

Home, Hospital, or Institutional Instruction Frequently Asked Questions

be provided daily. *****As of July 1, 2023, the hours of instruction will be increased to 10 hours of instruction per week at the elementary level and 15 hours of instruction per week at the secondary level.**

6. What is the process for a parent or guardian to appeal a request for home, h

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- x Yes. Please note that if instruction is being provided through a virtual modality, the district must ensure the student has access to a computing device and broadband internet sufficient to fully participate in the instruction.
19. Can a public school district delay home, hospital, or institutional instruction?
- x Home, hospital, or institutional instruction should begin within 5 days (see question 4). However, on rare occasions it may be necessary to delay the provision of instruction due to circumstances, such as health hazards to others caused by a communicable disease; in such instances, these exceptional circumstances should be documented by a healthcare professional (physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant, or local department of health).
20. How long must home, hospital, or institutional instruction continue to be available?
- x This service must be made available until the student is capable of returning to school. Provider orders are valid for 12 months or until the order is changed or discontinued by the provider – therefore, school districts should request new written verification of a student health condition annually. If a question arises about this, the public school district should consult with the student’s treating healthcare provider (including mental health providers).
21. My child requires home, hospital, or institutional instruction and attends a nonpublic school which has an instructional model that is very different from the public school. Will the district’s home, hospital, or institutional instruction be consistent with that of the nonpublic school?
- x The Commissioner of Education has ruled, in Commissioner’s Decision No. 16,627, that there is “no legal authority... requiring a public school district to replicate a nonpublic school curriculum in providing home instruction. However, in determining the appropriate instruction to be provided, a school district should consider all relevant factors, such as the student’s grade level, point in the school year, syllabus previously covered and prior student work.” Thus, while public districts are not required to match the nonpublic school’s curriculum, districts should work with the nonpublic school to ensure that, to the extent possible, the student is prepared to return to their own school, with a minimum of disruption.