



# Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Application

Status: **Approved**

 Harrisburg School District (5602000)

School Year 2022-2023

Applications will be reviewed in the order received. Incomplete applications will be returned to the district.  
A notification letter will be sent to the superintendent at the email address listed above upon approval by the Arkansas State Board of Education.  
NOTE: The approved application must then be posted on the district website - State Required Information.

<b>District:</b>	
<b>LEA #:</b>	5602000
<b>Superintendent:</b>	Christopher Ferrell
<b>Email:</b>	chris.ferrell@hbgsd.org
<b>Phone:</b>	(870) 578-2416
<b>Duration Requested (not to exceed three years):</b>	5 Years (School year 2022-2023 to 2026-2027)



AMI (Alternate Method of Instruction)

As per Arkansas Code Annotated Â§ 6-10-127 a district may apply for up to 10 days of AMI for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including [remote] learning, on days when the district is closed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances such as:

- contagious disease outbreak
- inclement weather
- other acts of God
- utility outage

Number of AMI days requested by the district. 10  
(Please note that all AMI days utilized must be noted in eSchool. Sporting events, funerals, other school events, lack of substitutes, or lack of bus drivers do not qualify as exceptional circumstances.)

Provide a description of the AMI assignments and materials used at each school within the district to effectively facilitate teaching and support learning for the benefit of the students. Please include information if the district will utilize technology-based assignments or paper packets. (AMI packets must be available on-line or have been sent home prior to the designation of an AMI day)



AMI daily instructional materials will be prepared for students by teachers based upon essential standards aligned with current instruction. Teachers will be responsible for keeping instructional materials current and available to students prior to AMI days. Instructional materials may include but are not limited to independent practice, remedial instruction, enrichment activities, reading lists, writing prompts, ACT/ACT Aspire Prep, cross-curricular activities, etc. All teachers will be available from 8-3 each day to answer questions via email.

At the beginning of each semester and when we receive the weather forecast of inclement weather, elementary students (grades K-6) will receive paper packets of assignments compiled by their teachers. These packets will include learning activities reviewing and reinforcing learning already presented during daily classroom instruction. Materials for reading, math, English, writing, social studies, science, physical education, music, and art will be included in these packets and will not exceed more than one hour of work per day. Instructions for online activities in Google Classroom will also be included in the packets for students who have access to the Internet and a device. Online work will not exceed more than one hour per day for elementary students and will include activities from sites such as I-Ready, Moby Max, IXL, Newsela, Vocabulary A-Z, Empowering Writers, Reflex Math, and Amplify Reading. Total assigned work should not require more than two hours per day to complete.

At the beginning of each semester and when we receive the weather forecast of inclement weather, high school students (grades 7-12) will have a combination of paper packets and assignments available to be completed in written format and/or online via Google Classroom. Students who do not have access to the Internet or a device will receive a printed copy of the Google Classroom assignments and resources prior to the inclement weather day and at the beginning of each semester. Teachers will work in their grade level and content area teams to develop similar AMI assignments to ensure all students, regardless of the teacher, receive a fair and equitable amount of work.

Packets and online work for all grade levels will be pre-approved by the building principal. The building principals will ensure the work is appropriate and aligned with essential standards. The assignments for high school students should not require more than twenty minutes per class, per day. Core content area teachers (Math, ELA, SS & Science), CTE teachers, and elective teachers will prepare work for their students.



Describe how student attendance will be determined for an approved AMI day. (All attendance should be determined and reported in eSchool within 5 days of the AMI day.) May include a link (URL) to the attendance policy for digital learning students if applicable to all students during AMI days.

Student attendance will be determined based on completion of instructional activities. Students will be responsible for completing assignments for each AMI day. Students will have five school days following the AMI day(s) to turn in assignments to the teacher of record for each class. Once the student has turned in completed assignments meeting the requirements of a class, the student will be marked present for the specified AMI day for that class.

The district attendance policy regarding make-up work will apply for students who do not turn in completed assignments upon returning to school and who are counted absent on the AMI day. The policy allows for students who are absent to have additional time to complete assignments, especially for extenuating circumstances.

Describe how the district will ensure implementation of Individual Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities on AMI days. Include how the district will involve the special education teacher in the provision of special education services during the AMI day to meet the individual needs of each student.

IEP teams will discuss the impact of AMI as annual reviews occur. When AMI is implemented, IEP teams must consider the impact on performance, expected progress, and whether or not make-up services are necessary. Accommodations for students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) will continue to be met on an AMI day. A plan will be created relating specifically to how IEP accommodations will be met on AMI days. AMI day procedures will be recorded on the Notice of Action and on the educational needs section of the IEP at each student's annual review conference.



Describe how accommodations and related services will be provided.

The regular education and special education teachers will be available to students on AMI days. Plans will include sending familiar manipulatives home with the students, downloading lessons or educational games onto a device and sending it home, creating lessons focusing on tasks they can complete involving life skills, using technology to create face-to-face learning experiences, or calling students on the telephone to work through exercises or help with accommodations such as oral directions. Special education students are given the same AMI assignment as other students but are modified to the extent of each student's IEP. OT/PT/Speech therapies can be provided by telehealth on AMI days, but if the internet and power is out, therapists can send home take home exercises in each area with the AMI packets so students can work on skills at home. If telehealth or take home therapies are not feasible, therapies missed will be made up upon return to school.

Please include the link (URL) to the webpage or social media where information will be posted to announce the date of the AMI day and reason for utilizing the AMI day - (this should match the AMI dates entered into eSchool). (Example: December 1 will be an AMI day due to inclement weather)



Once our AMI plan is approved, the Harrisburg School District will utilize the district and school websites, along with social and print media to begin the process of communicating the purpose and expectations of AMI days to the parents and students. FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/hsdhorhorns>, District website: <https://www.hbgds.org/>, District app, newsletters, principal letters, emails, newspaper articles, and other traditional media outlets will be used. Fall parent/teacher conferences and parent information nights in conjunction with PTO meetings will be additional opportunities for questions to be answered and explanations given to parents about the purpose and expectations of an AMI day. Teachers will be available during their planning periods during the school day to communicate with parents and students.

In the event of inclement weather or other emergency, the district will make use of Enotes to send text messages, phone calls, and emails, as well as social media to notify parents and students of the AMI day. In the event of a power outage or loss of internet, students/parents will be able to access teachers by leaving a message via Class Dojo app or the Remind app. Students and parents will be reminded to check Google Classroom for additional information. The district's website <http://www.hbgds.org/>, as well as each school's website: Harrisburg Elementary <http://www.harrisburgelementary.org/>, Weiner Elementary School <https://www.weinerelementary.org/index.html>, Harrisburg High School <https://www.harrisburghigh.org/> will have links to find the AMI assignments. Teachers will also be available via email to answer questions about the assignment and how it pertains to his/her class.