



Collier County
Public Schools

Exceptional Education and
Student Support Services

Dear Physician,

The parent(s)/guardian(s) of _____ have requested consideration of Hospital/Homebound (H/H) services for their child. Collier County Public Schools carefully reviews all such requests, as Hospital/Homebound instruction is the most restrictive educational placement available for a student whose medical condition interferes with school attendance. Because H/H instruction significantly reduces access to peers, school-based supports, extracurricular opportunities, and the comprehensive instructional experience available in the school setting, it is considered a last-resort intervention and is only recommended when a student's medical condition prevents participation in school, even with appropriate accommodations, supports, or other educational options.

Our goal is always to educate students in the least restrictive environment and to maximize school attendance whenever medically appropriate. We appreciate your willingness to partner with Collier County Public Schools in evaluating this request and supporting the student's educational success.

Pursuant to **Rule 6A-6.03020, Florida Administrative Code**, a student may be eligible for Hospital/Homebound services when a licensed physician certifies that:

- The student is expected to be absent from school due to a physical or psychiatric condition for at least fifteen (15) consecutive school days, or due to a chronic condition for at least fifteen (15) school days, which need not be consecutive, and is able to participate in and benefit from an instructional program.
- The student is under medical care for an illness or injury that is acute, catastrophic, chronic, or otherwise significantly impacts the student's ability to attend school.
- The student's medical condition is such that instruction can be provided without endangering the health and safety of the instructor or others with whom the instructor may come into contact.

Your medical input is a critical component of the eligibility review process. However, a physician's recommendation alone does not automatically establish eligibility for Hospital/Homebound services. The student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team must review the medical documentation along with educational data and determine whether Hospital/Homebound services are necessary and appropriate.

To assist in this determination, please complete the enclosed **Hospital/Homebound Request for Consideration for Physician** form in its entirety. We ask that you provide detailed information regarding:

- The student's diagnosis and current treatment plan;
- The specific medical or psychiatric limitations affecting school attendance and participation;
- Whether the student can attend school on a full-time or part-time basis with accommodations or modifications;
- Any restrictions related to physical activity, stamina, attendance, transportation, or participation in the school environment;
- The anticipated duration of the condition and projected date of return to school; and
- Recommendations that may support the student's continued participation in a school-based educational program.

Please return the completed form to: hhforms@collierschools.com

A signed authorization from the parent/guardian permitting the exchange of information between the medical provider and the school district is enclosed. Complete and detailed responses will assist the IEP Team in determining whether Hospital/Homebound services are warranted and whether less restrictive educational options can safely meet the student's needs.

Thank you for your professional assistance and collaboration in supporting the health and educational progress of this student.

Sincerely,

Sonja L. Samek

Director, Exceptional Student Education