

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Thank you for contacting Collier County Public Schools concerning Hospital/Homebound (H/H) services for your child. We understand that families often make this request during difficult circumstances, and we are committed to working collaboratively with you, your child's medical providers, and the school team to determine the most appropriate educational services.

Hospital/Homebound instruction is a highly restrictive educational placement that is reserved for students whose documented medical or psychiatric condition significantly impacts their ability to attend school. Because H/H services provide substantially fewer instructional hours than a traditional school setting and limit access to peers, school-based supports, extracurricular opportunities, and the comprehensive educational experience available in school, they are considered a temporary intervention and a last-resort placement. Hospital Homebound services are meant to be short term to support students. Whenever medically appropriate, the District's goal is to support students in attending school and receiving services in the least restrictive environment.

Next Steps

Step 1: Review and Sign the Parent Assurances Form

Please carefully review the attached **Parent Assurances and Responsibilities for Hospital/Homebound Services** document. This form outlines the expectations, attendance requirements, parental responsibilities, and program procedures associated with Hospital/Homebound services. Your signature indicates that you have read and understand these requirements and agree to comply with the conditions necessary for participation in the program.

Step 2: Complete the Authorization for Release and Exchange of Information

Please complete and sign the attached **Authorization for Release and Exchange of Information** form. This authorization allows Collier County Public Schools to communicate directly with your child's physician or treatment provider and obtain the medical information necessary to evaluate eligibility for Hospital/Homebound services.

Please note that a physician's recommendation alone does not automatically qualify a student for Hospital/Homebound services. Eligibility is determined through a review of medical documentation and educational information by the student's educational team in accordance with Florida Department of Education requirements.

Returning Required Forms

Upon receipt of both signed documents, the ESE Specialist will initiate the process of obtaining the required medical information from your child's physician and coordinate the next steps in the eligibility review process. Please note that delays in returning required forms or requested medical documentation may delay the determination of eligibility and the implementation of services, if approved.

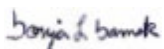
Ongoing Communication

Hospital/Homebound services are based on current medical information and are intended to be temporary. If your child is able to return to school before the date originally recommended by the physician, please notify your child's **school-based ESE Specialist** as soon as possible so that the educational team can plan for a successful return to the school setting.

If your child's medical condition continues beyond the recommended end date and you believe an extension of Hospital/Homebound services may be necessary, please contact the **school-based ESE Specialist** before the current medical recommendation expires. Updated medical documentation will be required to review continued eligibility for services.

Prompt communication regarding changes in your child's medical status helps ensure that educational services remain appropriate and uninterrupted. Thank you for your partnership as we work together to support your child's health, well-being, and educational progress.

Sincerely,



Sonja L. Samek

Director, Exceptional Student Education