

Chronic Health

The Paradise Valley Unified School District is committed to providing an appropriate education to all students including those with chronic health conditions resulting from illness, disease or accident. Instructional provisions will be determined on an individual basis to ensure continuous learning that is integrated with the regular education program as much as possible. No student certified as having chronic health conditions will be penalized for absences as long as those absences are due solely to illness, disease or accident. Credit will be given for completed course requirements.

A medical certification must be obtained from a licensed medical doctor or podiatrist who indicates a diagnosis and prognosis that the student has an illness, disease, or has had an accident which interferes with regular school attendance, but is not expected to be absent enough days to require special education homebound services.

Medical Certification

A medical certification is a written document obtained from a licensed medical doctor or podiatrist which diagnoses the student's present health condition, course of the condition, and an estimate of the impact on regular school attendance.

Homebound or Hospitalized Services

ARS § 15-901 states that "homebound or hospitalized means a pupil who is capable of profiting from academic instruction but is unable to attend school due to illness, disease, accident, or other health conditions, who has been examined by a competent medical doctor and who is certified by that doctor as being unable to attend regular classes for a period of not less than three school months or a pupil who is capable of profiting from academic instruction but is unable to attend school regularly due to chronic or acute health problems, who has been examined by a competent medical doctor and who is certified by that doctor has been unable to attend regular classes for intermittent periods of time totaling three school months during a school year. The medical certification shall state the general medical condition, such as illness, disease or chronic health condition that is the reason that the pupil is unable to attend school. Homebound or hospitalized includes a student who is unable to attend school for a period of less than three months due to a pregnancy if a competent medical doctor, after an examination, determines that the student is unable to attend regular classes due to risk to the pregnancy or to the student's health"

Competent Medical Doctor is any person licensed under title 32, chapter 7 (podiatrist), chapter 13 (medical doctor), or chapter 17 (osteopathic doctor).

CHRONIC ILLNESS

Students with a medical certification for a chronic health condition will not be penalized for absences as long as the absences are due solely to illness, disease or accident.

Please contact the nurse for a medical certification. The nurse will fax the paperwork directly to your child's physician.

Any physical limitations must be noted on the medical certification report.

Students are required to make-up any missed assignments and tests. Timelines are established between the teacher and parent.

Student's arriving late to class must sign-in at the Health Office. They will be issued a pass to class at that time.

Student absences must be called into attendance every time the student is ill.

If a student has 15 consecutive absences due to health reasons, school personnel will meet with parents to discuss appropriate service delivery.

Once the medical certification paperwork has been signed by a licensed physician, the nurse will schedule a chronic illness meeting between the student, parent, Dean of Attendance, counselor and teachers. The meetings take place at 07:10 in the morning.

An instructional agreement will be developed between the parents, students and teachers at the chronic illness meeting. This agreement will provide a written record of how students can acquire their homework assignments and the timeline for make-up work.

Chronic illness certification must be renewed on a yearly basis.

Students enrolled in computer based learning classes must complete all missed assignments in the CBL lab. The student/parent will meet with the CBL teacher to determine appropriate times to make-up missed assignments.

The student must be proactive in approaching the teacher regarding missed assignments.

If the student will be absent for medical tests or chemotherapy, please provide the teachers with a schedule. This will assist the teachers in planning assignment due dates.

If your child cannot consistently come to class, the homebound program may be an option. Please contact the school nurse or counselor for more information.

Frequently Asked Question about Homebound Instruction

Can I still graduate with my peers?

Yes! As a home instruction student you will need to tell your home school, and your home instruction teacher of your intent to graduate with your peers. Please plan on finishing up any course work about two weeks ahead of the graduation date.

How long can I stay on homebound?

As long as you are ill, and require the service. Every 12 months a MD certification needs to be filled out and signed by your doctor, to continue services. Ask your school nurse for help with this.

Do I get credit for elective classes?

It depends....on the elective class, if you home instruction teacher is able to teach the elective, and your school will allow it, yes you can. Any class you take on Home Instruction "counts" for credit.

Is there a minimum amount of time a student has to stay on homebound?

No. If a student feels well enough to return to school, they may. The student's doctor is required to fill out and sign a "termination form". After the school receives the form the student may return to school.

Will the words "homebound" or "home instruction" show up on my transcripts or diploma?

No.