

Home-Based Clarification
April 2018

Several items have come to our attention involving home-based students primarily. We are providing this information for clarification.

1. Home-based students cannot be in attendance more than 0.8 FTE in a public school district. If they are attending or being reported for more than a 0.8 FTE, they lose their home-base status. For example, if a student is attending for one class or for half a day and is being report as full time attendance, this would jeopardize the student's status as having a parent provide home-based instruction as it appears that the student is attending public school full-time.
2. If the parent wants to have the student take classes at the district or receive ancillary services, including having their student(s) play sports, etc., the part-time/ancillary services form should be completed. This provides evidence that the home-based student is only enrolling for specific classes/services. (Sample is included in the booklet, [Washington State Laws Regulating Home-based Instruction](#) (The Pink Book) (<http://www.k12.wa.us/PrivateEd/HomeBasedEd/PinkBook/pinkbook.pdf>).
3. Once the parent files the declaration of intent to provide home-based instruction, the parent is responsible for curriculum, testing, recordkeeping, etc. This is the parent's right under the home-based law. They do not have to report what curriculum or books they are using to the local district.
4. Running Start enrollment—enrollment of home-based students (and private school students) is done at a local public high school (RCW [28A.600.320](#)). The high school counselor needs to be the person who signs off on the Running Start Enrollment Verification Form (RSEVF) along with the student and parent.

Home-based students are not required to take any classes at the public high school unless the (1) student wishes to receive a public school district diploma. Then the student will have to meet **all** state and local graduation requirements and assessments.

(2) Home-based students would still be eligible to do part-time classes at the public high school. This will reduce their college FTE enrollment, depending on the number of part-time classes they are taking through the district. The part-time/ancillary services form should be completed to cover those classes.

5. If the home-based student (or private school student) desires to receive a high school diploma upon completing the AA degree at the college, the student will need to notify the college upon registration for Running Start.
6. Some other Running Start information applying to both home-based and private school students:
 - ✓ Eligibility for participation as a junior or senior as determined by the district's grade placement policy; any district criteria used to establish grade placement must be applied uniformly to **all** students.
 - ✓ Running Start eligibility is based on two academic years for junior and senior standing only.
 - ✓ All Running Start earned credit must be recorded on an official school transcript. It is up to the homeschool parent/student as to whether or not they want to seek a copy of that transcript.
 - ✓ See the Frequently Asked Questions for Running Start for more information at [Running Start FAQs](http://www.k12.wa.us/OSSI/K12Supports/CareerCollegeReadiness/pubdocs/RunningStart-FAQs.pdf) (<http://www.k12.wa.us/OSSI/K12Supports/CareerCollegeReadiness/pubdocs/RunningStart-FAQs.pdf>).
7. Choice Transfer by home-based parents—home-based students can transfer through the Choice Transfer process to another district to take part-time classes. However, if the parent(s) want the students to take additional classes at the district they reside in, then the following comes into play:
 - ✓ The “Choice” district where the student attends through a Choice Transfers effectively becomes the resident district.
 - ✓ The “Choice” district, now acting as the Resident District, would have to submit an Interdistrict Agreement to the district where the student resides for the student to access coursework/services there.
 - ✓ The parent cannot arbitrarily bounce back and forth with enrollments.
 - ✓ Contact the School Choice & Enrollment Options Manager (Joy Walton Kawasaki) at 360.725.6237 or joy.walton.kawasaki@k12.wa.us for more information.
 - ✓ Refer to Bulletin #035-18 for more information on Choice Transfer and Interdistrict Agreements.
8. When a home-based student enters the public high school in his/her junior year, does any information go on the transcript for freshman and sophomore years to receive a district diploma? The district should evaluate the home-based transcript provided by the parent to see if classes taken in the freshman and sophomore years meet minimum graduation requirements. If classes taken do meet requirements, the classes should be added to the transcript.
 - A. The student will be subject to all state and local graduation requirements when seeking a district diploma.

B. Home-based students are not required to meet minimum graduation requirements if they remain home-based students.

9. If a home-based parent decides to have his/her student take classes with a provider outside of the state of Washington for credit, know that the Washington State Board of Education does not approve schools outside of Washington. Approval would come through the OSPI's Alternative Learning Department (Digital Learning).
10. Records for home-based students: Parents are required to maintain records of their students' education. They can produce a transcript to show that the student has graduated. No records are sent to the agency by home-based parents—no requirement in law for them to do so. However, if the student takes classes part-time at the resident district or choice district, uses the state assessment, or enrolls in Running Start, partial transcripts are created for students in grades 9-12. Younger students would also have information in CEDARS.
11. Under [RCW 28A.225.010](#) (1) & (4), a parent can remove a student from school who is under the age of 8 without filing the declaration of intent to provide home-based instruction. The parent only needs to state that she/he will be homeschooling his/her child. There is no penalty; the child will not be considered truant.

(1) If a parent enrolls a child who is six or seven years of age in a public school, the child is required to attend and that parent has the responsibility to ensure the child attends for the full time that school is in session. An exception shall be made to this requirement for children whose parents formally remove them from enrollment if the child is less than eight years old and a petition has not been filed against the parent under subsection (3) of this section. The requirement to attend school under this subsection does not apply to a child enrolled in a public school part-time for the purpose of receiving ancillary services. A child required to attend school under this subsection may be temporarily excused upon the request of his or her parent for purposes agreed upon by the school district and parent.

(4) This section does not require a six or seven year old child to enroll in a public or private school or to receive home-based instruction. This section only applies to six or seven year old children whose parents enroll them full time in public school and do not formally remove them from enrollment as provided in subsection (1) of this section.