

Peak Prep Pleasant Valley



FAQs Homeschool Academy

1. What is the amount of funding each student receives in the Homeschool Academy?

Our students receive a total of \$3,500 in instructional funds each school year. Of this, \$500 is available in July for core curriculum purchases, \$1,500 becomes available at the start of Semester 1 in August, and the remaining \$1,500 is available at the start of Semester 2 in January.

2. Does Peak Prep charge tuition?

There is no tuition, Peak Prep is a tuition-free public charter school.

3. What curriculum options are available for my student?

You can find recommended curriculum options in our [Curriculum Guide](#).

4. Which vendors do you work with?

Our [Approved Vendor List and Requesting Guide](#) includes all vendors we currently collaborate with. The tabs at the bottom of the list separate vendors into different categories, and the guidelines outline some of our policies and procedures. If you don't see a vendor listed, it means we are not currently partnering with them. However, our Vendor Department has been adding new vendors to the list on a weekly basis over the past year. We are always happy to consider adding new vendors who are interested in partnering with us.

5. What is part of the enrollment process?

The enrollment process includes submitting the application, providing required documents, and signing the Master Agreement. Required documents include, among other items, proof of age, proof of guardianship (if applicable), and immunization records per California requirements. After applying, the electronic Master Agreement will be sent and must be signed by both the parent/guardian and the student (unless the student is 18 or older). Enrollment is confirmed once all materials are received.

6. Does Peak Prep assign an education facilitator who meets with families regularly?

Yes, once enrollment is complete, you will be assigned a Peak Prep teacher who will meet with you once during each Learning Period. Our Learning Periods are scheduled approximately every four weeks. All of these meetings are held virtually.

7. How many work samples do we have to submit?

Students are required to submit 2 work samples during each Learning Period (LP). These samples help teachers monitor academic progress, document attendance, and provide support where needed.

For students in TK–8th grade:

- Submit 2 original student work samples per Learning Period by the end of the 2nd week of each LP.
- Samples must come from 2 different subjects. Your teacher will let you know which subjects to submit each month.
- Each sample must be clearly labeled with the student's name and date. The date must fall within the Learning Period for which the sample is being submitted.
- Each sample must include a teacher or learning coach comment, providing evidence that the work was reviewed, corrected, or graded.
- Work samples should reflect the student's own effort, and should be neat, complete, and representative of their current learning.

8. Which tests does my child have to take while enrolled with Peak Prep?

Students are required to participate in state and district assessments, which may include

- Star 360 Testing (fall and spring),
- CAASPP (ELA and math for grades 3–8 and 11),
- CAST (grades 5, 8, and sometimes 11–12),
- ELPAC (for English learners), and
- the FITNESSGRAM (typically grades 5, 7, and 9).

These assessments are administered each spring to measure student progress and performance against statewide standards.

9. Does Peak Prep offer field trips and park days?

Yes, we offer both in-person and virtual field trips. Most trips take place in Ventura County, with additional opportunities in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and Kern counties.

We also offer monthly in-person park days, which have typically been held in Simi Valley in recent years.

10. Does Peak Prep offer a lending library, and how does it work?

Yes! Peak Prep offers a lending library located at our Learning Center in Camarillo. Families can view available items through an internal Lending Library link and arrange pick-up times directly with our Lending Library Aide.

We also hold Lending Library Days in July, giving parents the opportunity to browse available materials and take them home for the school year. Once you've finished using a curriculum item, and if it can be reused by another student, we kindly ask that you return it to the Lending Library so it can be shared with others.

11. What is Polar Bear Academy, and what does the program cost?

Polar Bear Academy is a two-day-per-week drop-off program held at our Camarillo Learning Center from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., with students attending either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday. Students are grouped by age (Cubs: K–1; Explorers: 2–3), with classes

capped at 12 students and supported by two teachers and two aides. One teacher focuses on Liberal Arts and the other on STEM, with students rotating to experience both.

This enrichment-based program does not replace at-home learning and requires a full school-year commitment following a two-week trial and final placement. We allocate \$1,000 of instructional funds toward the program, leaving \$2,500 for curriculum and other activities. Dates and times may vary slightly next year.

12. What does a typical day at Polar Bear Academy look like?

A day at Polar Bear Academy typically begins with arrival and a welcome at 10:00 a.m., followed by a morning check-in and overview of the day. Students then participate in two instructional blocks focused on either Liberal Arts or STEM, with rotations to ensure they experience both each week. The schedule also includes a snack and social break for rest and interaction, along with small group work and hands-on, collaborative activities. The day concludes with a wrap-up, reflection, and dismissal at 1:30 p.m.