



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
4040 NORTH FAIRFAX DRIVE  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22203-1635

Education Division

99-C-001

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
POLICY MEMORANDUM

Home Schooling

It is the policy of the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) to neither encourage nor discourage sponsors from home schooling their minor dependents. DoDEA recognizes that home schooling is a sponsor's right and can be a legitimate alternative form of education for their dependents.

The DoDEA encompasses both the Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS) and Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (DDESS) systems. As a practical matter, a host nation, state, commonwealth, or territory where a DoD sponsor is stationed may impose legal requirements on home schooling practices in lieu of school attendance. DoDEA encourages DoD sponsors who wish to home school their dependents to communicate their desire to the local military community commander to determine if there are any command policies or other rules that ensure that home schooling practices meet host nation, state, commonwealth, or territory requirements.

Upon request, DoDEA shall provide dependents who are home schooled with library services and, consistent with existing regulations and policy, single classes, special education services, and participation in extra-curricular and interscholastic activities such as music and sports programs. Home schoolers who choose to use DoDEA services must complete a registration form. When classes carry prerequisites for admission, verification of competence must also be included.

DoDEA does not provide home schooling materials, such as textbooks, workbooks, software, etc., to DoD sponsors wishing to home school their dependents. Obtaining these materials is the responsibility of the DoD sponsor. However, DoDEA schools will loan material to sponsors if those materials would be helpful to the home school program.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray Tolleson".

Ray Tolleson  
Interim Director