117. HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

1. Purpose
   SC 1329
   Title 22
   Sec. 11.25
   The Board shall provide, pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, individual instruction to students confined to home or hospital for temporary physical disability, illness or injury; or when such confinement is recommended for psychiatric reasons. The period of homebound instruction for an individual shall not exceed three (3) months.

2. Delegation of Responsibility
   Title 22
   Sec. 11.25
   Applications for individual instruction shall certify the nature of the illness or disability and state the probable duration of the confinement; and must be approved by the Superintendent or a designee. Applications must include a letter from the parent/guardian and a statement from the primary care physician.

   The Superintendent or designee may request approval from the Department of Education to extend the period of homebound instruction for an individual, which shall be reevaluated every three (3) months.

3. Guidelines
   The Board will provide individual instruction only for those confinements expected to last at least two (2) weeks but such exceptions may be made as the Superintendent or designee deems advisable and so recommends. Each child should have up to five (5) hours of instruction per week. Exceptions may be authorized by the Superintendent or designee but any allotment of hours above five (5) must be pre-approved.

   The program of individual instruction given each student shall be in accordance with the standards established by the Secretary of Education.

   The Board reserves the right to withhold individual instruction when:

   1. The instructor's presence in the place of a student's confinement presents a hazard to the health of the teacher.

   2. A parent/guardian or other adult in authority is not at home with the student during the hours of instruction.
3. Parents/Guardians fail to establish suitable conditions under which such instruction can occur.

In some situations, students may require immediate homebound instruction due to an emergency situation and/or a placement in a hospital, partial-hospitalization program, rehabilitation facility or detention center. If the placement facility and/or hospital, detention center or program offers and provides educational instruction, the District will initially approve two (2) weeks of educational instruction with a maximum of five (5) hours per week at the current District homebound rate for professional staff (based upon the current professional agreement). If a specific student situation requires additional educational instruction beyond the five (5) hours per week for two (2) weeks or the cost is above the current District homebound rate for professional staff, pre-approval is required by the Superintendent or designee. If additional hours are requested or the rate per hour needs to be negotiated, this policy provides the Superintendent or designee the authority to make such decisions. The pre-approval must include the rationale for the additional hours of educational instruction, total number of hours per week requested, the approximate ratio of teacher to students during the instruction and the requested hourly rate for instruction is the rate exceeds the current District homebound rate for professional staff.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1329

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