

White County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in March	Descriptor Term: Home Schools	Descriptor Code: 6.202	Issued Date: 05/11/17
		Rescinds: J-7	Issued: 10/10/13

- 1 A "home school" is a school conducted or directed by a parent or parents or legal guardian or guardians
 2 for their own children. Home schools which teach K-12 where the parents are associated with an
 3 organization that conducts church-related schools (as defined by §49-50-801) are exempt from the
 4 following provisions, but must follow procedures issued by the State Department of Education.
- 5 A parent wishing to conduct a home school shall meet the following requirements:¹
- 6 1. Provide annual notice to the director of schools before the commencement of each school year of
 7 the intent to conduct a home school;
 - 8 2. Submit to the director of schools the name, number, age, grade level of children involved, location
 9 of the school, curriculum to be offered, proposed hours of instruction, qualifications of the
 10 parent/teacher;
 - 11 3. Maintain attendance records, subject to inspection of the local director of schools;
 - 12 4. Submit attendance records to the director of schools at the end of each school year;
 - 13 5. Provide instruction for at least four (4) hours per day for the same number of instructional days as
 14 are required by state law for public schools;
 - 15 6. Possess a high school diploma or GED;
 - 16 7. Cooperate in the administration to home school students of appropriate tests by the Commissioner
 17 of Education, his/her designee or by a professional testing service in grades five (5), seven (7), and
 18 nine (9);
 - 19 8. Take actions according to state law if home school student falls behind appropriate grade level;
 - 20 9. Submit proof to the director of schools that the home school student has been vaccinated as required
 21 by law;
 - 22 10. Submit proof to the director of schools that other health services and examinations as required by
 23 law have been received by the home school student; and
 - 24 11. In the event of illness or inadequacy of the home school parent-teacher to teach a specific subject,
 25 employ a tutor having the same qualifications as required of parent/teacher.

1 If one or more of these requirements are not met, the board authorizes the director of schools to take
2 formal action to bring the child into compliance with the compulsory attendance law (until the child has
3 reached age 17), either in the home school or in a public, private, or church-related school.

4 It shall be the policy of this board that public school facilities shall be available for home school
5 instruction only when all of the following conditions exist:

- 6 1. Special needs courses are being taught which require services unavailable to the home school
7 student;
- 8 2. These services cannot be provided through any means other than the public schools;
- 9 3. Requests for services are made known by the home school parent when notice is given to the
10 director of schools of the intent to conduct a home school;
- 11 4. The director of schools investigates request and make recommendations to the board;
- 12 5. No overcrowding, additional expenses, including providing transportation, or other special
13 situations which interfere with the normal operation of the school system shall be incurred; and
- 14 6. Approval by the board on a case-by-case basis.

15 The director of schools, through the attendance supervisor, shall have the attendance records of the home
16 school inspected at least two (2) times each school year in order to provide assistance in implementing
17 the Compulsory Attendance Law.

18 If a home school student falls more than one (1) year behind his/her appropriate grade level in his/her
19 comprehensive test score for two (2) consecutive tests, and if a certified teacher who would have
20 taught the child at his/her grade level determines through appropriate means that the student is not
21 learning disabled, the director of schools shall require the parents to enroll the child in a public,
22 private, or church-related school.

23 Home school students will be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition according to
24 the eligibility requirements for home school students established by the TMSAA and the TSSAA.²

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-3050
2. TCA 49-6-3050(e)