

Windham School District

IHBG

## HOME EDUCATION INSTRUCTION

### **Eligibility**

The Board recognizes the right of parents to pursue home education within the parameters RSA 193-A, the NH Code of Administrative Rules Ed 315, and other applicable state laws and regulations.

### **Enrollment Procedures**

Any parent commencing a home education program shall notify the Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Education, the Superintendent, or a non-public school principal (participating agencies) within five (5) business days of commencing the home education program.

A parent planning to continue a home education program after the commencement of such a program shall notify the Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Education, Superintendent or the non-public school principal acting in the role of participating agency by the first day of each school year according to the Windham School District's calendar.

The parents of a student currently enrolled in the Windham School District shall advise the Superintendent of the student's withdrawal on or before the date the home education program shall begin and shall follow the notification procedures set forth in this Policy, RSA 193-A, and Ed 315.

Notification of intent to commence or continue a home education program shall include the name and address of the parents and the names, addresses (including street and town), and birth dates of all children who are participating in the home education program. The notice must also include the date on which the program will begin or has begun and a telephone number at which the parent(s) may be reached during normal business hours. If notice is provided to the Superintendent, then the Superintendent, or his/her designee, will acknowledge receipt of such notification within fourteen (14) days. If the parents intend to use the State or District-wide assessment, then the parents shall also notify the Superintendent at the time the above information is provided.

**Legal References:** RSA 193-A; RSA 193:1-a II (Dual Enrollment); Ed. 315.01 - 315.19 Appendix IHBG-R

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Upon receipt of notification from the parents, the Superintendent shall review the notification in accordance with Ed 315.05(e).

If requested by the parent, the Superintendent or his/her designee will assist parents in making such notification and in complying with applicable statutory requirements including but not limited to RSA 193-A:6.

State attendance laws and District attendance policies shall apply to all students within the District until the Commissioner of Education, the Superintendent, or principal of a non-public school receives notice from a student's parent/guardian of the commencement of a home education program, consistent with the requirements of RSA 193-A:5.

### **Evaluation Procedures**

Parents must maintain a portfolio of records and materials relative to the home education program and must provide for an annual evaluation documenting the child's demonstration of education progress at a level commensurate with the child's age and ability, in accordance with RSA 193-A and ED 315.05-09.

Parents requesting that their home educated child participate in State or District-wide assessments within the Windham School District must notify the Superintendent, or his/her designee, in writing at the time of the notification to commence or continue to provide a home education program. In this case the Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall allow the home educated child to participate in State or District-wide assessments and will notify building administrators accordingly. If the District is not acting as the participating agency, the District shall provide evaluation services at the discretion of the Superintendent.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will develop a form that may be used by parents in filing the results of the outside evaluation. Parents will be provided a copy of the evaluation.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will review the results of the annual education evaluation of children in home educational programs in accordance with Ed 315.08. If the home-educated child has not demonstrated educational progress, the Superintendent

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will notify the parent in writing that educational progress has not been achieved in accordance with Ed 315.09. Likewise, the Superintendent or his/her designee will notify the parent in writing within 21 days of the evaluation if the child has demonstrated educational progress.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will ensure that the evaluation includes all information, dates and signatures required by RSA 193-A and Ed 315.

### **Voluntary Termination**

Parents wishing to voluntarily terminate an established home education program shall within fifteen (15) calendar days of termination notify the Commissioner of Education and the appropriate participating agency in accordance with Ed 315.04(g).

### **Re-enrollment into the District Program**

Parents deciding to re-enroll their children into the District following a period of home education will make arrangements with the Principal/s for an evaluation to determine appropriate placement in the District's program. Placements will be consistent with the any District policies and/or procedures governing student placements for all children and are subject to the same appeal process.

Parents should be attentive that when re-enrolling a student, there may be discrepancies between the home schooling level of achievement and the scope and sequence of the District's curriculum.

### **Graduation/Diplomas**

The School Board will not award certificates or diplomas to a home educated student. Students must enter the regular school program and complete all necessary graduation requirements of the District and the State to be eligible for a certificate or diploma.

### **Participation in school curricular and co-curricular activities**

Regulations regarding the participation of home education students in District curricular and extra-curricular programs are established in Appendix IHBG-R. The Superintendent is charged with establishing such regulations. Consistent with RSA 193:1-c, any regulations shall not be more restrictive for non-public or home educated pupils than they are for students enrolled in the District.

**Legal References:** RSA 193-A; RSA 193:1-a II (Dual Enrollment); Ed. 315.01 - 315.19  
Appendix IHBG-R

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