SRCS Home and Hospital Services

Information:

- In accordance with Education Code, 48206.3 and SRCS A.R. 6183, Home/Hospital instruction is a temporary placement for a temporary health issue (i.e. injuries, surgery, acute medical, mental health or emotional health conditions) after which the student can reasonably be expected to return to regular day classes or the alternative education program.
- These decisions involve the processes and team members of a school site student study team, 504 Team, or Individualized Education Program team, which shall include a School Nurse and in cases of social/emotional concerns the School Psychologist.
- Home/Hospital students continue to be enrolled in their home school site. School site staff's involvement is crucial in identifying and coordinating efforts to keep students connected to the classrooms and curriculum to which they will return once the health issue is resolved.
- Requests for Home/Hospital instruction should be made only if the student/family believes they will miss more than three (3) weeks of school and should last no more than eight (8) weeks. Students who become ill (surgery) or injured (broken bones), and will definitely be out of school more than three weeks are eligible to request Home/Hospital instruction immediately.
- Students must reapply for Home and Hospital instruction if they will be out of school longer than the initial eight (8) weeks. New medical verification forms will be required as well. Approval of extensions will be made by the District Home and Hospital team.
- Site administrators must involve participants at the school site who best know the student and the resources available at the school.
- Decisions made by this team must give consideration to the array of educational options which may include:
    - Partial School Days,
    - A mix of Independent Study and classes on campus,
    - The use of Cyber High,
    - Development of 504 plan
    - Special Education services (only available via an IEP).

- Long-term health issues (i.e. cancer or serious mental health problems) will likely require a different educational placement than Home/Hospital. Consideration must be given to the length and severity of the medical condition when school teams make the recommendation to the student and family regarding appropriate education plans.
- Students approved to receive Home/Hospital instruction are unable to attend classes (including SRJC courses) or extracurricular activities at their school. Enrollment in these programs will invalidate Home and Hospital services.
- A recommendation for Home and Hospital from the physician/psychiatrist does not guarantee Home and Hospital placement.

Eligibility:

- Any student enrolled with SRCS who develops a temporary health issue (see above) that will last three to eight weeks is eligible to apply for Home and Hospital instruction.

- Students not enrolled in SRCS who are receiving inpatient treatment at a facility located within the district attendance areas are eligible to apply for Home and Hospital services.
- All Home and Hospital requests for students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) must be approved through a “placement IEP” that is held with the student's case manager and school site IEP team.
- All Home and Hospital requests for students with a 504 plan must be approved by a 504 team at the school of residence.
- Students over 18 years of age and not enrolled in SRCS do not qualify for Home and Hospital instruction, unless they have an Individualized Education Plan.
- Students who are not enrolled in a SRCS school or program and who live within the SRCS boundaries need to enroll in their home school (school in their attendance area) to receive Home and Hospital instruction.
- Specialized/advanced courses may not be offered through Home and Hospital instruction (i.e., AP, IB, Honors, foreign language, lab science courses, electives requiring specific tools or equipment, and some higher level mathematics courses). Courses may not be A-G approved by the University of California.
- Home and Hospital instruction is not intended as a general program of independent study. Reevaluation of a student's health condition will be required from the physician/psychiatrist after eight (8) weeks of Home and Hospital instruction.

Process:

- Parent/Guardian inquire at their school of residence to receive information and required forms which include "Home and Hospital Request Form", “Release of Information”, and "Medical Verification Form" located on the SRCS website.
- Parent/Guardian have Physician/ Psychiatrist fill out "Medical Verification Form" and “Release of Information”. Once completed, Parent/Guardian turns in "Medical Verification Form", “Release of Information”, and "Home and Hospital Request Form" to the administrative designee at the school of residence. Medical verification by the physician/psychiatrist does not guarantee assignment to home and hospital.
- The school site will convene a meeting within five (5) school days upon receipt of all required, fully completed documentation unless further medical information is required by the school site.
- The initial decision to approve/deny/or modify the Home and Hospital request will be made by the school site team. The decision may be delayed pending SRCS staff contacting the practitioner making the referral.
- The "Home and Hospital Request Form", “Release of Information”, and "Medical Verification Form" will be **scanned** to the District Home and Hospital team for review, re-consideration or assignment of a Home and Hospital teacher.
- Students may apply for Home and Hospital instruction for a period of no longer than eight (8) weeks. If an extension is required, the new application and medical verification forms should be turned in to the school of residence during the sixth week of Home and Hospital instruction to allow ample time for scheduling the meeting and ensuring the continuation of services if they are approved.
- All extension requests must be approved by the District Home and Hospital team.