

Homebound Instruction

Pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, where all required criteria contained in this Regulation are met, individual homebound instruction shall be provided to students. A student qualifies for homebound instruction if they are medically recommended not to attend school temporarily due to a physical disability, illness, injury, psychological or psychiatric reasons. The Board will provide individual instruction only for those medical conditions expected to last from one to three months, but such exceptions may be made as the Superintendent of Schools or designee deem advisable and so approve. Homebound instruction is limited to one hour per required core academic course per week of private tutoring by certified instructors. Homebound instruction is not to exceed 180 hours per year unless approval is received from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) for such an extension. Homebound instruction may not exceed a period of three (3) months unless approval is received from PDE for an extension. However, for students eligible for special education, the amount and nature of homebound instruction will be considered by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team.

The program of individual instruction given each student shall be in accordance with the standards established by the Secretary of Education. Teachers performing homebound instruction shall be paid at a rate consistent with the applicable negotiated contract agreement.

Before students can receive this instruction, the request must be made in writing by the parent/guardian and supported by a medical doctor's statement certifying the nature of the condition; explaining specifically why the illness or disability prevents the student from attending school; and the probable duration of the condition. During the homebound instruction period, the student must be under the care of a physician or psychiatrist on a continuing basis for treatment, which includes ongoing planning to re-involve the student in school. In the event a student requires homebound instruction for a period that exceeds (3) three months, the parent/guardian must provide a request in writing to the Director of Safety and Student Services no later than 10 days prior to the date upon which the student's original homebound instruction period is scheduled to end, supported by a medical doctor's statement explaining the reason for the student's need for continued homebound instruction, and a revised anticipated length of time the medical condition will require homebound instruction. A new request must be submitted for every additional three-month period subsequent to the original three-month homebound instruction period and must be approved by PDE. (22 Pa. Code §11.25).

Homebound instruction will usually cease when the child returns to school. In rare circumstances when the child is unable to attend school for less than one class period per day, homebound instruction may continue even when the child attends school. The parent/guardian must notify the Director of Safety and Student Services on the day of the student's return.

If a student is able to participate in extracurricular activities sponsored by the District, their request for homebound instruction will likely be denied due to their ability to attend school. If the Student is already receiving homebound instruction and requests to

participate in extracurricular activities sponsored by the District, they will likely be able to return to school and their homebound instruction will likely cease. Moreover, a student's participation in employment outside of the home may disqualify a student from eligibility for homebound instruction.

The parent/guardian's request for homebound instruction shall be made to the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, who shall have authority to grant the request for instruction, or to deny it if the request does not conform to the required criteria contained herein. Teachers, counselors, and administrators shall bring cases appropriate for homebound instruction to the attention of the Superintendent of Schools, or designee. If a student's disability is expected to be chronic/long term, the student may need to be referred for an evaluation for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Parents may contact the Office of Student Services at 610-240-1974 with any questions regarding homebound instruction or this Regulation. Regulation 6210

The Superintendent of Schools, or designee, shall be permitted to require updated information as to the student's progress during the period of homebound instruction. The District reserves the right to require a medical examination by a physician of its own selection in order to make determinations for initial or continued eligibility for homebound instruction.

The Board reserves the right to withhold individual instruction when the instructor's presence in the place of a student's confinement presents a hazard to the health of the teacher or when a parent or other adult in authority is not at home with the student during the hours of instruction.

Procedures - Homebound Instruction

1. Request for homebound instruction, on proper form, shall be directed to the Superintendent of Schools for approval by the Superintendent or designee.
2. Completed forms shall include: (1) Letter of Request from Parent, (2) Letter of Recommendation from Physician.
3. Employment of tutors shall be at the discretion of the building principal. Present faculty members shall be contacted first, then substitute teachers on the current substitute teachers list. Anyone employed in this capacity must hold a Permanent Teaching Certificate in Pennsylvania. Teachers providing homebound instruction to exceptional students will be certified in special education by the Department of Education. If unable to secure instructor(s) through Tredyffrin/Easttown School District staff or current substitute teacher list, properly certified individual(s) may be used for homebound tutoring. Upon review of credentials and recommendation of the administration, all homebound instructors shall be on the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District payroll.
4. The Director of Safety and Student Services shall make necessary arrangements for

home-to-school telephone service if such is required. Immediate notification shall be made to the Director of Safety and Student Services if such service is contemplated as installation requires at least 10 days to 2 weeks. The Director's office shall make arrangements for the discontinuance of the telephone service. The school office shall notify the Director's office at least 5 days prior to the date of termination.

5. The tutor shall provide brief bi-weekly program reports on the achievement of the homebound instruction being given (or, in the case of an exceptional student, in accordance with the recommendation of the student's IEP team) to the parent/guardian.
6. An annual report of the student's progress shall be prepared by the tutor and countersigned by the building principal prior to submission to the Superintendent's office.

Any student receiving homebound instruction shall be carried as present on the attendance records of the school to which the student is assigned, during the period of time the student is receiving homebound instruction.

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