

Section: **STUDENTS**

Policy Title: **Home-based Instruction**

Home-based instruction consists of planned and supervised instructional and related educational activities, including the basic skills of occupational education, science, mathematics, language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing, spelling and the development of an appreciation of art and music. Such instruction shall be equivalent to the total annual program hours per grade level as established for public schools.

It shall be the policy of the Kelso School District to cooperate in reasonable ways with home schooling families within the district while at the same time carrying out the district's statutorily-mandated responsibilities in regard to mandatory school attendance. Part time students are permitted to enroll and receive ancillary services, provided that such students are otherwise eligible for full time enrollment in the school district and such courses or services are not available in the student's private school or an approved extension thereof. Part time status also includes: any student not enrolled in a private school who is receiving home-based instruction and taking courses at or receiving ancillary services from the district or both, or any student involved in an approved work training program.

I. Each parent whose child is receiving home-based instruction shall:

1. file a declaration of intent with the Superintendent by September 15, or within two (2) weeks of the beginning of any quarter, trimester or semester;
2. ensure that test scores or annual academic progress assessments and immunization records, together with any other records that are kept relating to the instructional and educational activities provided, are forwarded to any public or private school to which the child transfers; and,
3. ensure that a standardized achievement test approved by the State Board of Education is administered annually to the child by a qualified individual or that an annual assessment of the student's academic progress is written by a certificated person who is currently working in the field of education. The standardized test results or the annual academic progress assessment report shall be made a part of the child's permanent records.

All decisions relating to philosophy or doctrine, selection of books, teaching materials and curriculum, and methods, timing, place, in the provision or the evaluation of home-based instruction shall be the responsibility of the parent. Failure of a parent to comply with the standards as specified in the law and this policy shall constitute a violation of the compulsory attendance law.

The superintendent is directed to establish procedures that define the district's responsibilities for home based instruction.

- II. To enroll a student in Kelso School District after attendance in home-based instruction, the parent/guardian will:
 1. Provide the most recent Declaration of Intent that was used to qualify the student to be home schooled.
 2. Meet with staff to arrange for their child to take the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) placement testing (reading and math) to determine student course placement.
 3. Provide records from their last school of attendance, when applicable.

- III. To receive a Kelso High School diploma after attendance in home-based instruction, the following guidelines shall include:
 1. All home-school credits/grades will be recorded as Pass/Fail on Kelso High School transcripts.
 2. A student must be enrolled full time (five periods) on Kelso High School campus for two semesters prior to graduating (junior or senior year) and successfully complete those semesters with passing grades and meet all local district graduation requirements. If a student attends running start, the two semesters on campus must be prior to running start.
 3. The principal will have final authority on appropriate grade and course-level placement.
 4. Probationary placement may be made until student performance level is verified.

Legal References:

RCW 28A.195.010 Private schools--Extension programs for parents to teach children in their custody--Scope of state control--Generally

RCW 28A.225.010 Attendance mandatory--Age--Persons having custody shall cause child to attend public school--Exceptions

RCW 28A.200.010 Home-based instruction--Duties of parents

RCW 28A.200.020 Home-based instruction--Certain decisions responsibility of parent

RCW 28A.150.350 Part-time students--Defined- -Enrollment authorized--Reimbursement for costs--Funding authority recognition--Rules

WAC 392-121-182 Enrollment time credit-off-campus--Alternative Learning Experiences--Study time off-campus Instruction Requirements

WAC 392-134-010 Attendance rights of part-time public school students

Cross References:

Policy 2410, Graduation Requirements (III Equivalent Credit for Alternative Learning Experiences, Courses and Challenges)

Policy 2411, Certificate of Educational Competency

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