

Book	Policy Manual
Section	Catch Up V17N1 thru V20N2
Title	REVISED POLICY - VOL. 18, NO. 1 - HOME-EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Code	*po9270 FH NEW to MCSD
Status	First Reading

REVISED POLICY - VOL. 18, NO. 1

9270 - HOME-EDUCATION PROGRAMS

A "home education program" means the sequentially progressive instruction of a student directed by his/her parent in order to satisfy the attendance requirements set forth in State law.

Home education programs are excluded from meeting the day or hour requirements of the school day or school year.

Establishment of a Home Education Program

Parents residing in the District seeking to establish a home education program for their child shall notify the Superintendent or designee of their intent to establish and maintain a home education program.

[X] ~~W~~If the student has previously not been enrolled in the District, when making such notification, the parent shall also comply with the residency verification required by State law and Policy 5112 - Entrance Requirements.

The notice shall be in writing, signed by the parent, and shall include the names, addresses, and birthdates of all children who shall be enrolled as students in the home education program. If the parent of a child who has been identified as exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance enrolls the child in a home education program, the Superintendent shall provide the parent with a copy of F.S. 1002.41 and a copy of the accountability requirements set forth in F.S. 1003.26(1)(f) with which the parent shall be expected to comply.

Parents establishing and maintaining a home education program are not required to hold a valid regular Florida teaching certificate. The notice shall be filed in the Superintendent's office within thirty (30) days of the establishment of the home education program.

A written notice of termination of the home education program shall be filed in the Superintendent's office within thirty (30) days after said termination.

Portfolios

Parents who establish a home education program shall maintain a portfolio of records and materials. As required by State law, the portfolio shall consist of the following:

- A. a log of educational activities that is made contemporaneously with the instruction and that designates by title any reading materials used; and
- B. samples of any writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or developed by the student.

The portfolio shall be preserved by the parent for two (2) years and shall be made available for inspection by the Superintendent, if requested, upon fifteen (15) days' written notice.

Annual Educational Evaluation

Parents who establish a home education program shall provide for an annual educational evaluation documenting their child's demonstration of educational progress at a level commensurate with his/her ability. The parent shall select the method of evaluation and shall file a copy of the evaluation annually with the Superintendent's office in the District. The annual educational evaluation shall consist of one (1) of the following:

- A. A teacher selected by the parent shall evaluate the student's educational progress upon review of the portfolio and discussion with the student. Such teacher shall hold a valid regular Florida certificate to teacher academic subjects at the elementary or secondary level.

- B. The student shall take any nationally normed student achievement test administered by a certified teacher.
- C. The student shall take a State student assessment test used by the District and administered by a certified teacher, at a location, and under testing conditions approved by the District.
- D. The student shall be evaluated by an individual holding a valid, active license pursuant to the provisions of State law.
- E. The student shall be evaluated with any other valid measurement tool as mutually agreed upon by the Superintendent and the parent.

The Superintendent shall review and accept the results of the annual educational evaluation of the student in a home education program.

(**X**) and may also request that the parent submit the student's portfolio for review. Pursuant to State law, the parent must submit the portfolio within fifteen (15) days of receiving this notice.

If the student does not demonstrate educational progress at a level commensurate with his/her ability, the Superintendent shall notify the parent, in writing, that such progress has not been achieved.

The parent shall have one (1) year from the date of receipt of the written notification to provide remedial instruction to the student. At the end of the one (1) year probationary period, the student shall be reevaluated as specified in State law. Continuation in a home education program shall be contingent upon the student demonstrating educational progress commensurate with his/her ability at the end of the probationary period.

Home Education Student Participation in Certain Activities

In accordance with Florida law, home education program students may participate in certain activities associated with the District. These activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. interscholastic extra-curricular student activities;
- B. dual enrollment programs; and
- C. District virtual instruction programs.

[**X**] Furthermore, home education program students may also enroll in one (1) or more courses provided by the District for students in grades ~~6~~ through 12. The student's enrollment shall be on a space available basis. If the home education program student enrolls in one (1) or more courses, the student shall be subject to the rules and expectations that apply to all other enrolled students.

Exceptional Student Education

Parents of student not enrolled in the District who suspect that their child may have a disability or may be gifted should (1) contact the District's Exceptional Student Education office and request that their child be tested and evaluated; or (2) contact the Florida Department of Education's (FDOE's) Diagnostic and Resources System (FDLRS) and request that their child be evaluated in accordance with State law. If requested to do so by a parent of a student suspected of having a disability or is gifted, the District shall perform testing and evaluation services for the student.

If it is determined that a student meets eligibility requirements for exceptional student education, his/her parent(s) may enroll the child in the District so that the child may receive appropriate instruction and services as an ESE student, choose to educate the child in a home education program, or choose to access other educational options provided by State law, such as Personal Learning Scholarship Account (PLSA), McKay Scholarship Program, virtual education, etc. The District is not obligated to provide ESE instruction and services to eligible students who are not enrolled in the District.

If the parent of a child with a disability who is currently enrolled in a home education program chooses to enroll the child full time in the District, the District shall provide a free appropriate public education in accordance with the terms of Policy 2460 - Exceptional Student Education, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and any other applicable Florida and Federal laws.

Legal	F.S. 490.003
	F.S. 1001.32(2)
	F.S. 1001.41
	F.S. 1002.20
	F.S. 1002.41
	F.S. 1002.45
	F.S. 1003.01
	F.S. 1003.21
	F.S. 1003.26
	F.S. 1006.03
	F.S. 1006.15
	F.S. 1007.27
	F.S. 1007.271
	F.A.C. 6A-6.0331, General Education Intervention Procedures, Evaluation, Determination of Eligibility, Reevaluation and the Provision of Exceptional Student Education Services
	FLDOE Home Education and ESE Services FAQs
Cross References	po2460 - EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION
	po5112 - ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
	ap9270 - PROCEDURE FOR EDUCATING A CHILD AT HOME
	ap9270A - ADMISSION OF STUDENTS FROM NONACCREDITED SCHOOLS