



Operation Spark High School Program - Student FAQ

1. What's the introductory course called?

- Fundamentals of HTML, CSS, and Javascript

2. What will I learn?

- You'll start with **HTML and CSS**, the building block languages of websites. Think of them as the skeleton, or bone structure of a website. HTML commands tell the browser where words and images appear on a page, and CSS allows you to add style elements, like color and font size. You'll use these languages to set up the structure of your own personal website.
- Next, you'll learn the basics of **Javascript**, one of the most widely-used programming languages today. You'll learn concepts like **conditionals**, **functions**, and **loops**, which are used to make the computer **respond to a user's actions**, like clicking, typing in a value, etc. You'll use these skills to build web apps and classic video games.
- Follow this link to a [student website](#) to see an example of the personal website you'll build, with links to all the projects you'll complete.

3. What are the system requirements and required websites for our virtual courses?

- Chromebook, Mac, or PC, (suggested 2016 model or later) *required*
- Mac or PC (suggested 2016 model or later) with 8 gb ram or higher *preferred*
- Reliable, high speed internet access capable of streaming video
- Chrome Browser must be installed, with permissions to access the following websites:
 - Google Suite (gmail and google drive)
 - greenlight.operationspark.org
 - github.com
 - awseducate.com
 - kahoot.it
 - jsbin.com
- Internal or connected mic required (online classes)
- Webcam preferred (online classes)

4. Can I work on my assignments outside of class time?

Yes, the entire curriculum is browser based, so you can work from any computer with google chrome and a reliable internet connection.

5. What certification can I earn?

If you complete all course requirements, you'll be eligible to take an exam to earn an [Industry Based Credential](#). These credentials are approved by the Louisiana Workforce Commission, and they tell employers or colleges that you have mastered certain industry-specific skills. They are a great addition to a resume or college application.

6. What's the attendance policy?

Our courses move at a fast pace, and each topic and project builds on what you've already learned, so attendance to all live sessions is mandatory. In most cases, if you miss more than 10% of class meetings in a semester (usually 3 classes), we'll ask you to drop the class and attempt it again at a later date.

7. What is the structure of an average class?

The average 2 hour class consists of 20-30 minutes of lecture where you'll learn a new concept, 30-45 minutes of guided practice (you code along with the instructor to practice what you've just learned), and 30-45 minutes of independent work time.

8. What's the time commitment outside of class hours?

Plan to spend 1-2 hours a week outside of class time working on projects.

9. Will I get high school credit and a grade for the course? Will my grade go on my transcript?

All students receive a grade from Operation Spark. Depending on which school you attend, you have the opportunity to receive one credit per course added to your transcript. If you're on a Jump Start graduation pathway, our courses are approved for the IT (Information Technology) pathway.

10. Do you have any other courses I can take?

Students who successfully complete the introductory course are eligible to take our Advanced Course, where you'll practice in building games and apps from the ground up.

If you complete the Advanced course and want to pursue a career in software development, we offer an option to continue through both our Half Day Immersion Program (for high school seniors) and our Adult program (for students 19 and older).