

Site Based Alternative Educational Programs

In order to provide an educational program to meet the needs of each student, regardless of skill, knowledge and/or attitude, the **Academy of Charter Schools**, directs the **Executive Director** to foster an educational climate which encourages schools to establish and maintain site-based alternative educational programs, including, but not limited to, independent study opportunities.

HOME-BASED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

1.0 When a parent/guardian of a student below the age of 16 wants to establish a home-based educational program for his/her child, the following procedures shall be

followed in accordance with law:

1.1 The parent/guardian shall certify in writing the name, age, place of residence, and number of hours of attendance of each child in the program.

1.2 The parent/guardian shall arrange for evaluation of the student either by a nationally standardized achievement test or by a qualified person as described

by statute when the child reaches grades 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. Parents/guardians are

responsible for submission to the district of such test or evaluation results.

2.0 The Superintendent permits resident students participating in home-based educational programs to attend district classes for a portion of the school day upon

agreement with the building administrator prior to the quarter, semester or trimester in

which such attendance is planned. Only resident students for whom the district receives

state funding shall be permitted to enroll for a portion of the school day. Building administrators can require the student to attend more than one class in order to receive

funding from the state to help offset educational costs.

3.0 Students in home-based educational programs may participate in any extra-curricular

or interscholastic activity in which the district is involved so long as the student maintains eligibility, except as to class attendance requirements, in accordance with

applicable law, requirements of the district, and the Colorado High School Activities

Association. Students are responsible for contacting the district or appropriate school to

determine when practices will begin, and other relevant dates, as soon as possible prior to

the beginning of the school year.

4.0 The district encourages parents to work with an appropriately accredited agency to assure that a high school diploma ultimately can be earned through such an

agency..Administrative Procedure Code: 6173

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HOME-BASED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, continued

4.1 Students who enroll in a district high school, after having participated in a home-based education program, shall not receive district or school credit toward

graduation except under the guidelines noted below:

4.1.1 All requests for home-based education credit toward graduation must be presented at the time of enrollment in high school.

4.1.2. Prior to requesting an evaluation of home-based education program transcripts, students who have resided in Colorado during the current school year must show verification of having "registered" as a home-based

education student for the current school year.

4.1.3 It is the home-based student's responsibility to provide transcripts and course content documentation prior to having transcripts evaluated by the high school. Transcripts shall be provided to the school a minimum of five school days prior to the student's first day of attendance. Students are subject to assessment to verify competency in a given course for which graduation credit is being requested.

4.1.4 Credit will be based primarily on the curriculum standards of similar courses for which credit is being requested. School administration shall have the discretion to assign credit in either elective or core content areas based on the documentation of learned content. The transcript, at the discretion of the administration, may reflect a specific course or may reflect the subject area of the coursework completed through home-based study.

4.1.5 To be eligible to receive an Adams Twelve Five Star School District Diploma, at least one full semester (2.5 credits) must be earned at the high school issuing the diploma during the student's senior year, and the student must be enrolled at the high school issuing the diploma during their final graduating semester..Administrative Procedure Code: 6173

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HOME-BASED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, continued

4.1.6 "HOME BASED" will be listed as the school of record on the student's transcript for all home-based education courses for which credit is granted.

4.1.7 Letter grades will not be awarded for credits gained through home-based education programs. Either a "CG" (Credit Granted) or a "NC" (No Credit) will be recorded on the transcript alongside the title of the course.

4.1.8 In order to be eligible for academic honors at the high school issuing credit, the home-based education student must meet the school's established requirements pertaining to such awards.

4.1.9 Appeals of decisions related to the granting of home-based education credit will be directed to the Central Office Administrator responsible for home-based education programs.

5.0 Students who enroll in a district elementary or middle school, after having participated in a home-based educational program, shall be placed in the age-appropriate

grade level, subject to review as deemed necessary by the district. Initial placement review

may include but is not limited to competency testing and home-based education program review.

6.0 The following are limitations to exemption from compulsory school attendance requirements:

6.1 A student who has been "habitually truant," as defined by statute, during the six months prior to a proposed home-based educational program, is not exempt from compulsory school attendance unless the parents/guardians submit to the Superintendent or his/her designee a written description of the curricula to be used in the proposed program, as required by law. It shall not be the responsibility of

the school district to approve curricula..Administrative Procedure Code: 6173

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HOME-BASED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, continued

6.2 A student shall continue to be eligible for home-based education program if the student's composite score on a nationally standardized achievement

test is above the thirteenth percentile, or if the results of evaluation by a "qualified person" show that the student is making sufficient academic progress according to the student's ability.

6.2.1 If the student's score is at or below the thirteenth percentile, the parent/guardian shall be given the opportunity to have the student re-tested using an alternative version of the same test or a different nationally standardized test selected by the parent/guardian from a list supplied by the State Board of Education.

6.2.2 If the composite score on a re-test continues to be at or below the thirteenth percentile, or if the results of evaluation by a "qualified person" show that the student is not making sufficient academic progress, the district shall take steps to require the parent/guardian to enroll the student in a public, independent, or parochial school.

7.0 The Superintendent or designee is directed to provide this procedure and statutory guidelines to parents/guardians who communicate an interest in establishing a

home-based educational program.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

C.R.S. 22-33-104.5, C.R.S. (Home-Based Education)

C.R.S. 22-33-107, C.R.S. (Enforcement of Compulsory School Attendance)

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