

Hardeman County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: <h2 style="text-align: center;">Home Schools</h2>	Descriptor Code: 6.202	Issued Date: 08/13/09
		Rescinds: 6.202	Issued: 02/17/00

1 A "home school" is a school conducted by parent(s) or legal guardians for their own children. Home
 2 schools which teach K-12 where the parents are associated with an organization that conducts church-
 3 related schools (*as defined by §49-50-801*) which are supervised by such organization and which ad-
 4 minister standardized achievement tests at the same time tests are given in their regular day schools are
 5 exempt from the following provisions, but must follow procedures issued by the State Department of
 6 Education.¹

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 8 A parent wishing to conduct a home school shall meet the following requirements:

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- 10 1. Provide notice to the director of schools by August 1 before the commencement of each school
- 11 year of the intent to conduct a home school;
- 12
- 13 2. Submit to the director of schools the name, number, age, grade level of children involved, lo-
- 14 cation of the school, curriculum to be offered, proposed hours of instruction, qualifications of
- 15 the parent/teacher, whether a college preparatory or general course of education will be taught
- 16 in grades 9-12, and a description of the courses to be taught each year;
- 17
- 18 3. Maintain attendance records, subject to inspection of the local director of schools;
- 19
- 20 4. Submit attendance records to the director of schools at the end of each school year;
- 21
- 22 5. Provide instruction for at least four (4) hours per day for the same number of instructional days
- 23 as are required by state law for public schools;
- 24
- 25 6. Possess a high school diploma or GED in order to conduct classes in grades K-8 and possess
- 26 at least a baccalaureate degree in order to conduct classes in grades 9-12, or proper State De-
- 27 partment of Education exemption;
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- 29 7. Cooperate in the administration to home school students of appropriate tests by the Commis-
- 30 sioner of Education, his/her designee or by a professional testing service;
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- 32 8. Take action according to state law if home school student falls behind appropriate grade
- 33 level;
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- 35 9. Submit proof to the director of schools that the home school student has been vaccinated as
- 36 required by law;
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- 38 10. Submit proof to the director of schools that other health services and examinations as required
- 39 by law have been received by the home school student; and
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1 11. In the event of illness or inadequacy of the home school parent-teacher to teach a specific
2 subject, employ a tutor having the same qualifications as required of parent/teacher.
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4 If one or more of these requirements are not met, the Board authorizes the director of schools to take
5 formal action to bring the child into compliance with the compulsory attendance law (until the child has
6 reached age 17), either in the home school or in a public, private or church-related school.
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8 It shall be the policy of this Board that public school facilities shall be available for home school in-
9 struction only when *all* of the following conditions exist:

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- 11 1. Special needs courses are being taught which require services unavailable to the home school
- 12 student;
- 13
- 14 2. These services cannot be provided through any means other than the public schools;
- 15
- 16 3. Requests for services are made known by the home school parent when notice is given to the
- 17 director of schools of the intent to conduct a home school;
- 18
- 19 4. The director of schools investigates request and make recommendations to the Board;
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- 21 5. No overcrowding, additional expenses, including providing transportation, or other special situ-
- 22 ations which interfere with the normal operation of the school system shall be incurred; and
- 23
- 24 6. Approval by the Board on a case-by-case basis.
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26 If a home school student falls more than one (1) year behind his appropriate grade level in his/her
27 comprehensive test score for two (2) consecutive tests, and if a certified teacher who would have taught
28 the child at his/her grade level determines through appropriate means that the student is not learning
29 disabled, the director of schools shall require the parents to enroll the child in a public, private or
30 church-related school.
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45 Legal Reference:

- 46 1. TCA 49-6-3050(a)(10)(2)(A)
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