

Homebound Services

Homebound services are for students who are *confined* to home or hospital for 4 or more school weeks. Services are available to both general education and special education students based on certain criteria per TEA. Homebound services are not appropriate for students who are struggling in the traditional school environment and do not have a confining medical condition.

Criteria:

- The student is expected to be confined at home or hospital for a minimum of 4 weeks. The weeks need not be consecutive.
- The student is confined at home or hospital for medical reasons only.
- The student's medical condition is documented by a physician licensed to practice in the United States.

Qualification Process:

- Homebound eligibility can only be determined by an ARD or 504 committee. An ARD will be held for students who receive Special Education services. A 504 meeting will be held for students who are served under 504.
- General education students who did not previously receive 504 services but may qualify for homebound services, consent must be obtained from the parent/adult student to conduct an evaluation to determine eligibility for homebound services. If the student is found eligible for homebound services,

a 504 meeting is held and the committee determines what courses will be continued in the home setting. All decisions are documented in the 504 paperwork and consent for placement in 504 must be received.

- Documentation from a licensed physician stating that the student has a medical condition that requires the student to be confined at home or hospital for a minimum of 4 weeks.
- All required paperwork will be provided by the school. Forms must travel directly to/from the school to the doctor's office. Hand-carried paperwork from the parent will not be accepted. The school will ask the parents for a release of information so that homebound information can be collected from the physician.
- Decisions about eligibility for homebound services can only be made within an ARD or 504 meeting.
- The amount of weekly instruction to be provided to the student will be documented in the ARD or 504 meeting.
- Homebound services do not start automatically upon recommendation by a physician and/or entry into a residential facility. To expedite the process, please inform the campus 504 coordinator and/or SPED Team Leader as soon as possible. The family should communicate with the physician's office letting them know to expect paperwork and expedite its return.
- The ARD or 504 committee will determine the beginning and end of homebound services, based on information provided by the homebound teacher, parents, and licensed physician.

About Homebound Services:

- Homebound services are not appropriate for students who are struggling in the traditional school environment and do not have a confining medical condition.

- TEA regulations state that students in non-residential treatment facilities are NOT eligible for homebound services.
- While the student is receiving homebound services, the student may not be able to participate in or attend extracurricular school activities including sports events, school dances, or work outside the home unless so specified by the physician on the Medical Needs Assessment. However, the ARD or 504 committee will make the final determination based on student needs.
- The homebound teacher must provide at least four (4) hours of instruction weekly to maintain 100% attendance for students. Attendance is necessary to meet state requirements for compulsory attendance, to obtain course credit and to advance from grade to grade.
- A student may continue to receive homebound services as long as there is a need as determined by the ARD or 504 committee with current recommendations from the physician.
- In collaboration with the parents and physicians, the ARD or 504 committee can dismiss a student from homebound services. The ARD or 504 committee may not extend homebound services beyond the confinement period specified by the physician.
- On the date that homebound services are set to expire, if an extension has not been received by the physician, homebound services will cease and regular attendance expectations will resume.

Location of Services:

- Homebound services are delivered in the home or hospital setting because the student is confined to the home or hospital.
- On rare occasions due to the nature of the disability, the ARD committee or 504 Committee can agree to provide services at a mutually agreeable location that is decided upon by the teacher and student/family.

- Documentation of services must be completed on a weekly basis. This documentation will include day and time of services, activities completed, notes, and any reasons for missed sessions.

Parent Responsibilities:

- A parent or guardian over the age of 21 must be present in the home at all times during instruction. School personnel are not allowed to be in the home alone with a student of any age for any amount of time. School staff are instructed to leave the premises if a responsible adult is not present. School staff are also instructed to leave the premises if they feel they are in danger due to a student or family member's behavior.
- A schedule will be created. Parents are responsible for seeing that the student is rested and available for instruction at the scheduled time. Parents should supervise the completion of assignments between visits and help students to be prepared. Should the student be too ill to participate in instruction, the parent must contact the school to notify the homebound teacher of the cancellation.
- Although attendance is in a different format, truancy laws are still applicable.
- Parents and students are responsible for all textbooks, library books, computer equipment, and other instructional materials which are checked out for use during homebound services.

Grading:

- Homebound services are provided by a certified teacher. Special Education services are provided by a certified Special Education teacher.

- The ARD or 504 committee will determine the scope of instruction and independent work, as well as any needed accommodations, extended time/due date parameters, etc. Homebound students are not exempt from assignments but are still responsible for completing work to show mastery of curriculum.
- The homebound teacher will be emphasizing current assignments so when the student is able to return to school, he/she is able to rejoin the class. Incompletes or previously undone or failed assignments should be discussed with the classroom teacher.

Additional information is available at each campus:

- For general education or Section 504 students, contact your [Campus 504 Coordinator](#).
- For special education students, contact the campus , LSSP, or case manager.

For further questions concerning eligibility and procedures, you may contact JISD's homebound coordinator, Andrea David at andrea.david@jarrellisd.org or call 512-746-2124.