

File: IHBG - HOME SCHOOLING

Massachusetts General Law requires the School Committee to determine that a Home Schooling program meets with the minimum standards established for public schools in the Commonwealth prior to approving such a program.

When a parent/guardian of a student ~~between the ages of 6 and below the age of~~ 16 wants to establish a home-based educational program for ~~their his/her~~ student, the following procedures shall be followed in accordance with the law:

Prior to removing the student from public school:

The parent/guardian must register the student(s) with Newton Public Schools, provide proof of residency and verify the student's address annually when applying for home education approval.

The parent/guardian must submit a written ~~notification of establishment of the~~ home-based program to the superintendent or designee 14 days before the program is implemented established, and resubmit a plan notification on an annual basis as long as the student(s) are being educated in a home-based environment and continue to reside in Newton.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian that they are obligated give the notice to produce records ~~required by law~~ if there is probable cause to believe the program is not in compliance with the law. Factors to be considered by the Superintendent or designee in deciding whether or not to approve a home education proposal may be:

1. The proposed curriculum and the number of hours of instruction in each of the proposed subjects.
2. The competency of the parent/guardian to teach the student(s),
3. The textbooks, workbooks and other instructional aids to be used by the student(s) and the lesson plans and teaching manuals to be used; -and
4. Agreement to provide Method(s) of progress reporting which corresponds to the type of educational program.
- ~~4. Periodic standardized testing of the students to ensure educational progress and the attainment of minimum standards.~~

Only those students who are enrolled and in regular attendance in the Newton Public Schools will be eligible to participate in the interscholastic athletic program, student government, and student activities/clubs or graduate from/receive a diploma from Newton Public Schools.

Home education students, upon written request and with the approval of the Principal, may utilize library and guidance services, including testing. Home school students are eligible for applicable special education services.

LEGAL REFS.: The Individuals with Disabilities Ed. Act, 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq.

M.G.L. [71B:1](#) et seq.
M.G.L. [69:1D](#); [76:1](#),
Care and Protection of Charles,
399 Mass.324 (1987)

CROSS REF.: - HOME SCHOOLING APPROVAL PROCEDURES
REVISED OCTOBER 2022~~Revised October 2022~~~~August 2017~~