

Tyrone Area School District

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: HOME EDUCATION PROGRAMS

ADOPTED: SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

137. HOME EDUCATION PROGRAMS	
1. Authority SC 1327, 1327.1 Title 22 Sec. 11.31a	Home education programs for students of compulsory school age residing in the school district shall be conducted in accordance with state law and regulations.
2. Definitions SC 1327.1	<p>Home Education Program - a program conducted in compliance with law by the parent/guardian or person having legal custody of a child. A home education program shall not be considered a nonpublic school under the provisions of law.</p> <p>Supervisor - the parent/guardian or person having legal custody of a child who is responsible for providing instruction, provided that such person has a high school diploma or its equivalent.</p> <p>Hearing Examiner - shall not be an officer, employee or agent of the Department of Education or of the school district or intermediate unit of residence of the child in the home education program.</p> <p>Appropriate Education - a program consisting of instruction in the required subjects for the time required by law and in which the student demonstrates sustained progress in the overall program.</p>
3. Guidelines SC 1327.1	<p><u>Notarized Affidavits</u></p> <p>A notarized affidavit of the parent/guardian or person having legal custody of the child shall be filed prior to commencement of the home education program, and annually thereafter on August 1, with the Superintendent. The affidavit shall set forth:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name of the supervisor of the home education program who will be responsible for the provision of instruction. 2. Name and age of each child who will participate in the home education program. 3. Address and telephone number of the home education program site. 4. That subjects required by law are offered in the English language, including an outline of proposed education objectives by subject area.
Policies 203, 209	5. Evidence that the child has been immunized and has received the health and medical services required for students of the child's age or grade level.
SC 111	6. Certification signed by the supervisor that the supervisor, all adults in the home and persons having legal custody of a child in the home education program

	<p>have not been convicted of criminal offenses as enumerated in the School Code.</p> <p><u>Instructional Program</u></p>
<p>SC 1327.1</p>	<p>The instructional program for home education students shall include such courses as required by law.</p>
	<p><u>Student Portfolio and Evaluations</u></p>
<p>SC 1327.1</p>	<p>In order to demonstrate that appropriate education is occurring, the supervisor shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain a portfolio of records and materials. 2. Provide an annual written evaluation of the student's educational progress.
	<p><u>Appropriate Education/Compliance Determination</u></p>
<p>SC 1327.1</p>	<p>A teacher or administrator who evaluates a portfolio at the elementary level or secondary level shall meet the requirements established in law.</p>
	<p>A home education evaluator shall certify that an appropriate education is occurring in the home education program. The supervisor shall submit the certification to the Superintendent, or designee, by June 30 of each year. If the supervisor fails to submit the certification, the Superintendent shall send a letter to the supervisor notifying the supervisor that she/he has ten (10) days to submit the certification.</p>
	<p>If the Superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief that, at any time during the school year, an appropriate education may not be occurring in the home education program, he/she may submit a letter to the supervisor requiring that an evaluation be conducted and that an evaluator's certification stating that an appropriate education is occurring be submitted within thirty (30) days. The letter shall include the basis for the Superintendent's reasonable belief.</p>
	<p>If the Superintendent or designee determines, based on documentation that the home education program is out of compliance, he/she shall send a letter to the supervisor requiring a certification be submitted within thirty (30) days indicating that the program is in compliance. The letter shall include the basis for the Superintendent's reasonable belief.</p> <p>As required by law, all letters shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, and the time for submission of the requested documentation begins upon receipt of the letter.</p> <p><u>Right of Hearing</u></p>
<p>SC 1327.1</p>	<p>If the supervisor fails to submit a certification as required, the Board shall provide for a proper hearing by a duly qualified and impartial hearing examiner within thirty (30) days.</p>

	<p>If the hearing examiner finds that an appropriate education is not taking place in the home education program, the home education program shall be out of compliance; and the student shall be promptly enrolled in a district school, a nonpublic school, or a licensed private academic school.</p> <p><u>Appeal</u></p> <p>The supervisor or the Superintendent may appeal the decision of the hearing examiner to the Secretary of Education, Commonwealth Court, or Court of Common Pleas. The home education program may continue during the appeals process.</p> <p><u>Loan of Instructional Materials</u></p> <p>The district shall, at the request of the supervisor, lend to the home education program copies of the school's planned courses, textbooks, and other curriculum materials appropriate to the student's age and grade level.</p> <p><u>Graduation Requirements</u></p> <p>The following minimum courses in grades 9 through 12 are established as a requirement for graduation in a home education program; four (4) years of English; three (3) years of mathematics; three (3) years of science; three (3) years of social studies; two (2) years of arts and humanities.</p> <p><u>Diplomas</u></p> <p>Students who complete all of the graduation requirements of the home education program shall receive a high school diploma issued by the supervisor or an approved diploma-granting organization.</p> <p><u>Students With A Disabilities</u></p> <p>A home education program shall meet compulsory attendance requirements for a student with a disability only when the program addresses the specific needs of the student and is approved by a teacher with a valid Pennsylvania certificate to teach special education, or a licensed clinical or certified school psychologist. Written notice of such approval must be submitted with the required affidavit.</p> <p>The supervisor may request that the school district or intermediate unit of residence provide services that address the specific needs of a student with a disability.</p> <p>When the provision of services is agreed to by both the supervisor and the school district or intermediate unit, all services shall be provided in the public schools or in a private school licensed to provide such programs and services.</p>
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SC 1327	<p>A home education program shall meet compulsory attendance requirements for a student with a disability only when the program addresses the specific needs of the student and is approved by a teacher with a valid Pennsylvania certificate to teach special education, or a licensed clinical or certified school psychologist. Written notice of such approval must be submitted with the required affidavit.</p> <p>The supervisor may request that the school district or intermediate unit of residence provide services that address the specific needs of a student with a disability.</p> <p>When the provision of services is agreed to by both the supervisor and the school district or intermediate unit, all services shall be provided in the public schools or in a private school licensed to provide such programs and services.</p>

<p>SC 1327.1</p>	<p><u>Transfers</u></p> <p>When a home education program is relocating to another Pennsylvania school district, the supervisor must request from the Superintendent a letter of transfer for the home education program. The request must be made by registered mail thirty (30) days prior to the relocation.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall issue the letter of transfer within thirty (30) days after receipt of the supervisor's registered mail request.</p> <p>The supervisor shall file the letter of transfer with the Superintendent of the new district of residence.</p> <p>If a home education program is out of compliance, the Superintendent shall inform the home education supervisor and Superintendent of the new district of residence of this status and the reason for denial of the transfer letter.</p> <p>If a home education program is in hearing procedures, the Superintendent shall inform the home education supervisor, hearing examiner and Superintendent of the new district of residence of this status and the reason for denial of the transfer letter.</p> <p>If the Superintendent is informed of pending proceedings related to a home education program relocating to the district, s/he shall continue the home education program until the appeal process is finalized.</p> <p>REFERENCES</p> <p>School Code - 24 P.S. Sec. 111, 1327, 1327.1</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations - 22 PA Code Chapter 4, Sec. 11.31a, 11.33</p> <p>Board Policies - 203, 209</p>
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