

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

June 11, 2024

SUBJECT:

Revision of Policy IHBF Homebound Instruction, First Reading

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Policy IHBF Homebound Instruction states “A student who cannot attend school for 10 days or more because of illness, accident, pregnancy, or emotional challenge, even with the aid of accommodations, is eligible for medical homebound instruction.” Prior to the 2023-2024 school year, the Board approved for high schools to transition to block scheduling. One facet of block scheduling is classes previously taught in one year are now taught in one semester. When a high school student meets the criteria to be eligible for homebound instruction, the student has missed significant instructional time in the current version of the policy.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

Administration proposes the revision of Policy IHBF Homebound Instruction for high school students to be considered for eligibility of homebound instruction after 5 days of school missed due to illness, accident, pregnancy, or emotional challenge, even with the aid of accommodations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve Policy IHBF Homebound Instruction, First Reading

ATTACHMENT:

Policy IHBF Homebound Instruction

PREPARED BY:

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Policy

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

Code **IHBF** Issued **1/22/24**

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the instruction of students who cannot attend school due to a diagnosed illness.

A student who cannot attend school for 10 days or more in elementary or middle school, or 5 days or more in high school because of illness, accident, pregnancy, or emotional challenge, even with the aid of accommodations, ~~is eligible~~ may apply for medical homebound instruction. The homebound program is designed to meet the needs of students who are medically unable to attend classes at school. A physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant must certify that the student is unable to attend school but may profit from instruction given in the home or at a mutually agreeable location. Homebound services are not guaranteed with the submission of a form signed by a physician.

Medical and student records are confidential subject to the provisions of policy JRA and administrative rule JRA-R.

Application for this service, which must be approved by the superintendent or his/her designee on standardized forms provided by the SC State Department of Education, should be made through the student's school.

Medical homebound instructors may provide direct instruction at a student's home if an adult is present during the sessions or at a mutually agreeable location.

A student is eligible (but not guaranteed services) for medical homebound instruction under these conditions:

- on the first day of the regular nine-month academic year of the school in which the student would otherwise be enrolled if he/she is unable to begin the school year

The student remains eligible under these conditions:

- through the day before he/she returns to school as designated by the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant
- through the last day of the regular academic year in the school year he/she would normally be enrolled

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All teachers providing medical homebound instruction to Aiken County Public School students must hold a valid South Carolina teacher's certificate.

Adopted 1974; Revised 1/26/88, 10/13/98, 1/8/02, 1/11/22, 6/25/24

Legal references:

- A. State Board of Education Regulations:
 - 1. R-43-241 - Homebound instruction.