

Home School Link: <http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/homeschooling.aspx>

Home School Instruction

13-27-2. Child excused from school. Upon filing of an application with a school official from the parent or guardian of the child for the reasons set forth in § 13-27-3, the child shall be excused, without the necessity of school board action, subject to revocation thereafter as provided in this chapter. School boards of all school districts may excuse a child from public school attendance for the reasons set forth in §§ 13-27-6 and 13-27-6.1.

Source: SDC 1939, § 15.3202; SL 1955, ch 41, ch 15, § 2; SL 1971, ch 116, § 1; SL 1981, ch 141, § 1; SL 1995, ch 97, § 1; SL 2011, ch 94, § 1.

13-27-3. Child excused if provided alternative instruction--Application--Investigation--Revocation--Restrictions--Testing. A child shall be excused from school attendance, pursuant to § 13-27-2, because the child is otherwise provided with alternative instruction for an equivalent period of time, as in the public schools, in the basic skills of language arts and mathematics. The parent or guardian of the child shall identify in the application the place where the child will be instructed and any individual who will instruct the child. The individuals are not required to be certified. The secretary of the Department of Education may investigate and determine whether the instruction is being provided. Failure to provide instruction is grounds for the school board, upon thirty days' notice, to revoke the excuse from school attendance. The secretary of the Department of Education may inspect the records of an alternative education program with fourteen days' written notice if the secretary has probable cause to believe the program is not in compliance with this section. The records to be inspected are limited to attendance and evidence showing academic progress.

No individual may instruct more than twenty-two children. All instructions shall be given so as to lead to a mastery of the English language. Children receiving alternative instruction who are in grades two, four, eight, and eleven shall take a nationally standardized achievement test of the basic skills. The test may be the test provided by the state and used in the public school district where the child is instructed or another nationally standardized achievement test chosen by and provided at the expense of the child's parent, guardian, or school giving alternative instruction. The test may be monitored by the local school district where the child is instructed.

Source: SDC 1939, § 15.3202 (2); SL 1955, ch 41, ch 15, § 2; SL 1971, ch 116, § 2; SL 1975, ch 128, § 170; SL 1977, ch 130; SL 1981, ch 141, § 2; SL 1983, ch 131, § 2; SL 1992, ch 128, § 1; SL 1993, ch 136; SL 1996, ch 115; SL 2003, ch 91, § 2; SL 2003, ch 272, § 63.

Home School Testing Procedures

1. Check with district office to determine how many students, what grade levels, and how many families will need to be contact regarding preferences for testing.
2. Inventory the current supplies of test materials. Determine shortages and plan to order as needed.
3. Use the attached order form and order the needed materials from Pearson. It is best to do the order in the fall.
4. Contact parents of home school students at the grades that require testing in January with information on the test window and the options for either SAT 10 abbreviated or a test of their choice.