

## 117. ATTACHMENT 1

### **INFORMATION SHEET REGARDING TEMPORARY HOMEBOUND EXCUSAL FROM SCHOOL**

#### **What is Homebound?**

Homebound is a temporary excusal from school based upon “mental, physical or other urgent reasons.”

#### **What is the Purpose of a Homebound Excuse?**

A homebound excuse is to be provided on a limited basis when it is impossible for a student to attend *any type* of educational programming outside the home. If the student’s school program can be modified to accommodate his/her needs, then homebound is not appropriate.

#### **In What Types of Situations is Homebound NOT Appropriate?**

Homebound is not appropriate if any other educational program, however modified, can be provided. (For instance, a student’s needs may prevent him/her from attending a regular classroom environment, but there may be other settings that *could* be appropriate.)

A homebound excuse, designed for temporary, urgent conditions, is not generally appropriate for long-term illnesses or mental conditions. In long-term cases, appropriate programming will be developed to accommodate the illness or condition. Such programming may be provided in school, in the home, in the hospital, etc., but would not be considered an excusal from school.

Although all homebound requests require an individual determination of need, a diagnoses of attention, conduct, educational, mood, and/or long-term depressive disorders (such as ADD, ADHD, bi-polar disorder, low self-esteem, learning disability, conduct related disorder, etc.) are not generally reasons for homebound excuses. These types of disorders can be addressed and accommodated through appropriately designed educational programming.

As homebound is not a special education placement, homebound is also not an appropriate substitute for a special education placement while special education programming determinations are being made or special education proceedings are ongoing.

Homebound is not to be used as a way to avoid compulsory school attendance.

#### **Is Instruction Provided When a Student is on Homebound?**

Wherever possible, LVPAA will provide eligible students with homebound tutoring when a request for a homebound excuse is approved and the student can tolerate and benefit from some instruction.

To be eligible for homebound tutoring, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. Student is unable to attend school and anticipates being absent from ten (10) consecutive school days or more due to a temporary, serious medical reason, such as a car accident, disabling

surgery, serious illness, acute hospitalization (tutoring can be provided in the hospital) or health condition.

2. An application for individual instruction must be submitted to LVPA according to LVPA's Requests For Temporary Excuses From School –Homebound Instruction policy (Policy 117). Such application must include a doctor's certification of the need for homebound, including the nature of the illness or condition and the probable duration of the confinement.

3. The diagnosis and explanation of the condition on the application must sufficiently justify the need for a homebound excuse.

### **How Much Tutoring is Provided for a Student on a Homebound Excuse?**

Unless circumstances require otherwise, five (5) hours of tutoring per week will generally be provided.

### **How Long Does Homebound Last?**

LVPA shall request re-evaluation or renewal of homebound excuses no less than every sixty (60) calendar days and no more than every ninety (90) calendar days.

### **Who May Recommend Homebound?**

Valid recommendations of private, treating physicians will be accepted where such recommendations confirm the existence of a condition that prevents a student from attending and benefiting from school.

### **Will a Student on Homebound Receive the Same Education as a Student Attending School?**

No. While a student may receive tutoring services during homebound, it cannot be guaranteed that the student will keep up with classwork in the regular classroom. Because homebound is a temporary *excusal* from school, LVPA is not obligated to maintain the same amount of instruction as for a non-excused student.

### **If My Child is a Special Education Student, Will S/He Continue to Receive Special Education Services?**

A homebound excuse is not a placement for a special education student. Due to the nature of homebound excuse education, an IEP is generally not implemented for a special education student.

### **What Conditions Apply to the Approval/Provision of Homebound Instruction?**

Several conditions apply to the approval/provision of homebound instruction. For a complete discussion of such provisions, please refer to LVPA Policy 117, Requests For Temporary Excuses From School – Homebound Instruction.

### **How Do I Apply for Homebound for My Child?**

To apply, a parent/guardian must obtain a Homebound Excuse Application from LVPA. All requests must comply with LVPA's policy, Requests For Temporary Excuses From School – Homebound Instruction (Policy 117).

**Whom Should I Contact at LVPA Regarding Homebound Excuses and Applications?**

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