

# SENECA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

ADOPTED:

REVISED: May 12, 2008

117. HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION	
<p>1. Authority SC 1329 Title 22 Sec. 11.25</p>	<p>The Board shall provide, pursuant to regulations of the State Board of Education and subject to the provisions of this policy, homebound instruction to any student with a health impairment, either physical or mental, which will cause the student to be absent from school for more than two (2) consecutive weeks.</p>
<p>2. Delegation of Responsibility SC 1329 Title 22 Sec. 11.25</p>	<p>Application for homebound instruction shall certify the nature of the illness or disability, state the probable duration of the confinement, and be approved by the Superintendent.</p> <p>The Superintendent may grant recommended requests for homebound instruction and shall report each to the Board at its next regular meeting.</p>
<p>3. Guidelines</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 11.25</p>	<p>The student must be absent on a full-time basis. The student must be enrolled as a Seneca Valley School District student at the time of the injury or illness. The Seneca Valley School District reserves the right to refuse to provide homebound to a student confined to a facility that is located more than ten (10) miles outside the instruction boundaries of the Seneca Valley School District.</p> <p>The program of homebound instruction for each student normally shall not exceed five (5) hours per week or a period of ninety (90) calendar days. Additional hours or duration of homebound instruction may be granted upon written approval from both the Seneca Valley School District and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.</p> <p>The Seneca Valley School District reserves the right to require homebound instruction take place at a neutral site outside the student's home.</p> <p>Students who are receiving homebound instruction are to be placed on the rolls and accounted for under "membership belonged" in the school and grade to which they are assigned. They are also to be counted "present" during all times when they are not in school while receiving homebound instruction.</p>

Terms And Conditions

The following terms and conditions apply to homebound instruction:

1. The district reserves the right to seek a second medical opinion by a physician of the district's choice, at district expense, if it so chooses. The district reserves the right to contact the student's physician, psychiatrist, or psychologist for verification and/or clarification of the information contained in the medical statement. The student and/or his/her parent/guardian shall provide authorization to the physician, psychiatrist or psychologist to release, either orally or in writing, to district administration all medical information necessary to evaluate the request for homebound instruction.
2. Health impairments that cause the student to be absent from school for more than two (2) consecutive weeks:
  - a. Physical impairment - the written opinion of a physician must document the application.
  - b. Emotional or mental impairment - a licensed psychiatrist or psychologist must document the application.
3. The student must be absent from school on a full-time basis. Any continued participation by the student in social and/or recreational activities in the community will be considered in determining whether the student's health impairment precludes school attendance.
4. Homebound instruction will only be offered during the Seneca Valley School District instructional year.
5. Homebound instruction may begin as soon as the appropriate approvals have been obtained. Homebound instruction may begin the first day of absence when the statement from the physician indicates that the period of illness shall exceed two (2) weeks. Should homebound instruction exceed forty (40) school days, the appropriate administrators will review each individual case and may request an additional written opinion from the student's physician, psychiatrist, or psychologist for continuation of homebound instruction.
6. Homebound instruction may be unavailable or its commencement delayed if the district is unable to hire or has difficulty locating qualified applicants for homebound tutor/instruction positions.

7. Due to the nature of course content or lack of available instructors, it may not be possible for the homebound teacher to deliver the course content. Therefore, the student will be required to reschedule this course(s) during the next available semester.
8. For recordkeeping purposes, the week begins on Saturday and ends on Friday.
9. Homebound instructors/tutors are to be notified of cancellations no later than 9:00 a.m. of the day scheduled for instruction. Should there not be a mutually agreeable reschedule time that week, there will not be a subsequent make-up time. Any cancellation not received by 9:00 a.m. of the day scheduled will be considered an unexcused absence.
10. The parent/guardian is required to provide the homebound teacher with an educational learning environment within the home conducive to conducting the assigned coursework. The parent/guardian must be present in the home when the homebound instruction is being provided.
11. The Seneca Valley School District possesses sole discretion as to whether homebound instruction will be provided and as to who will serve as the tutor/instructor for the student.
12. Homebound students are responsible for the completion of coursework as prescribed by the regular subject/classroom teacher.
  - a. In this regard, a student may be required to attend summer school in order to complete incomplete course outcomes.
  - b. If a student does not satisfactorily complete all course work by the end of the scheduled summer school, the student must repeat the course during the next school year in order to receive graduation credit for the course.
13. If a student is receiving homebound instruction during the state mandated testing window for the PSSA, the assessment shall be administered by the homebound instructor.
  - a. Time allotted for the administration of the assessments will not be counted toward the weekly instructional time. However, consideration will be given to the health and well-being of the student in scheduling both instructional and assessment times during the assessment window.
  - b. All appropriate and approved accommodations may be used in the administration of the assessment.

- c. It is preferable that the assessment be administered in the school setting if at all possible. This will be determined by the homebound instructor in conjunction with the student and parent/guardian.

14. If no homebound instruction extension has been approved, it is expected that the student will return to school on the day following the ending date. No homebound instruction hours (i.e., make up) will be provided once the student returns to school, whether on a full-time or part-time basis.

15. The district reserves the right to withhold individual instruction when:

- a. The instructor's presence in the place of the student's confinement presents a hazard to the health of the teacher.
- b. A parent/guardian or other adult in authority is not at home with the student during hours of instruction.
- c. The condition of a student is such as to preclude his/her benefit from instruction.
- d. The number of cancellations of instruction precludes his/her benefit from homebound as determined by Superintendent or designee.

16. Any breach of these conditions, in part or in whole, may result in the withdrawal of approval of homebound instruction.

Student Information

If the student is unable to cancel homebound instruction hours during any given week, time may not be made up during a subsequent week.

The homebound instruction student must keep up with assignments and school work in a timely fashion.

It is to be understood that each hour of homebound instruction provided by the homebound teacher may necessitate support of at least three (3) hours of independent study to be completed by the student.

Failure of the student to be properly prepared for the homebound teacher's scheduled visit may result in loss of credit for the course of study being delivered.

All work completed by the student during the period of homebound instruction must be given to the regular classroom teacher. The classroom teacher has the responsibility to review this material as well as verify that the quality of the work meets the minimum standard for awarding credit for completion of course outcome(s).

All students are afforded the same holidays as the students receiving a regular in-school education.

Students shall be allowed to receive a homebound session during a holiday period if it is mutually agreed upon by the student, the student's parent/guardian, and the assigned homebound instructor.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1329

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 11.25