

HOME/HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION

The Talbot County Board of Education recognizes the need for home/hospital instruction in specific instances:

- I.** Students who are unable to attend school regularly because of physical and/or emotional condition are eligible to receive instruction at home or in a hospital. In addition, students awaiting trial for certain criminal offenses in the community may also qualify if other alternative school programs and/or expulsion have been ruled out. The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for determining the need and for providing the instruction.
 - A. Any homebound child who is a resident of Talbot County is eligible for home/hospital instruction regardless of whether or not he/she was incapacitated within or outside of Talbot County.
 - B. The determination of need may be established through completion of an Application for Home/Hospital teaching by both the appropriate education authority and the appropriate medical authority.

- II.** Applications for home instruction are to be signed by a medical specialist. This signature indicates that the child should not attend school because of his/her condition. Forms are provided in the office of the Superintendent.
 - A. The term “medical specialist” is interpreted as a person who has specific credentials for identifying and treating special health problems, (i.e., dermatologist, cardiologist, psychiatrist, orthopedist, etc.).
 - B. In cases where home instruction is considered for a child with emotional/behavioral problems, the initial application may be signed by a certified psychologist. In such cases, however, it will be assumed that a final application signed by an appropriate medical specialist (possibly a psychiatrist) is forthcoming.
 - C. Exceptions to II-A and II-B will only be allowed in those cases where a student has been charged as an adult for committing a crime off of school property or during non-school hours. Exceptions may also be made when the Superintendent receives notification of a reportable offense from a law enforcement agency. In such cases, if it is determined (by administrator) that the student’s presence in school will be detrimental or disruptive to school operations, then a Student Services Team review will be conducted immediately

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and recommendations shall be made to the Principal regarding home instruction vs. other alternative education options or expulsion. Final approval for placement must be granted by the Superintendent.

- III.** In situations where group instruction is feasible and desirable, a combination of individual and group instruction is recommended.

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