

## **BOARD POLICY 221: HOMEBOUND STUDENTS**

In accordance with PA Code, a principal or teacher **may**, upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of mental, physical, or other urgent reasons, excuse a student for non-attendance during a temporary period and **may** provide those students with homebound instruction for a period not to exceed 3 months.

Parents can request homebound instruction in the event a child is medically unable to attend school for a period of 4 weeks to 3 months due to:

- Physical disability
- Illness (acute or chronic)
- Injury
- Psychological or psychiatric condition
- Pregnancy, if there is satisfactory evidence of mental, physical, or other urgent reasons certified by a physician (See the Married, Pregnant and Parenting Policy #225 for more details)

Homebound instruction will be based on the Instructional Plan and the student will not be marked “absent” for school while receiving approved homebound instruction. The school nurse will monitor medical progress of student by contact with parent/guardian at least once during the scheduled absence. Once a student is ready to return to school, the school team will meet with a parent to review progress and suggest additional supports necessary to return the child to school. Progress reports from the homebound teacher will be used by teachers and administrators in the determination of a student’s overall class grade.

## **PROCEDURE 221: HOMEBOUND STUDENTS**

To submit a request for Homebound Instruction, parents must follow the following procedures:

- Parent must obtain from and return to the school nurse a completed Physician’s Referral Form. The form **MUST** be completed by the doctor treating the specific condition causing the child’s absence from school.
- Incomplete forms or forms with missing information will be considered; however, lack of information may be sufficient reason for a denial of homebound services.
- All information provided will be considered by the school team to determine whether or not homebound services should be provided. Parents will be informed of approval or denial of services.
- If services are approved, a meeting will convene in order to create a Homebound Instructional Plan for the student for the duration of the approved absence. A parent/guardian must attend this meeting and sign the plan and consent form.

**NOTICE:** Homebound instruction can only be granted for a period of 3 months. In the event a student requires services for longer than 3 months, a parent must reapply for services following the procedure above. For students diagnosed with chronic illnesses requiring extended periods of homebound instruction throughout the school year, school teams may refer the student for evaluation for continuation of services under IDEA or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.