

**HOME-BASED SCHOOLING**

The district shall consider all requests from parents/guardians who wish their children exempt from compulsory public school attendance.

Exemptions requested under Education Code 48224 (Instruction by Tutor) shall be granted only when the student is receiving instruction from a certificated teacher.

When home-based instruction is provided by a non-credentialed tutor, the student shall be either participating in an independent study program with a supervising credentialed instructor or enrolled in a private school.

When no request is made for exemption for instruction by tutor, or for enrollment in an independent study program, or when an affidavit registering as a private school has not been filed, the home-based student will be classified as truant in accordance with state law and board policy.

*(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)*

**Independent Study**

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage parents/guardians, desiring to teach their children at home, to enroll the student(s) in an independent study program provided by the district. Such enrollment allows continued contact and cooperation between the school system and home-based student. A private school affidavit is not required when children are taught at home through the Independent Study Program.

Through the independent study program, students may be provided with curriculum guides, state-adopted textbooks, workbooks, equipment, suggestions and assistance as needed.

Because socialization is an important benefit of regular school attendance, students in the independent study program should be offered field trips and other activities which bring home-based students into group settings on a temporary basis. The Superintendent or designee shall decide the number and type of field trips to be offered to the home-based student.

Admission will be determined by the procedures and eligibility requirements of the independent study program.

*(cf. 6158 - Independent Study Programs)*

**HOME-BASED SCHOOLING** (continued)**Private School**

*Note: According to SDE, parents/guardians who wish to educate their children without local school district involvement may file an affidavit for exemption as a private school. Private school teachers do not have to be certificated. The filing of an affidavit does not in itself establish that a private school is complying with all statutory requirements. The district attendance supervisor or designee has the authority to verify whether or not the private school has filed an affidavit in accordance with Education Code 33190 and whether the requirements of Education Code 48222 are being met.*

Exemptions requested under Education Code 48222 (attendance in private school) are granted when:

1. The owner or administrative head of the private school has filed with the Superintendent of Public Instruction an affidavit containing the information required by Education Code 33190.
2. The private school complies with the provisions of Education Code 48222. This statute includes requirements that:
  - a. The home-based student is being instructed in a private full-time day school by persons capable of teaching.
  - b. Instruction is offered in the several branches of study required to be taught in public schools.

The district's attendance officer or designee is authorized to arrange visits to private schools in order to determine whether conditions at the private school are in compliance with the provision, of Education Code 48222. Any contact with a private school for such purpose shall be arranged in advance and be kept cordial. Keep in mind that many parents/guardians who attempt home-based schooling eventually return the student to regular public school upon discovering how difficult home-based schooling can be.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

*33190 Affidavit by agency conducting private school instruction at elementary or high school level; list of schools*

*48220 Classes of children exempted*

*48222 Attendance in private school*

*48224 Instruction by tutor*

Policy  
adopted: February 28, 1990

**MURRIETA VALLEY USD**  
Murrieta, California