

HOBOKEN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(FAQ)

TOPIC: HOME INSTRUCTION

What is home instruction?

- As per the New Jersey Department of Education, home instruction is the provision of one-to-one or small group instruction in the student's place of residence or other appropriate setting due to a temporary or chronic health, emotional, behavioral, or psychiatric condition (IEP) or a 504 plan, need for treatment or regulation of medication, transitional period prior to an out-of-district special education placement, court order or exclusion from general education for disciplinary or safety reasons.

When does home instruction take place?

- Home instruction will begin 5 school days after the student has left the general education program. Compensatory hours shall be enacted for any hours not fulfilled immediately or due to scheduling conflicts.
- Home instruction may take place during school hours, but may take place after school hours.

How many hours a week is home instruction?

- The approved home instructor must meet with the student for a total of 10 hours a week.
- If a student is receiving home instruction for reasons other than temporary or chronic health conditions, the student will receive one-to-one instruction for 10 hours a week on three separate days of the week. The student shall also be provided 10 hours a week of additional guided learning experiences (technology, videos, etc.).

Who provides home instruction?

- Home instruction is always provided by a properly certified teacher.

Where does home instruction take place?

- Home instruction can take place in the student's home. If this is the case, a parent or other adult designated by the parent must be present.
- Home instruction may also take place in an appropriate community setting. If this is the case, a parent does not need to be present.

Who pays for home instruction?

- Home instruction is paid for by the school district and is at no cost to the parent.

What is taught on home instruction?

- For a student without disability, the home instruction shall meet the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, and the requirements of the district board of education for promotion to the next grade level.
- For a student with disabilities, the home instruction shall be consistent with the student's individualized education plan (IEP) to the extent appropriate and shall meet the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

School districts can mandate home instruction. But, can a parent request home instruction?

- To request home instruction due to a temporary or chronic health condition, a parent shall submit to the school district a request that includes a written determination from the student's physician documenting the projected need for confinement at the student's residence or other treatment setting for more than 10 consecutive school days or 20 cumulative school days during the school year.
- The school district shall forward the written determination to the school physician, who shall verify the need for home instruction.
- The school district shall notify the parent concerning the school physician's verification or reasons for denial within five school days after receipt of the written determination by the student's physician.

Can home instruction be used in lieu of suspension?

- No. Home instruction cannot be used in lieu of suspension. If home instruction is used to provide education for a student who remains suspended beyond 10 days, the suspension must be recorded and counted in the district's overall suspension data.
- The Hoboken Public School District's suspension data per K-12 subgroup is as follows:

Year	Hispanic	Black	Caucasian	Asian	Multi/Other
2017-2018 *to date	2%	4%	3%	0%	2%
2016-2017	5%	11%	1%	0%	0%
2015-2016	3%	15%	2%	2%	1%

How frequent is home instruction delivered in the Hoboken School District?

- Since the 2015-2016 school year, the delivery of home instruction has been delivered to less than 2% of the total population, annually. For example, during the 2015-2016 school year, 1.2% of the total population in grades K-12 received home instruction. To date, 1.5% of the total population in grades K-12 received home instruction during the 2017-2018 school year. The percentage of students receiving home instruction in the Hoboken School District is in line with State and County annual averages.
- This home instruction percentage indicated above reflects the following cases in the 2017-2018 school year: 4 home medical, 12 hospitalizations or transitions to behavioral/therapeutic treatment centers, 4 court orders/no contact, 4 principal

placements for the purposes of extended disciplinary measures, 2 school avoidance, and 4 special education manifestations.