

# DICKSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

<b>Monitoring:</b>  <b>Review:</b> Annually, in November <sup>1</sup>	<b>Descriptor Term:</b>  <b>Home Schools</b>	<b>Descriptor Code:</b> <b>6.202</b> <b>Rescinds:</b> <b>6.202</b>	<b>Revised Date:</b> <b>9-28-23</b> <b>Issued:</b> <b>11-29-18</b>
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2 A home school is a school conducted or directed by a parent/guardian for their own children.  
3 Home schools which teach K-12 where the parents are associated with an organization that  
4 conducts church-related schools<sup>1</sup> which are supervised by such organizations and which  
5 administer standardized achievement tests at the same time tests are given in their regular day  
6 schools are exempt from the following provisions, but must follow procedures issued by the  
7 State Department of Education.

8  
9 A parent wishing to conduct a home school shall meet all requirements of current state law:<sup>2</sup>

- 10  
11 1. Provide annual notice to the director of schools before the commencement of each school  
12 year of the intent to conduct a home school;
- 13 2. Submit to the director of schools the name, number, age, of children involved, location of  
14 the school, curriculum to be offered, proposed hours of instruction, qualifications of the  
15 parent/teacher, whether a college preparatory or general course of education will be  
16 taught in grades 9-12, and a description of the courses to be taught each year;
- 17 3. Maintain attendance records, subject to inspection of the local director of schools;
- 18 4. Submit attendance records to the director of schools at the end of each school year;
- 19 5. Provide instruction for at least four (4) hours per day for the same number of instructional  
20 days as are required by state law for public schools;<sup>3</sup>
- 21 6. Possess a high school diploma or GED or high school equivalent approved by the State  
22 Board of Education, in order to conduct classes;<sup>4</sup>
- 23 7. Cooperate in the administration to home school students of appropriate tests by the  
24 Commissioner of Education, his/her designee or by a professional testing service;
- 25 8. Take action according to state law if home school student falls behind appropriate grade  
26 level;
- 27 9. Submit proof to the director of schools that other health services and examinations as  
28 required by law have been received by the home school student; and
- 29 10. In the event of illness or inadequacy of the home school parent-teacher to teach a specific  
30 subject, employ a tutor having the same qualifications as required of parent/teacher.

31  
32 If minimal requirements are not met, the Board authorizes the Director of Schools/designee to  
33 take formal action to bring the child into compliance with the compulsory attendance law either  
34 in the home school, or in a private or church-related school.  
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<sup>1</sup> TCA 49-50-801

<sup>2</sup> TCA 49-6-3050(b)

<sup>3</sup> TCA 49-6-3004(a); TCA 49-6-3050(b)(3)

<sup>4</sup> TCA 49-6-3050(b)(4); Public Acts of 2023, Chapter No. 114

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1 It shall be the policy of this Board that public school facilities may be available for home school  
2 instruction only when *all* of the following conditions exist:

- 3
- 4 1. Special needs courses are being taught which require services unavailable to the home  
5 school student;
- 6 2. These services cannot be provided through any means other than the public schools;
- 7 3. Requests for services are made known by the home school parent when notice is given to  
8 the Director of schools of the intent to conduct a home school;
- 9 4. The director of schools investigates request and make recommendations to the Board;
- 10 5. No overcrowding, additional expenses, including providing transportation, or other  
11 special situations which interfere with the normal operation of the school system shall be  
12 incurred; and
- 13 6. Approval by the Board on a case-by-case basis.
- 14

15 The director of schools, through the attendance supervisor, may have the attendance records of  
16 the home school inspected at least two (2) times each school year in order to provide assistance  
17 in implementing the Compulsory Attendance Law.

18  
19 If a home school student falls more than one (1) year behind his appropriate grade level in  
20 his/her comprehensive test score for two (2) consecutive tests, and if a certified teacher who  
21 would have taught the child at his/her grade level determines through appropriate means that the  
22 student is not learning disabled, the director of schools may require the parents to enroll the child  
23 in a public, private or church-related school.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> TCA 49-6-3050(b)(6)