



# HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION FOR DC STUDENTS

This information guide, provided by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), outlines legal responsibilities of local education agencies (LEAs) and offers guidance for parents and guardians requesting home or hospital instruction for their child.<sup>1</sup>

## Parents and guardians of DC students have a right to:

- Receive, upon request, information from your child's LEA or school about home and hospital instruction
- A decision of approval or denial from your child's LEA within five days of submitting a home and hospital instruction application for your child
- Appeal to OSSE if you are unsatisfied with a home and hospital instruction decision from your child's LEA
- Mediation with the LEA to determine a resolution to an appeal
- A timely decision on your home and hospital instruction appeal

## What is home and hospital instruction?

Home and hospital instruction programs allow students to continue academic instruction in core subjects while they are unable to be present at school. Home and hospital instruction is designed to promote a participating student's academic progress by allowing the student to stay current with classroom instruction in core subjects, to the greatest extent possible when the student is out of school for a short-term medical situation that prevents them from attending school in person.

## Is my child eligible for home and hospital instruction?

Eligibility is determined by a medical professional. Applications must include a medical letter stating the student requires home or hospital instruction due to an injury or illness which will last more than 10 school days.

## Who do I contact to request home and hospital instruction?

LEAs are required to provide information about home and hospital instruction upon request. Contact your child's LEA for details on the application process. If you do not know how to contact your child's LEA, ask someone at your child's school. After you submit your application, the LEA has five days to provide you with a decision.

## What do I do if my request for home and hospital instruction is denied by my child's LEA?

If your request is denied, you may appeal the decision to OSSE. To appeal, submit information in the [Home and Hospital Instruction Appeal Portal](#) within 10 days of the denial. The appeal portal will require you to provide the denial from the LEA, a copy of the medical certification and the reason for the appeal. OSSE will arrange mediation between you and the LEA. If mediation is not successful, a panel of OSSE staff will review your appeal and issue a decision.

**Need more information?** For further information, please visit OSSE's [Home and Hospital Instruction website](#) or email [OSSE.HHIappeal@dc.gov](mailto:OSSE.HHIappeal@dc.gov).

<sup>1</sup> D.C. Official Code §§ 38-251.01—38-251.10.

