



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Accountability Coordinators
Technology Coordinators
PowerSchool Coordinators

FROM: Dan Ralyea
Director, Office of Research and Data Analysis

DATE: December 13, 2022

RE: Home School Documentation – Evidence of “Transfer”

Under its compulsory attendance provisions, the South Carolina Code of Laws requires school districts to monitor the appropriate education of home-schooled students. This education can take one of three options depending on the choice made by the parent. The parent can create a home school under the supervision of a local school board utilizing option 1. Local school board approved curriculum and attendance monitoring is governed by S.C. Code Ann. § [59-65-40](#). Under option 2, parents can choose to join the South Carolina Association of Home Schools to reduce the reporting requirements to the local school board. The local school board’s attendance monitoring requirements are mitigated by the home school’s compliance through “[b]ona fide membership and continuing compliance with the academic standards [of the association]” (S.C. Code Ann. § [59-65-45](#)). Parents may also choose another association for home schools (option 3), which also reduces the reporting requirements on districts, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § [59-65-47](#). As with option 2, the local school board’s attendance monitoring requirements are mitigated by the home school’s compliance through “[b]ona fide membership and continuing compliance.”

Previous documentation guidance for withdrawal code W25 does not meet the standard of bona fide membership and continuous compliance. The following is acceptable evidence of documentation of home school participation: copy of the of letter to parents approving the establishment of the home school (option 1), membership documentation from the South Carolina Association of Home Schools (option 2), or membership documentation from an

association for home schools, which has no fewer than fifty members (option 3). Other documentation will not be accepted as evidence of a “transfer” and removal from the membership for the school and district.

If the student has an Individualized Education Program, the special education director must be made aware, and documentation must be submitted.

More information is available on the South Carolina Department of Education website at <https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/state-accountability/home-schooling/>. If you have questions, please email homeschooling@ed.sc.gov.