



**Q: Must the parent/guardian be a certified teacher?**

A: No. Present regulations do not require parents/guardians to have teacher certification in order to home school their child.

**Q: The General Regulations state that I must provide regular, thorough instruction. How can I show that I am doing this?**

A: It is suggested that you bring dated samples of your work. Dated assignments indicate consistency. Field trips are also considered instructional time; materials from trips including photographs are evidence.

**Q: What areas of instruction are mandatory in my program?**

A: Evidence of instruction is required in English/Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Art, Music, Health, and Physical Education. CCPS also recommends a technology component (*optional*).

**Q: Do I need to set up a classroom in my home?**

A: An educational area is suggested. It could include a desk or work area with suitable lighting and ventilation. Having resources and instructional materials available to your child is important.

**Q: Will schools provide curriculum and textbooks?**

A: No. However, curricular resources are referenced on our website at [www.calvertnet.k12.md.us](http://www.calvertnet.k12.md.us). Go to the **Departments** tab, click on **Instruction**, and then **Program Information**. Textbook use is at the discretion of the parent/guardian.

**Q: What examples of my child's work should be available during the portfolio review?**

A: Examples of work from each area should be provided. Writing, worksheets, workbooks, creative materials, tests and reading logs are all appropriate samples.

**Q: Should my child attend the review?**

A: Your child is not required to attend, but is encouraged to come. Children often enjoy the opportunity to talk about their program.

**Q: What happens if CCPS staff find deficiencies in my home instruction program?**

A: If deficiencies result in the child not receiving a regular, thorough instructional program conforming to the General Regulations, the parent will be notified and must provide evidence within 30 days that the deficiencies have been corrected. If the deficiencies are not corrected, the superintendent or designee may require that the child be enrolled promptly in school.

**Q: How often do portfolio reviews take place?**

A: Generally, reviews occur twice per school year, typically the end of each semester. A maximum of three reviews are permitted by the General Regulations each academic year. Usually, a review takes 30 minutes per student.

**Q: Who reviews my program?**

A: Department of Student Services staff will do your review. You will be contacted regarding your appointment.

**Q: Does the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) provide information about home instruction support groups?**

A: No. MSDE does, however, maintain the names and addresses of the nonpublic schools and bona fide church organizations registered in Maryland. You can find this information on the MSDE website at: [www.marylandpublicschools.org](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org).

**Q: Can a home-schooled student receive Special Education services?**

A: Children with disabilities who are home schooled do not have an individual entitlement to Special Education in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (*IDEA*). Special Education services would be available to any student found eligible by an IEP Team for an IEP if the parent decides to enroll a student in CCPS. If a parent believes that a child should be evaluated to determine eligibility for Special Education services, the parent should call their assigned school and speak to the IEP Chairperson. To find your assigned school, go to our website, on the **Parents** tab, you will find **School Bus Stop & School Locator**.

**Q: Can my child take part in other aspects of the school instructional or extracurricular programs while receiving home instruction?**

A: No.

**Q: May my child participate in the standardized testing program offered by CCPS?**

A: Yes. A child receiving home instruction may participate in the scheduled standardized testing programs that are administered in the assigned school. Testing should be requested in writing to the Department of Student Services (*checkbox on the Notification form*). It is the responsibility of the parent to contact the assigned school for their testing schedule and to make arrangements for participation prior to the testing date. Transportation must be provided by the parent.

**Q: Is my child allowed to participate in the PSAT testing?**

A: For PSAT testing, contact your assigned school guidance office for the schedule. For other college exams contact: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

**Q: Will my home instruction program be accepted for college admission?**

A: You are encouraged to make early contact with individual colleges and universities, determine their policies, and arrange your program, recordkeeping, and testing accordingly.

**Q: Will a high school diploma be provided by CCPS if my child remains on home instruction through Grade 12?**

A: No. A high school diploma represents completion of Maryland State graduation requirements by students who attend public schools. Your child may choose to sit for the GED.