. Summary

This page is provided as a quick glance summary. Please review the full policy guidelines for an explanation on each area.

### 2023-24 Enrollment Options for Grades 6-12

MCA Student	MCA Connect Program			
	Hybrid	Full-Time Online	Part-time	Homeschool
<i>Full-time On Campus</i>	<i>Full-time hybrid (MCA + MCO)</i>	<i>Full-time Online (MCO)</i>	<i>Taking 1 or more MC courses either online or on-campus</i>	<i>Students who use coursework not provided by MCA</i>

#### Enhanced Experiences:

Christ-centered mission  
 Character & Faith Focus  
 Prepared for life focus  
 Social Emotional Focus  
 Face-to-Face Community  
 Large School Resources  
 Growth Mindset focus  
 MCA Diploma  
 MCO Diploma

●	●	●	●	
●	●	●	●	
●	●	●	●	
●	●			
●	●			
●	●	●		
●	●			
●	●	●		
●	●	●		

#### Access to:

AP/Dual Credit  
 Associates Arts (AA) Degree  
 Online Courses  
 On-campus Advisory  
 Online Advisory  
 Learning Support Services  
 Counseling Resources  
 College Planning  
 Naviance  
 ACT/SAT Scholarship Program  
 TOEFL Incentive Program  
 Tutoring Resources  
 Academic Field Trips\*  
 NHS/NJHS  
 Program participation\*  
 Spiritual/faith opportunities\*  
 Student life opportunities\*  
 Travel opportunities\*  
 Athletics opportunities\*  
 Fine Arts opportunities\*  
 Office 365 Suite  
 School Pictures/Yearbook

●	●	●	●	
●				
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
●	●			
		●		
●	●			
●	●			
●	●	●	○	
●	●	●		
●	●			
●	●		○	
●	●		○	
●	●	●		
●	●		●	
●	●		○	
●	●		○	
●	●		○	
●	●	●		
●	●			
●	●			

○ = partial access

#### \*Qualifiers

**Program Participation:** Graduations, NHS Induction, Experience Maranatha, Concerts  
**Student life opportunities:** Homecoming, Prom, Dances, Pep rallies, Clubs  
**Spiritual opportunities:** Chapel Service projects, retreats, mission trips (may require fees)  
**Travel opportunities:** Class trips, Washington DC trips  
**Fine Arts opportunities:** Choir, Band, Drama  
**Academic experiences:** field trips (must be enrolled in the course)  
**Athletics:** regulated by MSHSL