

Lower Merion School District

Policy No.: 136
Section: PROGRAMS
Title: HOME EDUCATION
Date Adopted: 8/20/01
Date Last Revised: 4/17/23; 12/18/17; 3/21/11

136 HOME EDUCATION

Delegation of Responsibility

The Board recognizes the importance of a policy to ensure that home educated students can participate in District programs and activities to the extent required by law. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish requirements for the approval of Home Education Programs for District residents, including requests for participation in school programs and activities under the following guidelines:

- (1) Participation in regular or special education programs (but not necessarily special education services) is limited to students who are enrolled in the District on a full-time basis.
- (2) Any special education services the District agrees to provide will be provided in District schools or, at the District's discretion, in a private school licensed to provide such services.
- (3) The District permits home-educated students to participate in District activities such as clubs, musical ensembles, athletics (such as varsity sports) and theatrical productions at the school to which their elementary attendance zone or secondary grade level is assigned. Such participation in District activities is subject to the eligibility and other criteria outlined in the Administrative Regulation accompanying this Policy, as well as Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 124 (Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities).
- (4) Where applicable, home-educated students are eligible for supplementary curriculum services, which include:
 - Library, when staffed
 - Achievement tests – for example, ERBs Grades 2 through 8, State (PSSA) assessments
 - College Placement Exams (PSAT, SAT, AP)

The Superintendent may make exceptions at their discretion.

(5) It shall be the responsibility of the parent(s) or guardian(s) to make the request and arrangements for Home Education students to seek participation in school district programs and activities by contacting the appropriate school principal in a manner set forth in the accompanying Administrative Regulation.

(6) Students participating in Lower Merion School District before or after school programs and activities must provide their own transportation to and from the school. They are expected to arrive and depart promptly and to enter and exit the building through the main office.

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Home educated students shall come to school buildings solely for the purpose of participating in the programs and will leave the school building and property when the program or event is completed, except to the extent of time when the public is generally admitted to school district property or buildings.

Graduation Requirements

Students who have been home educated must achieve 16 Lower Merion School District secondary credits in order to receive a District diploma.

(1) Home educated students who also previously attended an accredited institution or an accredited high school will have their credits transferred and calculated toward the required 16 credits.

(2) Home educated students who acquire 16 Lower Merion School District credits, plus pass the G.E.D., will receive a Lower Merion School District diploma.

(3) Students who are home educated for less than one semester or one-half school year must pass the courses in which they are enrolled and achieve the required 21 credits for graduation.

(4) Lower Merion School District will not grant "credit" for courses completed through home educating to be applied toward a District-issued diploma. Transcripts will differentiate between Lower Merion School District course credit and home education courses.

Course Placement

Placement into courses of levels will be determined through a review of academic records, available portfolios, and assessments determined by District personnel as necessary for placement.

References:

Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 124 (Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities)
Public School Code §1327.1
Act 169 of 1988 (File #SS-4-89)