

**PELHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY**  
**IHBG-R – HOME EDUCATION AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT**  
**PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

The Board acknowledges the right of every parent to choose to home educate their child(ren) in compliance with RSA 193-A or to send their child(ren) to a nonpublic school. Access of home education and nonpublic school programs will be limited to resident student's ages 6 to 21 years of age who have not graduated from a high school level program of home education or its equivalent.

**I. Participation in Classes/Activities**

All requests by home educated or nonpublic school students for participation in an educational program or co-/extra-curricular activity shall be made in writing by the parent/guardian, in duplicate to the principal of the appropriate school and to the Superintendent. After consulting with the principal (who shall consult with appropriate staff), the Superintendent or his/her designee shall, in writing, grant or deny the request. If the Superintendent or his /her designees deny the request, he/she shall state the reasons in writing.

A request by a home educated or nonpublic school student for the following related services of physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, counseling, psychological, guidance, etc., and/or other special education services shall generally be denied.

Home educated or nonpublic school students must have immunizations and medical records on file and meet the same District entrance requirements as non-home schooled or regularly enrolled students.

Resident home educated or nonpublic school students may enroll in specific classes or activities provided the following conditions are met:

**A. General Conditions for All Participation**

1. There is space available in the class/activity.
2. The admission of the student will not have an adverse effect on the class/activity.
3. There are no extra costs (other than nominal expenses) incurred by the District.
4. The class/activity is deemed to be developmentally and academically appropriate for the home educated or nonpublic school student as well as other students who will be participating in the educational activity.
5. Prerequisite class/activity requirements are met.
6. Transportation, other than regularly scheduled school bus services, is provided by the parent/guardian.

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7. No substantial administrative or staff burden is created.
8. The request for participation may not be so extensive that the home schooled or nonpublic school student should be enrolled as a full-time student in the District.
9. There are no other factors impacting why the request should be granted.

**B. Participation in Regular Class**

1. The student and/or parent/guardian must notify the Superintendent and school principal at least thirty (30) days in advance of the first class meeting of the desire to participate. Requests will be processed on a first come first served basis. In the case of a tie, requests will be accepted by drawing lots.
2. Attendance is regular, behavior is appropriate, and the parent/guardian and student agree to abide by the District's/school's rules and regulations including but not limited to the code of conduct that applies to regularly enrolled students.
3. The student completes all assignments and tests that are required of other students in the class.
4. Payment of any costs, fees, or supplying materials required for regularly enrolled students.
5. Credit/grade is granted only after the successful completion of the class.
6. Home educated students must enroll in the public school system if they seek to attend public school classes for more than 50% of the school day or, in the case of high school students, the school year.
7. Students enrolled in more than one school which may include a non-public school must meet dual enrollment requirements applicable to all students prior to enrolling in any public school classes.

**C. Participation in Co-Curricular Activities**  
(Field trips, assemblies, science fairs, etc.)

1. Prior written permission has been given by the parent/guardian.
2. Prior written permission has been given by the principal.
3. The student has agreed to abide by the same code of conduct as required of regularly enrolled students participating in the activity.

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4. The parent/guardian accepts responsibility for transportation to and from the school and/or activity.
5. Payment of any costs and fees paid or raised by regularly enrolled students.
6. Requests for participation in activities which are purely social, such as school dances, will be determined in accordance with the school's guest policies or practices.

**D. Participation in Extracurricular Activities**  
(OM, band, chorus, school clubs, intramural sports, etc.)

1. The student meets the same academic, physical examination, age and eligibility requirements and standards as regularly enrolled students (documentation of such must be provided when requested by the principal).
2. The transfer student from a home education or nonpublic school program meets the same eligibility requirements of enrolled transfer students.
3. The student agrees to abide by the same code of behavior as required of regularly enrolled school participants.
4. The student must travel to and from team events with the team.
5. The student may not be enrolled in another public school.
6. The student and parent/guardian must execute the required waivers, permissions, and notices.
7. Payment of any costs and fees paid or raised by regularly enrolled students
8. Some extracurricular activities such as those governed by the rules of the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) have eligibility requirements for all participating schools and students. All students seeking to participate in those programs must meet the NHIAA eligibility requirements.

**II. Use of Facilities and Equipment**

Students may use school facilities and equipment on the same basis as regularly enrolled students provided the following conditions are met:

- A. The use does not disrupt regular student, staff, or special program use.
- B. The use has been approved by the building principal prior to use.

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- C. The use will not create additional expense to the District.
- D. The use is directly related to the home instruction educational program.
- E. The use does not involve removing furniture or equipment from the school premises.
- F. The student and parent/guardian agree to pay for repair, or replacement costs to the District for all lost or damaged equipment.

**III. Use of School Texts and Library Books/Materials**

Students may be permitted to use school texts and library books/materials provided the following conditions are met:

- A. Sufficient copies are available.
- B. The text is appropriate to the student's age and grade.
- C. The text is signed out to the student and/or parent/guardian for a period equivalent to that of a regularly enrolled student.
- D. Library books are signed out according to the library loan policy.
- E. The student and/or parent/guardian agree to pay the District for all lost, damaged and/or non-returned tests and/or library books. The District may require a security deposit.

**IV. Diploma Eligibility**

The School Board will not award certificates or diplomas to a home-educated or nonpublic school student. Students must enter the regular school program and complete all necessary graduation requirements of the District and the State to be eligible for a certificate or diploma.

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***District Policy History:***

*Adopted: December 01, 2010*