

117. ATTACHMENT 1

THE
LEHIGH VALLEY
CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL
FOR THE **ARTS**

**INFORMATION SHEET REGARDING
TEMPORARY MEDICAL
EXCUSAL FROM SCHOOL**

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www.CharterArts.org

What is a Temporary Medical Excuse (TME) from School?

This is a temporary excusal from school based upon “mental, physical or other urgent reasons” for which a longer excusal period is necessary than just day to day.

What is the Purpose of a TME?

A TME is to be provided on a limited basis when it is impossible for a student to attend school for any part of the school day. . If the student’s school program can be modified to accommodate his/her needs, then a TME may not be appropriate.

In What Types of Situations is a TME NOT Appropriate?

A TME is not appropriate if a modified educational program 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 TME, designed for temporary, urgent conditions, is not generally appropriate for long-term illnesses, disabilities 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.

A TME is not appropriate for all students who must be educated at home. The Charter School is able to accommodate students through appropriately designed educational programming, which may, if appropriate, be implemented at home. Such educational programming, however, is not considered to be an excusal from school.

A TME is not to be used as a way to avoid compulsory school attendance or as an excuse when a parent does not approve a proposed special education program.

Is Instruction Provided When a Student is approved for a TME?

If possible, the Charter School will provide eligible students with some tutoring when a request for a TME excuse is approved and the student can tolerate and benefit from some instruction.

How Much Tutoring is Provided for a Student on a TME?

Unless circumstances require otherwise, up to five (5) hours of tutoring per week may be provided.

How Long Does a TME Last?

The school shall require re-evaluation or renewal of a TME no less than every sixty (60) calendar days and no more than every ninety (90) calendar days.

Who May Recommend a TME?

Valid recommendations of properly certified and/or licensed private, treating physicians, psychologists or psychiatrists 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 a TME Receive the Same Education as a Student Attending School?

No. While a student may receive tutoring services during a TME, it cannot be guaranteed that the student will keep up with classwork in the regular classroom. Because a TME is a temporary *excusal* from school, the Charter School 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?

In some cases, a student may receive special education in the home through his/her IEP. This is called “instruction in the home” and is not the same as TME. “Instruction in the Home” is a placement within the special education continuum that may be chosen by an IEP team when an eligible student cannot properly receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in any other setting. A special education placement in the home or “instruction in the home” can be obtained only by going through the normal IEP process. Any placement determination, including a placement of “instruction in the home” must be determined to be appropriate by the IEP Team, and an IEP must be implemented that is specifically designed for such a placement. The nature of “instruction in the home” as well as the process for obtaining such instruction is distinctly different from a TME. Any parent/guardian who has additional questions about instruction in the home or needs further clarification of the differences between the two and which is appropriate for a particular student should contact the Principal or her/his designee.

What Conditions Apply to the Approval/Provision of Tutoring during a TME?

Several conditions apply to the approval/provision of tutoring during an approved TME. For a complete discussion of such provisions, please refer to school Policy 117, Requests For Temporary Medical Excuses From School . All of the school’s policies can be found on the school’s web site (www.lvpa charterarts.org).

How Do I Apply for a TME for My Child?

To apply, a parent/guardian must obtain a Temporary Medical Excuse Application from the Charter School. All requests must comply with the Charter School’s policy, Requests For Temporary Medical Excuses From School (Policy 117).

Whom Should I Contact at the School Regarding Temporary Medical Excuses and Applications?

Sharon Fehlinger-Ricker, Principal, at (610) 868-2971, ext. 121.