Del Mar College has a consortial relationship with the Virtual College of Texas (VCT). Under this agreement, students may enroll for courses provided by other colleges throughout Texas while receiving support services from Del Mar College (Host). Del Mar College also serves students of other colleges as a provider through the VCT. In this mutual relationship, Del Mar College ensures that qualified faculty teach and supervise courses, that students are provided with a course syllabus, and that instructors provide support comparable to support available to other Del Mar College distance learning and on-campus students. Del Mar College as a provider typically offers at least one VCT course each term to students residing within the VCT provider area.

Under the VCT host/provider model, Del Mar College promotes the accessibility of students to college-level courses. This supports the mission of Del Mar College which is to provide access to educational opportunities for all persons without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or disability. By using the VCT model, Del Mar College makes courses available that may not otherwise be offered for students when needed.

As with all course offerings, Del Mar College ensures the quality of educational programs and courses offered through the VCT for the delivery of online credit courses in a number of ways. Del Mar College Department Chairs are responsible for reviewing the credentials of faculty who teach courses through the VCT to ensure that the programs maintain the same standard of quality applied to traditional classes. In addition, the content of all courses hosted by Del Mar College through the VCT is reviewed by Del Mar College Department Chairs to ensure alignment with local course offerings. Only courses that align with Del Mar College current course offerings have the potential for being offered to students enrolled at the College. An annual evaluation of VCT by its member colleges is administered each fall for the previous academic year to assist in the review of this form of delivery. The annual evaluation is administered by Austin Community College's Office of Institutional Effectiveness who compiles the data into a state composite report on VCT's performance.

Del Mar College performs Instructional Program Reviews on all academic programs on a regular basis. The purpose of a formal instructional program review is to ensure the long-range success, vitality, and quality of the program being considered. The primary functions of the program review process are to:

1. To assure that the appropriate missions of the College, the division, the department, and that program are being fulfilled;
2. To guarantee excellent educational services to the program's clientele;
3. To identify program needs so that resources may be adequately applied;
4. To prompt curriculum and/or staff development;
5. To revise program content or delivery, the better to address changing educational needs;
6. To reaffirm the need for and viability of the program;
7. To build upon the program's strengths and promote its continued well being; and
8. To help prepare the College for periodic reaffirmation of accreditation.

The VCT program at Del Mar College was added to the program review schedule in the Spring of 2006. Once completed, the results of the VCT Instructional Program Review will be disseminated to all significant parties including senior level administration, academic deans and department chairs. The VCT will then be placed on the Instructional Program Review Schedule for regular and timely follow-ups.

The President of Del Mar College entered into a signed Consortium Agreement that specifies institutional responsibilities for the VCT host/provider model. These requirements and
responsibilities are outlined in the **Summary of Provider and Host Colleges’ VCT Responsibilities** and include information regarding instructional issues, student resource issues, and administrative issues. This document provides a framework for colleges to adhere when hosting or providing VCT courses. The **Virtual College of Texas Operations Manual** further outlines operating procedures for colleges participating in the VCT. In addition to following these guidelines, Del Mar College also follows the **Principles of Good Practice for Electronically-based Courses** from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Lastly, Del Mar College abides by the **VCT Host and Provider College Practices and Responsibilities** which specifies the responsibilities for instruction, Student Resources and Services, Registration and Administration, and Institutional Effectiveness.

All courses taught through Del Mar College, including VCT courses, comply with state requirements of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and are listed in either the **THECB Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual** for academic courses or the **Workforce Education Course Manual** for technical courses.