

# Home Education and Private Tutoring Programs and Reporting

Thomas J. Dubbs  
PDE School Services Office  
PHAA  
March 6, 2023

# ▶ Today's Topics

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# School Services Office (SSO)

- The School Services Office serves as a central point of inquiry for advice and assistance to school administrators.

[RA-PDE-](mailto:RA-PDE-SchoolService@pa.gov)

[SchoolService@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PDE-SchoolService@pa.gov)

717.787.4860

717.783.3750 (FBI)

Director Ms. Monica L. Washington



# The School Services Office Addresses:

- Ward of State Determinations
- School Reconfigurations and District Mergers
- Enrollment Complaints
- Home Education and Private Tutoring
- Homebound Education
- Interscholastic Athletic Opportunities
- Emergency Instructional Time Template (EITT)
- Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTCP) Program
- FBI Background Clearances
- Non-Public and Private Schools
- Emergency School Closings
- Work Permits
- Alteration/Curtailment of Programs
- Flexible Instructional Days (FID)

# School Services Office Contacts

Act 168 of 2014  
Employment History

[ra-act168@pa.gov](mailto:ra-act168@pa.gov)

Curriculum Deficiency

[ra-edcdform@pa.gov](mailto:ra-edcdform@pa.gov)

Homebound

[ra-homebound@pa.gov](mailto:ra-homebound@pa.gov)

Opportunity Scholarship  
Tax Credit Program

[ra-ostcp@pa.gov](mailto:ra-ostcp@pa.gov)

# School Services Office Contacts

Interscholastic	<a href="mailto:ra-athleticOppReport@pa.gov"><u>ra-athleticOppReport@pa.gov</u></a>
Flexible Instructional Days	<a href="mailto:ra-fid@pa.gov"><u>ra-fid@pa.gov</u></a>
Home Education	<a href="mailto:ra-home-education@pa.gov"><u>ra-home-education@pa.gov</u></a>
Private and Non-Public Schools	<a href="mailto:ra-pnpdata@pa.gov"><u>ra-pnpdata@pa.gov</u></a>
School Reconfiguration	<a href="mailto:ra-school-configs@pa.gov"><u>ra-school-configs@pa.gov</u></a>
FBI Background Checks	<a href="mailto:ra-edfbi2@pa.gov"><u>ra-edfbi2@pa.gov</u></a>



# ▶ Home Education and Private Tutoring

## Home Education and Private Tutoring are Rights.

*The decision to have a home education program ([22 Pa. Code § 11.31a](#)) or a private tutoring program ([22 Pa. Code § 11.31\(b\)\(1\)](#)) is a right; school district approval is not needed to commence either program, however the required documentation must be submitted.*

# ▶ Home Schooling v. Private Tutoring

## Home Schooling

- Notarized affidavit and other documents required
- Evaluation required
- State-recognized diploma available
- Right to borrow textbooks and other curricular materials
- Right to participate in extracurricular activities
- Dual enrollment possible, at the discretion of the school district
- Home school supervisor needs a high school diploma or its equivalent

## Private Tutoring

- In place of affidavit, reporting by tutor and assurances by parent that the laws are being met
- No evaluation required
- No direct route to a state recognized diploma
- Dual enrollment possible at the discretion of the school district
- Private tutor must be a PA certified teacher and have acceptable FBI background clearances



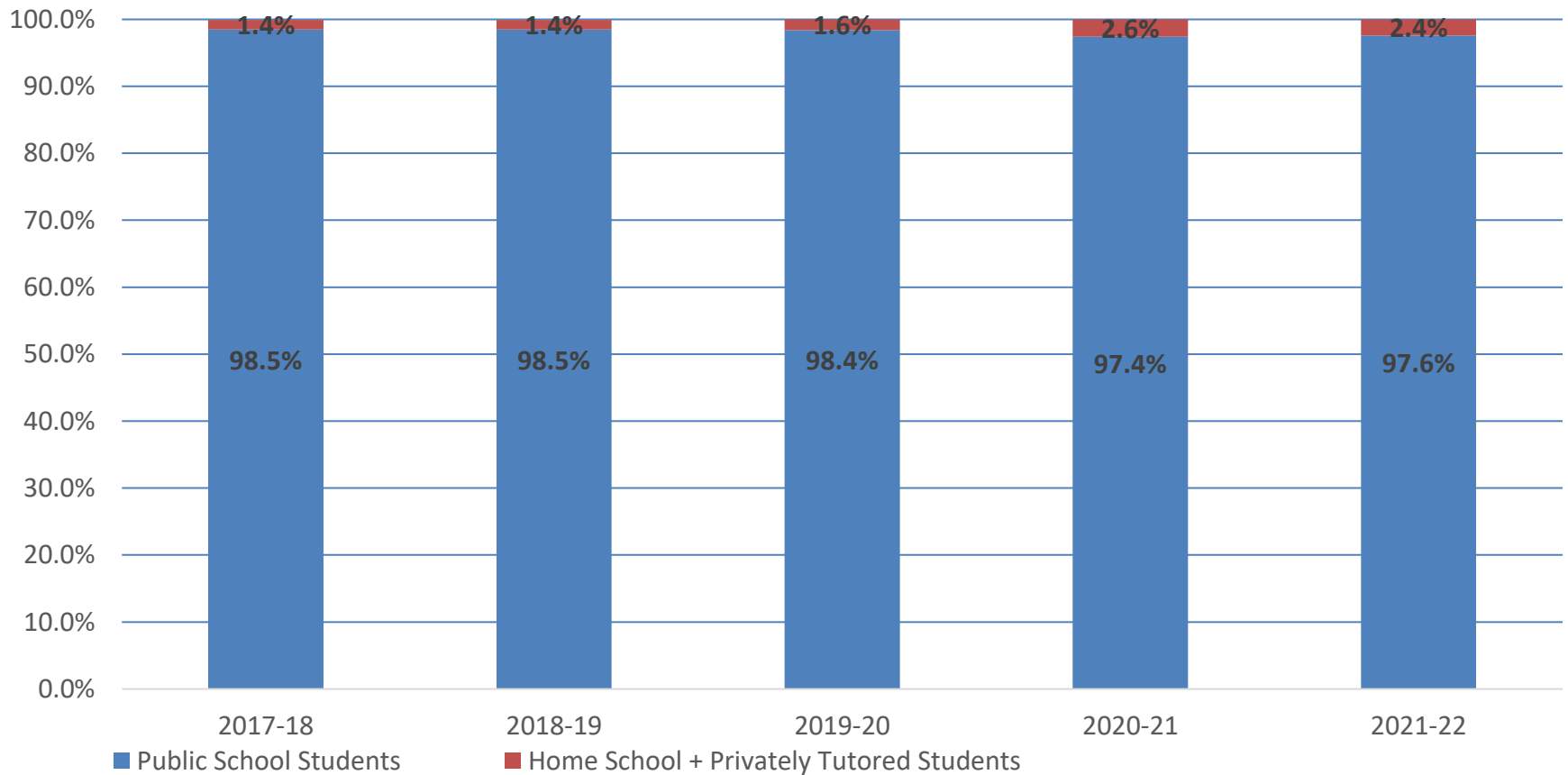
# Home Education/Private Tutoring Reporting

- School districts must provide PDE with data on the number of home schooled and privately tutored students, along with information on cyber programs, in PIMS/Home Education and Private Tutoring collection before the close of C1 collection window (the 2021-22 data correction window closed 10/28/22).

# Home Education/Private Tutoring Reporting

- School districts must also submit an Accuracy Certification Statement (ACS), signed by the district superintendent, acknowledging the integrity of the data.

# Percentage of Home-Schooled Students

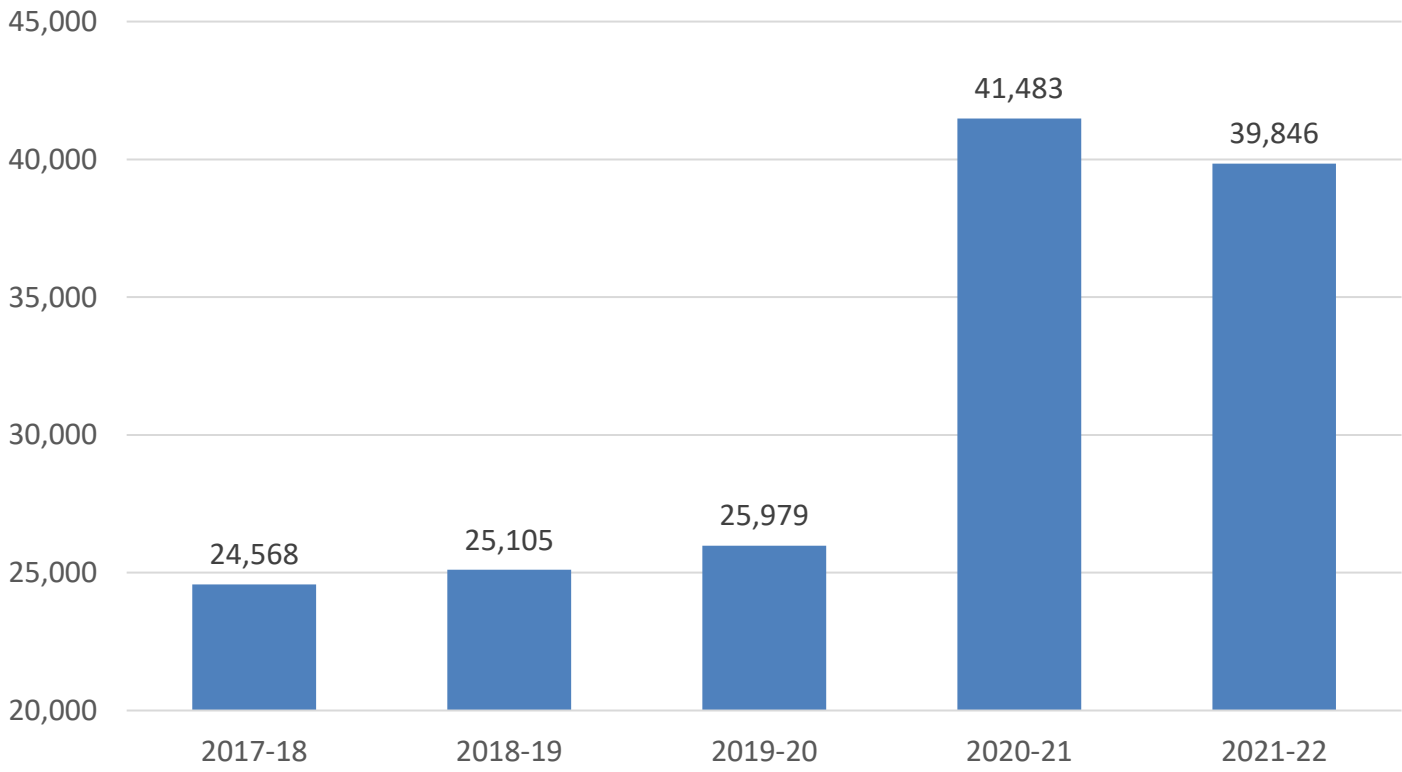


This chart depicts the percentage of home educated students (home school and privately tutored students) as part of total public school enrollment.



# Home School Enrollment – Ages 5-21

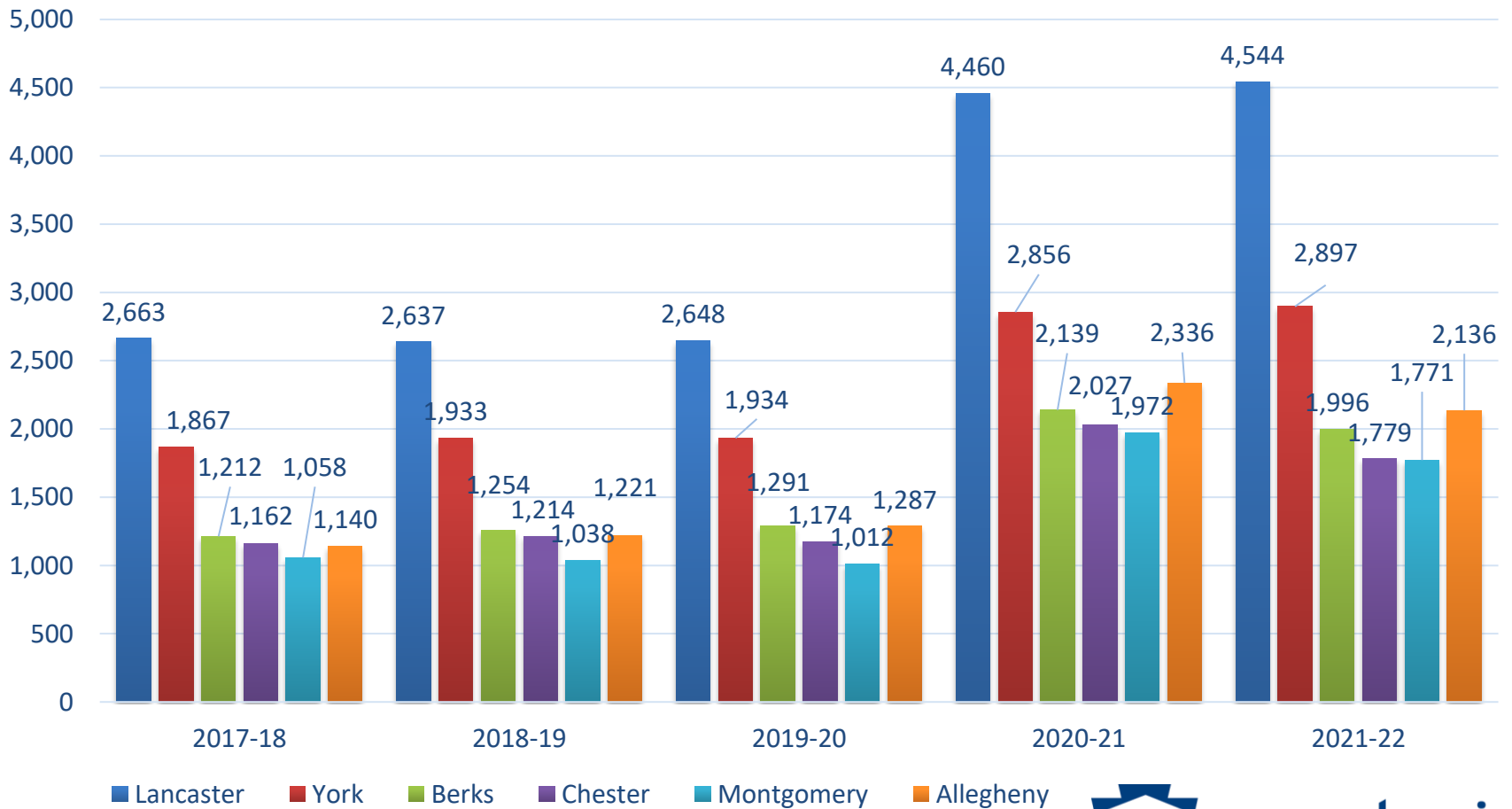
Home school students statewide increased 62%, from 2017-18 to 2021-22.



# Home School Students – By Age

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% Change (+ or -) 2017-18 v. 2021-22
5 yrs.	136	129	181	1,725	1,095	+ 805%
6 yrs.	343	382	497	4,334	3,674	+1071%
7 yrs.	1,059	1,159	1,350	4,415	4,241	+400%
8 yrs.	2,371	2,500	2,578	4,283	3,909	+65%
9 yrs.	2,546	2,621	2,637	3,938	3,790	+53%
10 yrs.	2,581	2,546	2,741	3,714	3,581	+49%
11 yrs.	2,549	2,612	2,562	3,427	3,399	+33%
<i>Subtotal 5-11 yrs.</i>	<i>11,585</i>	<i>11,949</i>	<i>12,546</i>	<i>25,836</i>	<i>23,690</i>	<i>+204%</i>
12 yrs.	2,480	2,585	2,586	3,133	3,221	+30%
13 yrs.	2,401	2,372	2,472	2,983	2,900	+21%
14 yrs.	2,227	2,199	2,285	2,701	2,717	+22%
15 yrs.	2,014	2,124	2,076	2,395	2,559	+27%
16 yrs.	1,815	1,911	1,968	2,173	2,293	+12%
17 yrs.	1,595	1,452	1,558	1,670	1,799	+13%
18+ yrs	541	513	488	592	668	+23%
<i>Subtotal 12+ yrs.</i>	<i>13,073</i>	<i>13,156</i>	<i>13,433</i>	<i>15,647</i>	<i>16,157</i>	<i>+24%</i>
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>24,568</b>	<b>25,105</b>	<b>25,979</b>	<b>41,483</b>	<b>39,846</b>	<b>+62%</b>

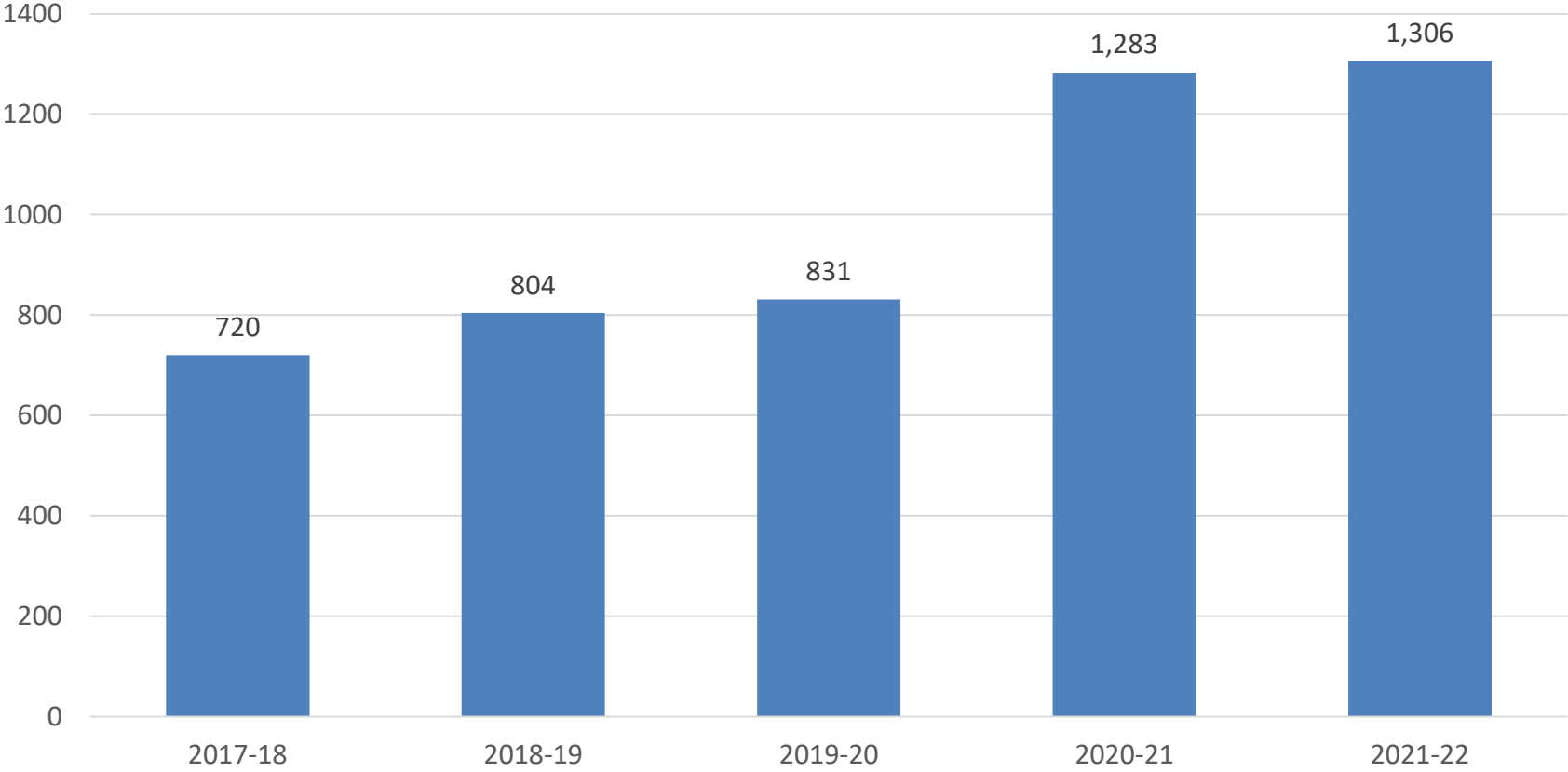
# Top PA Home School Student Counties



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# Privately Tutored Enrollment – Age 5-21

Private tutoring has shown an 81% increase over the past five years.



# Home Education and Private Tutoring

- Since the 2019-20 school year, there has been a significant increase in the number of home-schooled and privately tutored students due to the pandemic and the change in compulsory school age.
- Only six districts reported having no home school students in 2021-22.
- In general, districts are processing more home school affidavits, providing more curriculum materials, and developing policies to address students transferring back and forth between your schools and home school programs and taking classes and programs within districts.



# School Sponsored Cyber Programs

- In 2020-21, 89% of all school districts offered a cyber program in at least one grade.
- 84% of the districts with cyber programs had curriculum for all grades (K-12); another 3% had programs for 12 grades.
- Students in a school-sponsored cyber program are not considered home school students.

# Home Education and Private Tutoring

Policies/new laws impacting homeschooling:

- Compulsory attendance age and kindergarten
- Extracurricular activity participation
- Co-curricular activities, academic courses and career and technical education programs
- “Umbrella” schools
- Home school program documents

# ▶ Home Education and Private Tutoring

- Effective as of the 2020-21 school year, compulsory age of attendance changed to age six until 18 or completion of all requirements for a high school diploma.
- Kindergarten is not mandatory in PA.
- Check your district's registration and enrollment policies.

# Home Education and Private Tutoring

- 24 P.S. § 13-1327.1(f.1) allows home school students to participate in extracurricular activities.
- The student must meet the eligibility criteria that apply to students enrolled in the district, meet the tryout criteria that apply to students enrolled in the district, and comply with all policies, rules, and regulations of the governing organization of the activity.
- Check your academic policies and the PIAA regulations for student athletes.

# ▶ Academic Courses/Activities and CTE

- Effective beginning the 2023-24 school year, home school students may participate in cocurricular activities, academic courses and career and technical education.
- Districts are advised to develop policies that address the new provisions in 24 P.S. § 13-1327.1(f.2) and (f.3).
- The student must meet the eligibility criteria that apply to students enrolled in the district and comply with all policies, rules, and regulations of the governing organization of the activity.
- Districts can submit home school students as part of the Average Daily Membership (ADM) to receive some funds for these students.

# Umbrella Schools

- An “umbrella school” is any alternative source of education which provides curriculum and oversight of homeschooled students to fulfill educational requirements of a state government.
- Abeka, Accelus, Liberty University’s homeschool online program, The Bridge Academy, and the Keystone (K-12) School are examples of umbrella schools.
- Parents using umbrella schools must still follow PA Home School laws.
- Penn Foster High School is an exception because it is an accredited school, found in EdNA, so there is no need for home school documentation.

# Home Education and Private Tutoring

- A notarized affidavit or an unsworn declaration attest to the fact that a student will be home schooled. An unsworn declaration does **not** need to be notarized. Samples of these documents can be found at [www.education.pa.gov](http://www.education.pa.gov).
- The Public School Code requires home school supervisors to submit an affidavit or unsworn declaration along with evidence of the required immunizations, medical/ dental screenings, and health examinations for home school students.

# Home Education and Private Tutoring

- For new home school programs, the affidavit or unsworn declaration along with other required documents can be submitted at any time in the school year, but submission must be done so before the program begins.
- For those that are continuing a home school program, the deadline for submitting paperwork is on or prior to August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A home school evaluation report is required for all home school students and must be submitted to the district of residence by no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>.



## ▶ Latest News

### **Statewide Home Education and Private Tutoring Report**

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/K-12/Home%20Education%20and%20Private%20Tutoring/Home%20Education%20Reporting%202017-2022.pptx>

### **Home Education and Private Tutoring Guide**

<https://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Home%20Education%20and%20Private%20Tutoring/HomeEdPrivateTutoringGuide/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Basic Education Circular (BEC)**

- <https://www.education.pa.gov/Policy-Funding/BECS/Purdons/Pages/HomeEducationProgram.aspx>



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# ▶ Home Education and Private Tutoring

Questions/Comments?

# Contact/Mission

For more information on the Home Education and Private Tutoring programs and reporting, please call us at 717-787-4860 or you can send an email to [RA-Home-Education@pa.gov](mailto:RA-Home-Education@pa.gov).

*The mission of the Department of Education is to ensure that every learner has access to a world-class education system that academically prepares children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. Further, the Department seeks to establish a culture that is committed to improving opportunities throughout the commonwealth by ensuring that technical support, resources, and optimal learning environments are available for all students, whether children or adults.*