

IHBG-R - REGULATIONS FOR HOME EDUCATION INSTRUCTION

GENERAL PARTICIPATION – Home school students that are registered through the Epping School District may be eligible to participate in school curricular and co-curricular activities subject to school rules and regulations and district policy. Registration for the purpose of this policy means that the home school parent(s) has chosen Epping School District to be the home school agency and submitted a home school notification to the Superintendent’s Office.

Approval for home educated student participation in classes and/or activities is subject to the following general conditions. Please reference specific section for additional conditions.

1. There is space available in the class.
2. There are no extra costs incurred by the district.
3. The admission of the student will not have an adverse affect on the class.
4. Classroom expectations for the home educated student are the same as regular students. This includes regular attendance, assignment completion, assessment participation, appropriate conduct, etc.
5. The class is developmentally and academically appropriate for the student.
6. Prerequisite class requirements are met.
7. Transportation to and from school is provided by the parent.
8. No substantial administrative or staff burden is created.
9. There are no other factors impacting why the request should be granted or denied.
10. Participation is subject to School Board policy and school rules and regulations for all students.

PARTICIPATION IN REGULAR CLASSES - Home education is defined as instruction in science, mathematics, language, government, history, health, reading, writing, spelling, and the history of the NH and US Constitutions. Home education students may enroll in specific classes other than those defined in the definition of home education per the following conditions.

1. Written notification of desire to participate is received by the Superintendent and School Principal at least thirty (30) days in advance of the first class meeting. Requests will be processed on a first come first served basis with ties resolved by drawing lots.
2. There is no additional cost to the district.
3. Attendance is regular, behavior is appropriate, and the parent/guardian and student demonstrate a willingness to follow the district’s policy and school’s rules and regulations.
4. The student completes all assignments and tests as required of other students in the class.
5. Credit/grade is granted only after the successful completion of the class.
6. Enrollment is for a full semester only and not so extensive to warrant full-time participation.

PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION – A request by a home educated student to receive physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, counseling, psychological, guidance, and other such services, and/or special education services shall generally be denied.

PARTICIPATION IN CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – Participation in co-curricular activities is limited to those activities associated with approved regular classes being taken by the home educated student. Co-curricular activities are defined, but not limited to field trips, assemblies, fairs, etc. Participation is subject to the following conditions.

1. Prior written permission has been given by the parent/guardian.
2. Prior written permission has been given by the School Principal.
3. The student has agreed to abide by the same code of conduct as the regularly enrolled students participating in the activity.
4. Student may be denied access to some activities because of space restrictions.
5. The parent/guardian accepts responsibility for transportation to and from the school and/or activity.
6. The parent/guardian agrees to chaperone an event if deemed advisable by the School Principal.

PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES – Requests for participation in activities which are purely social, such as school dances, will be determined in accordance with the school's guest policies or practices. The following conditions apply.

1. The School Principal has approved attendance in advance.
2. The activity is age appropriate.
3. The student agrees to abide by the same code of conduct as other students in attendance.

PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – Extra-curricular activities is defined as, but not limited to band, chorus, school clubs, athletics, etc. Participation is subject to the following conditions.

1. The student meets the same academic, physical examination, age and eligibility requirements and standards as regularly enrolled students. Documentation of such must be provided when requested by the School Principal.
2. The transfer student from a home education program meets the same eligibility requirements for enrolled transfer students.
3. The student maintains the same code of behavior as required of other regularly enrolled school participants.
4. Travel to and from extra-curricular activities is governed by School Board policy and applies to all participating students.
5. The parent/guardian accepts responsibility for transportation to and from the school and/or activity.
6. The student cannot be enrolled in another public school.

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES – Students may use school facilities on the same basis as regularly enrolled students provided that the use does not disrupt the regular student and/or staff programming. Use of school facilities is subject to the following conditions.

1. The use has been approved by the School Principal prior to use.

2. The use will not create additional expense to the district.
3. The use is during the regular school day and the regular school year.
4. The use is directly related to the home education instructional program.
5. The use does not involve rearranging furniture or removing furniture from the school.

USE OF SCHOOL TEXTS AND LIBRARY BOOKS/MATERIALS – Students may be permitted to use school texts and library books/materials provided the following conditions are met.

1. Sufficient copies are available.
2. The text is appropriate to the student's age and grade.
3. The text is appropriate to the student's home education program.
4. The text is signed out to the student and/or parent/guardian for a period of no longer than one school year.
5. Library books are signed out according to the library loan policy.
6. The student and/or parent/guardian agree to pay the school district for all lost, damaged and/or non-returned texts and/or library books. Failure to be financially responsible will result in the withholding of grades and may result in the withdrawal of all privileges for the home educated student. The Superintendent will resolve all disputes and may request a deposit for the use of school texts and library books/materials.
7. The student and/or parent/guardian agree to pay the school district upfront for all expendable workbooks and other such materials.

RECEIPT OF DIPLOMA – Home educated students are not eligible to receive a school district diploma from any of the district's schools and as a result do not participate in high school graduation events. An exception will be made for events in which a home school student is to receive a special recognition for participation in athletic, extracurricular, or selective academic programs.

PARTICIPATION IN EVALUATION – Students being home educated may participate in the regularly scheduled, standardized testing program administered by the district per the following conditions.

1. The parent/guardian notifies the School Principal as to the intention to participate at least three (3) months in advance of the testing dates.
2. The student attends the scheduled testing sessions/dates.
3. The parent/guardian complies with state standards for home school annual evaluation.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

Epping School Board Policy IHBG (Home Education Instruction)
Handbook (None)

APPROVED/REVISED: August 2, 2007, December 17, 2009

PREVIOUS POLICY: None