

# HOME SCHOOL

## QUICK FACTS: Support for Home School Students



The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) recognizes and respects that home-schooling is a military member's right and that it can be a legitimate alternative form of education for military-connected families. DoDEA neither encourages nor discourages military members from home-schooling their children.

DoDEA Administrative Instruction (AI) 1375.01, Change 1, Home-School Students, dated October 15, 2018, clarifies DoDEA services that are available to eligible Department of Defense dependent home-school students. The AI also provides guidance about participation in DoDEA commencement ceremonies.

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The information below provides an introduction to DoDEA's home-school resources and services.

**Eligibility:** DoDEA AI 1375.01, Change 1, applies to DoD dependent home-school students within commuting distance of a DoDEA school who are eligible to enroll in a DoDEA school. It does not apply to space-required students who are enrolled in host nation schools.

Proof of eligibility (not required registration) must be provided and will be maintained at the school.

**Services and Resources:** Eligible home-school students may use or receive auxiliary services, enroll in one or more DoDEA courses, and/or special education or related services consistent with existing DoDEA regulations and policies, from the DoDEA school in which they are eligible to enroll. Eligible home-school students may enroll in the DoDEA Virtual High School (DVHS) program on the same basis as dependents who are fully enrolled in DoDEA schools.

Auxiliary services include use of academic resources, access to the library of the school, afterhours use of school facilities, and participation in music, sports, and other extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

Eligible home-school students electing to take a single course or more and/or access special education or related services from a DoDEA school may access DoDEA school transportation if the home-school students' schedule and bus route coincide with the school's regular bus route/schedule.

Academic resources, such as Information Center books, scheduled standardized tests, and textbooks, but based on resource availability, may be limited to use within the school. Academic resources are made available to eligible home-school students on the same basis as dependents enrolled in DoDEA schools. Auxiliary services do not include participation in DoDEA commencement ceremonies.

**Commencement Ceremony Participation:** Home-school seniors who are eligible to attend a DoDEA High School may participate in a DoDEA commencement ceremony by meeting DoDEA graduation requirements, earning a DoDEA diploma, and complying with DoDEA graduation policies and procedures in DoDEA AI 1367.01.

Home-school seniors who are eligible to attend a DoDEA school but do not meet DoDEA graduation requirements to earn the DoDEA diploma, may be supported and acknowledged in accordance with Section 3.6. of DoDEA Administrative Instruction 1375.01.

**Host-Nation, State, Commonwealth, Possession and Territory Laws:** A host nation, state, commonwealth, possession, or territory where a DoD sponsor is stationed may impose legal requirements on home-schooling practices. DoDEA encourages DoDEA-eligible sponsors who choose to home-school as their dependent's educational option to communicate this through their chain of command to determine whether there are any command policies or other guidelines that ensure home-school practices meet host nation, state, commonwealth, possession, or territory requirements.

For more information about DoDEA's support for home-school students, please visit the Office of DoDEA Policy web page for access to the AI at <https://www.dodea.edu/regulation/home-school-students-change-1>.