

Instruction

Home and Hospital Instruction ¹

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.² Eligibility shall be determined by State law and the Illinois State Board of Education rules governing (1) the continuum of placement options for students who have been identified for special education services or (2) the home and hospital instruction provisions for students who have not been identified for special education services.³ Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a physician's written statement.⁴ Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction (1) before the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to three months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.⁵

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s), and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate a student's return to school.

¹ 105 ILCS 5/14-13.01, amended by P.A. 100-443, defines the standards for determining when a student is eligible to receive home or hospital instruction. A student qualifies when a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice nurse *anticipates* a student's absence due to a medical condition. The law defines "ongoing intermittent basis" to mean a medical condition of such a nature and severity that it is anticipated that the student will be absent from school due to the medical condition for periods of at least two days at a time multiple times during the school year totaling at least 10 days or more of absences. 225 ILCS 65/20-10, amended by P.A. 100-513, revised the Nurse Practice Act to add *registered* to the definition of *advanced practice registered nurse*; accordingly, this policy reflects that change in terminology, even though Section 5/14-13.01 similarly has not been amended.

² 105 ILCS 5/14-13.01(a), amended by P.A. 100-443, requires that all students provide a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse stating the existence of a medical condition, the impact on the child's ability to participate in education, and the anticipated duration or nature of the child's absence from school. However, ISBE rules at 23 Ill.Admin.Code §226.300 (students qualifying for special education services) and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.520 (students not qualifying for special education services) have not yet been amended to reflect that this written statement may come from a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse; they still state that such a written statement must come from a physician. ISBE's *Medical Certification for Home/Hospital Instruction* form, form 34-58, reflects that the written statement may come from a "physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, APRN, or PA." Available at: www.isbe.net/Documents/34-58-home-hospital-inst.pdf.

A student with health needs may be protected by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1401(3) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. §794(a)).

³ There is no requirement that a student be absent from school for a minimum number of days before he or she qualifies for home or hospital instruction. 105 ILCS 5/14-13.01(a). The statute, amended by P.A. 100-443, allows schools to begin home or hospital instruction upon receipt of a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse but requires it to begin no later than five school days after receipt of the written statement.

Both 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§226.300(g) and 1.520(f) require home or hospital instructors to meet the requirements listed in 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.610, i.e., proper licensure as required by Section 21B-15 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/21B-15).

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6a, amended by P.A. 100-443. Number (2) does not require a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.

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LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6a, 5/14-13.01, and 5/18-4.5.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.520, 1.610, and 226.300.

CROSS REF.: 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunity),
7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

Special Programs

Policy 6:150

Home and Hospital Instruction

A student absent from school for more than 2 consecutive weeks because of health or physical impairment will be provided the services of a certified teacher in the home or hospital. Appropriate educational services shall begin as soon as eligibility has been established with a written statement from a licensed medical examiner and a written parental or guardian request filed in the office of the Superintendent.

Instructional time will be provided for a minimum of 5 clock hours per week on days when school is normally in session. Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s) and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate the student's return to school.

LEGAL REF.:

*Rules and Regulations to Govern the Administration and Operation of Special Education, 23 Ill. Admin. Code § 226.355.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.6a.*

ADOPTED:

May 20, 2002

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CROSS REF.: 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunity),
7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

ADOPTED: JANUARY 28, 2019