

# How do I sign up for a Canvas account as a parent?

Document created by **Canvas Doc Team** on Apr 19, 2017 • Last modified by **Canvas Doc Team** on Aug 25, 2018  
Version 20

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Parents can sign up as an observer in Canvas. Observers can link their Canvas account to their student's account so they can see assignment due dates, announcements, and other course content. Observers can view the course content but cannot participate in the course.

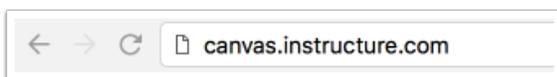
This lesson is for parents who do not have a Canvas account and want to observe their students in their courses.

If you already have an account from your student's institution, log in to Canvas using the credentials given to you.

## Notes:

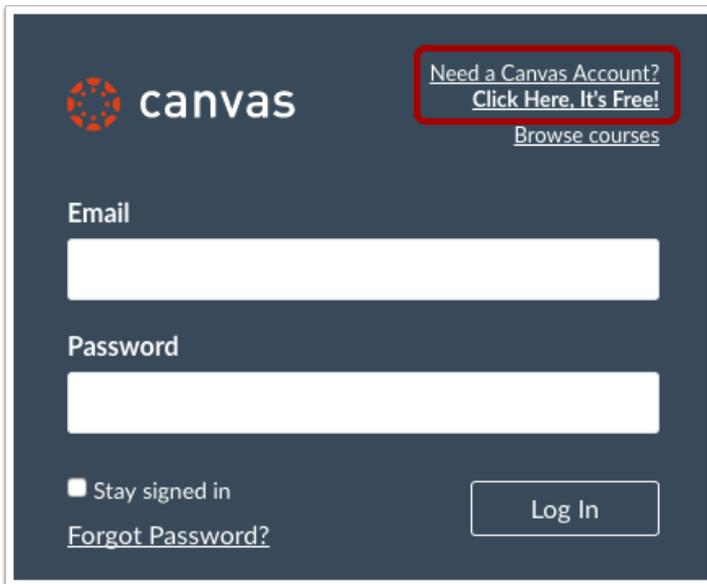
- If the registration banner is not available in the login page, the institution has not enabled this feature. Please contact your student's institution for assistance. The registration banner is enabled through Canvas authentication.
- To observe a student, you must have a [student pairing code](#).
- Once you have an account, you may be able to view student information through the Canvas Parent app. Access to the Canvas Parent app is controlled by the student's institution. If you already have an account from your student's institution as an observer, you can always view student information through the Canvas Parent app.

## Open Canvas URL



In a browser window, enter the institution's Canvas registration URL (e.g. [canvas.instructure.com](https://canvas.instructure.com) ).

## Click to Register



The image shows the Canvas login interface. At the top left is the Canvas logo. In the top right corner, there is a red-bordered box containing the text "Need a Canvas Account? Click Here. It's Free!". Below this box is a link "Browse courses". The main form has two input fields: "Email" and "Password". Below the "Password" field is a checkbox labeled "Stay signed in" and a "Log In" button. At the bottom left of the form is a link "Forgot Password?".

Click the account link at the top of the page.

## Sign Up As a Parent (Free Account)



The image is a promotional banner for signing up. It features the text "Sign up now, it's free!" in a large, bold, italicized font. Below this text are two buttons: a blue button labeled "I'M A TEACHER" and a green button labeled "I'M A STUDENT". At the bottom center of the banner is a red-bordered box containing the link "Parents sign up here".

Click the Parents sign up here link.

## Enter Signup Details

### Parent Signup ×

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Your Name 1

Your Email 2

Password 3

Re-enter Password 4

Student Pairing Code 5 [What is a pairing code?](#)

6 You agree to the [terms of use](#) and acknowledge the [privacy policy](#).

7

Enter the following information:

1. Enter your name in the **Your Name** field.
2. Enter your email in the **Your Email** field.
3. Enter your password in the **Password** field.
4. Re-enter your password in the **Re-enter Password** field.
5. Enter a pairing code to link your account to your student in the **Student Pairing Code** field. [See instructions below!](#)
6. Agree to the terms of use by clicking the **You agree to the terms of use** checkbox.
7. Click the **Start Participating** button.

**Note:** Students can [generate pairing codes](#) from their User Settings. Depending on institution permissions, admins and instructors may also be able to generate pairing codes.

## Begin Observing

The image shows the Canvas LMS dashboard interface. On the left is a dark sidebar with navigation icons for Account, Dashboard, Courses, Calendar, Inbox, and Help. The main content area features a 'Notifications' banner at the top with a 'Notification Preferences' link. Below this is the 'Dashboard' title and a card for 'History 101' with a blue header and three icons at the bottom. On the right, there is a 'Coming Up' section with a 'View Calendar' link and a 'View Grades' button.

You can begin observing your student in Canvas immediately.

# How do I generate a pairing code for an observer as a student?

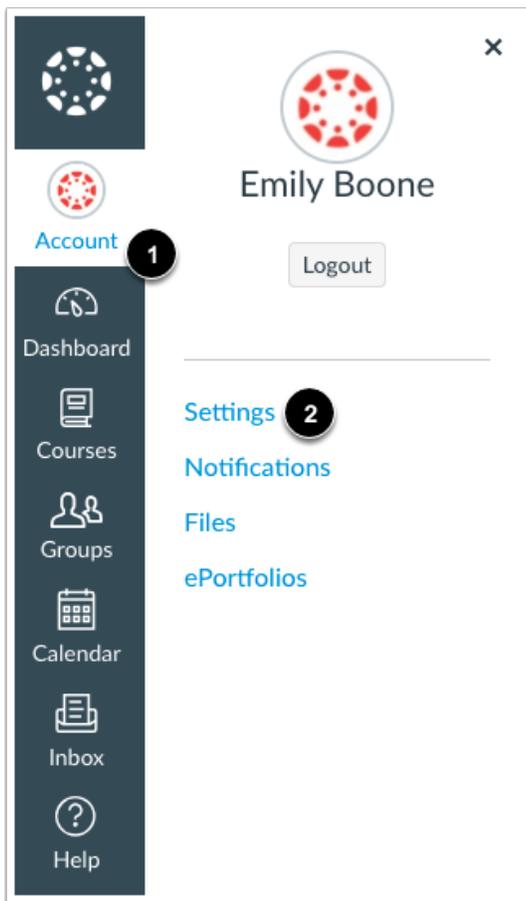
Document created by [Canvas Doc Team](#) on Jul 14, 2018 • Last modified by [Canvas Doc Team](#) on Aug 25, 2018  
Version 3

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You can generate a pairing code to link an observer to your Canvas account. An observer can enter the pairing code [in their User Settings Observing tab](#). You must create a separate pairing code for each observer who wants to link to your account.

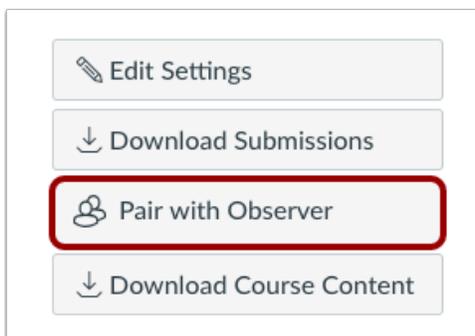
An observer may be your parent, guardian, mentor, counselor, or another individual who needs to view your Canvas courses. Linked observers can view and participate in certain elements of your Canvas courses. For more information on the observer role, view the [Observer Visibility and Participation PDF](#).

## Open Settings



In Global Navigation, click the **Account** link [1], then click the **Settings** link [2].

## Pair with Observer



Click the **Pair with Observer** button.

## Copy Pairing Code

## Pair with Observer



Share the following pairing code with an observer to allow them to connect with you. This code will expire in seven days, or after one use.

1 EcYkrK

2 OK

Copy the six-digit alphanumeric pairing code [1]. You will need to share the code with the observer who will link to your account. The pairing code will expire after seven days or its first use.

To close the window, click the **OK** button [2].

**Note:** Pairing codes are case sensitive.