

File: I18

## HOME EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Massachusetts General Laws requires the School Committee to determine that a Home Schooling program meets with the minimum standards established for public schools in the Commonwealth prior to approving such a program.

When a parent or guardian of a student below the age of 16 wishes to home school his/her child/children, the following procedures should be followed prior to removing the child/children from the Chicopee Public Schools:

1. The parent/guardian must submit an initial written Notice of Intent to Pursue a Program of Home Education to the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction/Accountability or her designee, and must resubmit the notification on an annual basis as long as the parent/guardian intends to educate his/her child/children in a home-based environment.
2. The parent/guardian must certify in writing the name, age, and place of residence, of each child in the home-based program.
3. Factors to be considered by the Superintendent or School Committee in deciding whether or not to approve a Home Education Proposal include, but are not limited to:
  - The proposed curriculum and the number of hours of instruction in each of the proposed subjects;
  - The competency or qualifications of those who will be teaching the child/children;
  - The textbooks, workbooks and other instructional aids to be used by the child/children and the teaching manuals to be used by the parents;
  - The method of assessment and/or periodic standardized testing to be used to ensure educational progress and the attainment of minimum standards by the child/children.

Legal Refs.: M.G.L. Chapter 69, Section 1D; Chapter 76, Section 1: *Care & Protection of Charles*, 399 Mass. 324 (1987); *Care & Protection of Ivan*, 48 Mass. App. Court 87 (1999)

1st reading: Reg SC Mtg 4/17/2013

2nd reading: Reg SC Mtg 5/1/2013

*\*Please refer to the Home Education Procedure (File: I18.1) and a sample application (File: I18.2) located in the Chicopee Public Schools Procedures Manual.*