

Home Hospital Instruction

Students who have a temporary disability preventing them from attending regular day classes or an alternative education program shall be provided with individual instruction either at home or in a hospital or residential health facility (excluding state hospitals), as specified in Education Code 48206.3.

A temporary disability is defined as a physical, mental, or emotional condition that arises while a student is enrolled in regular day classes or an alternative education program and for which they are expected to return to regular classes without special intervention.

At the start of each school year, the Superintendent or their designee must inform parents or guardians of district students about the following (per Education Codes 48206.3, 48208, and 48980):

- The availability of individual instruction for students with temporary disabilities, including eligibility criteria and the expected duration of individual instruction.
- The rights and responsibilities of parents or guardians of students with temporary disabilities, as outlined in Education Code 48207 and 48208.

Parents or guardians are responsible for notifying the school principal or designee when their child experiences a temporary disability and requires individual instruction at home or in a hospital or residential health facility.

Determination of Student Eligibility:

Upon receiving such notifications, the Superintendent or designee will:

- Within five working days of receiving notification, determine whether the student is eligible for individual instruction at home or in a hospital or residential health facility, as per Education Code 48208.
- May request verification from a treating medical doctor (MD/DO) or licensed mental health provider (LFMT, LCSW, or Psy.D) to confirm the temporary disability and the necessity for individual instruction.
- Eligibility is based on the provided documentation, including diagnosis, certification of the condition's severity, and a projected return date to regular classes.
- Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) will receive special education and related services through the Home and Hospital Instruction Program if recommended by the IEP team and supported by the medical provider's documentation.
- The IEP team will determine the appropriateness of home and hospital placement, considering the diagnosed condition and specifying the return date to the regular classroom.
- If the student doesn't have an IEP the school may determine a 504 Plan is appropriate to provide the student with accommodations and modifications during the Home Hospital Instruction.

Provision of Individual Instruction:

Individual instruction must commence within five working days of determining eligibility, as per Education Codes 48207.5 and 48208.

The district is responsible for providing individual instruction to temporarily disabled students in hospitals or residential health facilities within its boundaries, regardless of enrollment status. Agreements may be made with other districts if necessary.

The district must notify the student's district of residence if providing individual instruction to a non-district student within its boundaries, impacting average daily attendance calculations.

Students receiving individual instruction for part of the week may attend school or receive instruction at home on days they are well enough to do so.

Home and Hospital Instruction teachers must hold valid California teaching credentials and work closely with the student's current classroom teachers to maintain instructional continuity.

The Home and Hospital Instruction teacher will collaborate with the student's school and teacher to determine the curriculum and materials needed.

Instruction may be delivered individually, in small groups, or virtually.

Attendance and Duration:

Absences of temporarily disabled students receiving individual instruction are excused until they can return to regular school programs (Education Code 48240).

Instruction provided is equivalent to one hour per day for each day of regular district instruction, with a maximum of five days per calendar week.

Home and Hospital Instruction is available for a minimum of three weeks and a maximum of 12 weeks during the regular school year, with the potential for extension based on medical recommendations.

Verification may be required to ensure the need for home or hospital instruction, with attention to safety regarding contagious diseases based on CDC guidelines.

Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs):

Special education and related services through the Home and Hospital Instruction Program are available if recommended by the IEP team and supported by medical documentation.

The IEP team will review and revise the IEP as necessary when there is a significant change in the student's medical condition.

Return to School:

Students who are well enough to return to school during the school year in which they received Home Hospital Instruction may return to the school they attended before their temporary disability necessitated Home Hospital Instruction (Education Code 48207.3).

EDUCATION CODE

5 CCR 421	Method of verification
5 CCR 423	Prolonged illness
Ed. Code 44865	Qualifications for independent study teachers

Ed. Code 45031	Home teachers
Ed. Code 48200	Minimum school day
Ed. Code 48206.3-48208	Students with temporary disabilities; individual instruction
Ed. Code 48240	Supervisors of attendance
Ed. Code 48980	Parent/Guardian notifications
Ed. Code 51800-51802	Employment of home teachers
Ed. Code 56026	Individual with exceptional needs