

Manchester Essex Regional School District
Homebound Instruction Procedures

I. Educational services in home or hospital.

Upon receipt of a physician's written order verifying that any student enrolled in a public school or placed by the public school in a private setting must remain at home or in a hospital on a day or overnight basis, or any combination of both, for medical reasons and for a period of not less than fourteen school days in any school year, the principal or other appropriate program administrator shall arrange for provision of educational services in the home or hospital.

Such services shall be provided with sufficient frequency to allow the student to continue his or her educational program, as long as such services do not interfere with the medical needs of the student.

The principal or other appropriate program administrator shall coordinate such services with the Director of Student Services for eligible students. Such educational services shall not be considered special education unless the student has been determined eligible for such services, and the services include services on the student's IEP.

Legal Reference 603 CMR 28.03(3)(c)

II. Unscheduled evaluations for medical reasons.

If, in the opinion of the student's physician, an eligible student is likely to remain at home, in a hospital, or in a pediatric nursing home for medical reasons and for more than 60 school days in any school year, the Director of Student Services shall, without undue delay, convene a Team to consider evaluation needs and, if appropriate, to amend the existing IEP or develop a new IEP suited to the student's unique circumstances.

Legal Reference 603 CMR 28.04(4)

III. Additional Information

A parent/guardian can submit supplemental information from the student's physician if MERSD finds that the physician's initial statement did not satisfy the Massachusetts' requirements for homebound instruction.

At a minimum, a physician's signed notice must include the following information:

1. The date the student was admitted to a hospital or was confined to home;
2. The medical reason(s) for the confinement;
3. The expected duration of the confinement; and
4. What medical needs of the student should be considered in planning the home or hospital education services.

Home/hospital instruction is typically one to one or small group instruction. The number of instructional hours per day or per week is based in part on the educational and medical needs of the individual student.

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