



Tip Sheet: Documenting Home/Hospital (Homebound Services)

The EC Division has received many questions regarding whether or not Home/Hospital is the same or different from Homebound. The observation is that many local education agencies (LEAs) have chosen to use the terms Home/Hospital or Homebound to establish differences between services that must be provided at home by either general education and/or special education, or as a result of a medical issue or a placement made by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team.

For the purposes of this communication, Home/Hospital and Homebound are used interchangeably based on the definitions provided below.

Source: School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/financial-and-business-services/student-accounting>

Hospital/Homebound

If a student is confined at home or in a hospital, is unable to attend school, and is receiving homebound instruction from his/her home school/LEA, he/she is to be considered Hospital/Homebound.

Students who are identified as having a disability under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) or the corresponding Article 9 of Chapter 115C of the NC General Statutes, and whose IEPs are developed according to the specifications of those laws may be considered Homebound based on the IEP.

Source: Article 9 115C-106.3(5a)

“Homebound Instruction” means educational services provided to a student outside the school setting.

Source: Individualized Education Program

“Home/Hospital” is the location in which specially designed instruction is provided. This location further indicates that the child is removed 100% of the time from the traditional school setting.

Directions for documenting Home/Hospital, also known as Homebound Services, can be found on the following page. These services are those that are to be provided by special education and are not inclusive of the general education instruction that may also need to be provided to ensure the child has access to the general curriculum and a free appropriate public education (FAPE).



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1. As part the development of the IEP, the frequency, duration and location of specially designed instruction must be documented on the Services tab under the EC Process - “IEP”. For students receiving instruction (special education) at home, hospital, or any other location outside the school setting, the “location” of services is “Home/Hospital”.

Del	Special Ed Service	Amount of Time	Frequency	Duration	Location
<input type="checkbox"/>	Math	30 minute(s)	2 per week	Short-term; reviewed often	Home/Hospital

2. In order to ensure that the least restrictive environment is calculated correctly, a second step is required. Users should indicate that the student is 100% removed from the traditional school setting by selecting “Home/Hospital” in the *Additional Service Information* section of the same page in which specially designed instruction was documented. This step confirms that the student’s placement is “Home/Hospital” for the purposes of reporting the least restrictive environment.

*NOTE: (No further action is required regarding the length of the student’s school day – **do not** adjust the hours of the school day.)*

For students age 6 years or older, if the student is 100% removed from the traditional school setting, please indicate where services will be rendered: Home/Hospital

3. Further down in the *Additional Service Information*, the user should provide an explicit reason for why the student’s placement is being changed to “Home/Hospital”. **Descriptions must include, but not be limited to, any medical or disciplinary reasons for the change in placement and how the student will access the general curriculum while in this placement.**

If the student will be removed from nondisabled peers for any part of the day, explain why the services cannot be delivered with nondisabled peers with the use of supplemental aids and services:

Not applicable at this time

4. The user should follow the remaining steps necessary to finalize the decisions of the IEP team. Once the IEP event has been finalized, the child’s LRE placement is “Home/Hospital”.