The definition of blended learning is a formal education program in which a student learns: (1) at least in part through online learning, with some element of student control over time, place, path, and/or pace; (2) at least in part in a supervised brick-and-mortar location away from home; and (3) the modalities along each student’s learning path within a course or subject are connected to provide an integrated learning experience.

Many teachers in Broward County currently provide blended learning environments. The following pictures depict what blended learning environments look like and describe the activities that take place both at school and away from school.

Infopicture 1: Identifies the instructional strategies used to personalize the learning experience, of which a blended learning environment has its place.
TYPES OF BLENDED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Station Rotation

1. Station Rotation: A course or subject in which students experience the Rotation model within a contained classroom or group of classrooms.

2. Lab Rotation: A course or subject in which students rotate to a computer lab for the online-learning station.

3. Flipped Classroom: A course or subject in which students participate in online learning off-site in place of traditional homework and then attend the brick-and-mortar school for face-to-face, teacher-guided practice or projects.

4. Individual Rotation: A course or subject in which each student has an individualized playlist and does not necessarily rotate to each available station or modality.

Lab Rotation
FLIPPED CLASSROOM

INDIVIDUAL ROTATION

1. **Rotation model**
   - Station Rotation
   - Lab Rotation
   - Flipped Classroom
   - Individual Rotation

2. **Flex model**
   - A course or subject in which students experience the Rotation model within a contained classroom or group of classrooms.

3. **A La Carte model**
   - A course or subject in which students rotate to a computer lab for the online-learning station.

4. **Enriched Virtual model**
   - A course or subject in which students participate in online learning off-site in place of traditional homework and then attend the brick-and-mortar school for face-to-face, teacher-guided practice or projects.

   - A course or subject in which each student has an individualized playlist and does not necessarily rotate to each available station or modality.
**FLEX MODEL**

- Online learning is the backbone of student learning.
- Students move on an individually customized, fluid schedule among learning modalities.
- The teacher of record is on-site, and students learn mostly on the brick-and-mortar campus.
- The teacher of record or other adults provide face-to-face support on a flexible and adaptive as-needed basis through small-group instruction, group projects, and individual tutoring.
- Different staffing combinations.
A LA CARTE MODEL

- A course student takes entirely online to accompany other experiences at a brick-and-mortar school or learning center.
- The teacher of record for the A La Carte course is the online teacher.
- Students may take the A La Carte course at brick-and-mortar campus or off-site.
- Different from full-time online learning because it is not a whole-school experience.
- Students take some courses A La Carte and others face-to-face at a brick-and-mortar campus.

ENRICHED VIRTUAL MODEL

- Students have required face-to-face learning sessions with their teacher of record and then are free to complete coursework remote from the face-to-face teacher.
- Online learning is the backbone of student learning when the students are located remotely.
- The same person generally serves as both the online and face-to-face teacher.
- Began as full-time online schools and then developed blended programs providing brick-and-mortar school experiences.
- Differs from the flipped Classroom because students seldom meet face-to-face with their teaches every weekday.
- It differs from a fully online course because face-to-face learning sessions are required.
Blended and Online Learning

1. What is Blended Learning?

Blended learning is a formal education model in which students learn within the following parameters:

- At least 51% of the course (student learning, course content, and/or instruction) takes place online at levels commensurate with “Adoption” through “Transformation” (excluding Entry) as defined by the Florida Technology Integration Matrix (http://fcit.usf.edu/matrix/matrix.php).
  - This implies that there is use of a learning management system (i.e.; Schoology, Moodle, Blackboard, Desire2Learn, or Canvas) with the following criteria: course of study aligned to state standards, archived lessons, evidence of teacher intervention, feedback, and security features.
- The student has some element of control over time, place, path and/or pace.
  - This implies that there is time outside of the school day or class period for the student to interact with the content, complete assignments/activities, or engage in enrichment.
- Learning occurs at least in part at a brick-and-mortar location away from home.
- There is face-to-face interaction with a highly qualified teacher with certification in the appropriate subject area, who provides instruction, assessment, and significant academic formative feedback.
  - Not all of the learning takes place virtually away from school.
- The highly qualified teacher provides instruction, assessment, and significant academic formative feedback.
  - There is a structure to the online content that students work on while away from school.
  - There is a sound educational connection between what students are doing within the learning management system and the curriculum of study.
  - Feedback occurs both online and face-to-face.
- A standard curriculum of study, of equivalent rigor and student performance expectations to a traditional course, is utilized for both the in-school and digital learning experiences.

2. What are the Florida Statutory Requirements for Blended Learning?

- Florida Statute 7029 removes blended learning courses provided by a traditional public school, charter school, or district innovation school from the definition of the term "core-curricula courses" for the purposes of class size requirements.
- The Florida Approved Courses and Tests (FACT) Initiative (s. 1003.499) specifies that instruction through the blended learning model may be provided using:
  - online instructional videos
  - online class forums
  - online homework assignments and projects
  - one-on-one direct instructional support to students
  - all of the above is grounded in a standard curriculum of study which is accessed via a learning management system
The blended learning program shall include components such as:
- differentiated instruction
- flexible scheduling
- differentiated teaching
- self-paced learning
- The District Innovation School of Technology Program (s. 1002.451) expands the blended learning program components to include data-driven placement and describes the three models schools
3. **Documentation required for Blended Learning course**

Documentation for courses coded as blended learning must:

- Archive records and artifacts for three years from the date of the course.
- Verify that at least part of the learning occurred in an online format.
- Include samples of student coursework (e.g. digital assignments, quizzes, tests, final examinations), both online and offline student work, teacher-student interaction (email or discussion forums), and one-to-one direction instruction.
- Demonstrate student assignment to a highly qualified and certified teacher in the appropriate subject area(s).
- Ensure that the student has met the minimum bona fide instructional time for earning a high school credit, as defined by statute:
  - 135 hours for 1.0 credit (67.5 hours for 0.5 credit)
  - 120 hours for 1.0 credit in a school utilizing block scheduling (60 hours for 0.5 credit)

4. **High School Credit Recovery Courses**

Credit recovery courses may be coded as blended learning if they meet the blended learning requirements of other courses, with the exception of the bona fide instructional time as outlined in Florida Statute, Section 1003.435(1)(a).

5. **What is Online Learning?**

An online course is a formal education program involving student-teacher interaction in which a student learns mostly through online delivery of content and instruction with some element of student control over time, place, path or pace.

6. **What are the requirements for Online Learning?**

- Beginning with students entering 9th grade in the 2011-2012 school year, at least one course within the 24 credits required in this subsection must be completed through online learning.
- 100% of the course content and instruction must occur through an online delivery model via a learning management system (though students may access the course while at a brick-and-mortar school location).
- A high school credit-bearing online course taken during 6th-8th grades fulfills this requirement.
- A school district may not require a student to take the online course outside the school day or in addition to a student’s course for a given semester.
- This requirement shall be met through an online course offered by the Florida Virtual School, an online course offered by the high school or an online dual enrollment course.
- A student who is enrolled in a full-time or part-time virtual instruction program under s. 1002.45, F.S., meets this requirement.
- This requirement does not apply to a student who has an IEP that indicates an online course would be inappropriate
- This requirement does not apply to an out-of-state transfer student who is enrolled in a Florida high school and has less than one academic year remaining in high school.
- NCAA-bound student-athletes should only choose online learning options that are approved by the NCAA to meet eligibility criteria. At this time, only FLVS/BVS are approved by the NCAA.
Questions and Answers

7. How are the Blended and Online Learning codes entered?

Once a course is identified as a "Blended Learning" course the following coding must take place in TERMS:

Enter a "Y" into the "BLC" field on the C17 panel.

The LS field next to the BLC field on the C17 Panel identifies Virtual Instruction Course. This information is sent to the DOE. There is currently consideration/discussion on enhancement to this LS field.

The OC Field on the individual student’s A13 Academic History Panel identifies if the course for which credit is being awarded was an On Line Course.

8. How does a course identified as “Blended Learning” affect Class Size Reduction?

A course identified in TERMS as BLC is exempt from the Class Size Reduction mandate as per statute F.S.1003.03