

DATE:	August 13, 2021
SUBJECT:	General Education Homebound Updates
CATEGORY:	General Education Homebound
NEXT STEPS:	Share with administrators and appropriate staff

Overview

General Education Homebound may be provided for a student at home or hospital bedside and must be provided by a certified general education teacher. Over the period of his or her confinement, the student must be provided instruction in all core academic subject area courses in which the student is enrolled. In addition, over the period of confinement, the student should be provided instruction in all other courses the student is enrolled in, if possible.

This option is available through the General Education Homebound (GEH) and Compensatory Education Home Instruction (CEHI) program. In order to be eligible for funding, all requirements of the GEH or CEHI program must be met. See [3.7 General Education Homebound \(GEH\) Program](#) of the *Student Attendance Accounting Handbook* (SAAH) for GEH program requirements. See [Section 9 Pregnancy-Related Services \(PRS\)](#) of the SAAH for CEHI program requirements.

This document provides guidance and updates on how LEAs **may seek a required waiver** for and implement general education homebound instruction, as well as information on how TEA will assess compliance with homebound requirements.

Requirements for General Education Homebound Instruction

Key requirements for homebound instruction are:

- The student is confined at home or hospital bedside for medical reasons only.
- The student’s medical condition is documented by a physician licensed to practice in the United States.
 - The physician’s note must also document that the student is expected to be confined at home or in a hospital bed for a minimum of four weeks. The weeks need not be consecutive.
- Students must receive four hours of face-to-face instruction on a weekly basis.
 - *Optional:* LEAs may choose to provide additional hours of instruction via remote instruction, on top of the four-hour requirement noted above.
- The LEA must apply for a general education homebound waiver on a student by student basis.

General Education Homebound Waivers and Audits

If your LEA provides homebound instruction to an eligible regular education student, your LEA may, with the approval of a waiver request, count the student in attendance for Foundation School Program (FSP) funding purposes provided that all requirements of the homebound program are met.

If a waiver is granted, the affected student will generate attendance (eligible days present) according to the homebound funding provisions in 3.7.3 GEH Funding Chart or 9.10 Confinement and Earning Eligible Days Present, as applicable.

Your LEA can submit a request for a general “Other” waiver using TEA’s automated waiver application system, which is available via the TEA Login (TEAL) system. When submitting a waiver request, cite the following in item 3 of the General Questions section: “3.7.3 GEH Funding Chart or 9.10 Confinement and Earning Eligible Days Present of the SAAH.” These waivers will only be granted in severe medical circumstances, and a waiver must be submitted for each individual student.

Key Considerations:

- This waiver is granted on a **per-student basis**.
- The documentation used to determine the student’s need for homebound services must be maintained for **audit purposes**.

For LEAs, a new data element, GENERAL-EDUCATION-HOMEBOUND-INDICATOR, will be reported in the PEIMS Summer submission to indicate if a student was served at any time in the GEH program during the current school year.

TEA’s Financial Compliance Division will be reviewing the submission data for the GEH data element and performing audits on those LEAs that have reported excessive numbers of students who have been coded with the GEH data element. LEAs are responsible for ensuring that students are properly qualified to participate in the GEH program and are required to maintain documentation to support student placement, as detailed in the *SAAH*.

Please reference the [State Waiver Guidebook](#) for additional information about waivers.

Additional Options

Note that for students with eligible temporary medical conditions, remote conferencing is another option available and can be utilized to provide short-term remote instruction. Please visit this [FAQ](#) for more information.

Remote Homebound instruction is another limited option available for students in **extremely** severe medical circumstances **when face-to-face instruction is not possible**. LEAs must seek a waiver and meet all General Education Homebound requirements listed above. It is likely that only a small fraction of students of a local educational agency (LEA) would be eligible for remote homebound instruction. Please review section [12.3.3](#) of the *SAAH*.

If you have questions, please reach out to attendance@tea.texas.gov.