

**FILE: IHBG**

**Home Schooling**

Parents/guardians who choose to educate their children at home, as allowed under Massachusetts law, can fulfill the requirements of the compulsory attendance statute by having their educational programs reviewed and accepted in advance by the Worcester Public Schools. Students must attend their assigned school until approval has been received. The notifications to homeschool (elementary and secondary versions) are available upon request from the office of the Child Study Department at (508) 799-3175. To avoid miscommunication and to ensure compliance with the home schooling approval law, parents are requested to give this notice in writing.

Parents are expected to provide evidence of their child's home schooling program once a year. Students completing high school through home schooling programs are not eligible for a Worcester Public Schools' Diploma.

A student being educated through Home Schooling may have access to public school activities of an extra-curricular nature (e.g. sports, clubs) with the approval of the Superintendent or designee.

The district reserves the right to allow enrolled students to have precedence or priority over the home schooled student with regard to placement on sports teams and activities that have limited enrollment. With approval of the Superintendent or designee, and in consultation with the principal, a home schooled student may participate in sports teams and activities that have limited enrollment provided that he or she does not displace an enrolled student. Home schooled students applying to participate in district-sponsored sports must follow that athletic eligibility guidelines.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 69:1D; 76:1, Care and Protection of Charles

Care and Protection of Charles – MASS. Supreme Judicial Court 399 Mass. 324 (1987)