

Quick Facts: Support for Home-school Students

The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) takes great pride in its ability to extend a positive educational experience to any eligible military-connected student who chooses to engage with our schools, including homeschool students. 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 Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) 16-E-001, dated December 19, 2016, clarifies DoDEA services that are available to eligible Department of Defense (DoD) dependent home-school students. The DTM also provides guidance about participation in DoDEA commencement ceremonies.

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



Eligibility: DoDEA's DTM 16-E-001 applies to DoD dependent home-school students within commuting distance of a DoDEA school who are eligible to enroll in a DoDEA school in a tuition-free status (DoDEA-Americas) or a space-required status (DoDEA-Europe and DoDEA-Pacific). It does not apply to space-required students who are enrolled in host nation schools.



Services and Resources: Eligible home-school students may use or receive auxiliary services, enroll in one or more DoDEA courses, and/or access gifted education, English as a second language, or special education services consistent with existing DoDEA regulations and policies. 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. Academic resources, such as textbooks, workbooks, library books, scheduled standardized tests, software, and internet (through the Information Center of the school), are made available to 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: Eligible home-school seniors who are fully enrolled in 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 (i.e., DoDEA Administrative Instruction 2000.1). To learn more about methods of support and/or acknowledgment available to home-school seniors who have not met DoDEA graduation requirements, please contact your DoDEA school administrator or visit the DoDEA home-school Web page listed above.



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 DoD sponsors who wish to home-school their dependents to communicate their desire to their commanders to determine if there are any command policies or other rules ensuring that home-schooling practices meet nation, state, commonwealth, possession, or territory requirements.

For more information about DoDEA's support for home-school students, please visit the home-school Web page for access to the DTM and frequently asked questions: www.dodea.edu/parents/homeschooling.cfm.