

## Evaluations

Reference: 24 PS 13-1327.1

### What Does the Law Say About Evaluations?

“An annual written evaluation of the student’s educational progress...”

“An evaluator’s certification stating that an appropriate education is occurring for the school year under review shall be provided by the supervisor to the superintendent of the public school district of residence by June 30 of each year.”

This tells us we need to submit a written evaluation for each homeschooled student to our local superintendent every year by June 30.

“The evaluation shall also be based on an interview of the child and a review of the portfolio required in clause (1) and shall certify whether or not an appropriate education[\*] is occurring.”

\* “Appropriate education” shall mean a program consisting of instruction in the required subjects[\*\*] for the time required[\*\*\*] in this act and in which the student demonstrates sustained progress in the overall program.

This tells us we need to take our child and our child’s portfolio to an in-person evaluation or provide a digital portfolio and meet with an evaluator by phone, Zoom, FaceTime, etc.

### Your Plan of Action Should Include:

1. Provide an appropriate education for your child
2. Find an evaluator
3. Schedule your evaluation
4. Create your child’s portfolio
5. Mentally prepare yourself and your child

Other helpful resources:

*How Can I Fit in All These Subjects?* [www.ihomeed.com/how-can-i-fit-in-all-these-subjects/](http://www.ihomeed.com/how-can-i-fit-in-all-these-subjects/)

Videos on Finding an Evaluator, Portfolios, Logs, Standardized Testing, Getting Ready for Your Evaluation, and What Happens During an Evaluation?

<https://www.iHomeEd.com/AskDarlene>

Print the Pennsylvania Home Education Law and circle the verbs while you read it so you know what someone (you, your child, your evaluator, the superintendent) must do:

<https://pahomeschoollaw.com/law>

<https://hslida.org/post/how-to-comply-with-pennsylvanias-homeschool-law>

<https://phea.net/pa-home-education-evaluations/faqs-on-evaluations/>

**Question:** What happens if I don't submit an evaluator's letter to my superintendent by June 30?

**Answer:** You will receive a letter from the superintendent by certified mail requiring you to submit a written evaluation within 10 days. If you don't meet that deadline, you will be required to attend a hearing with an examiner within 30 days. You might be required to follow a remedial education plan or you could lose the right to homeschool that child for 12 months.

“(h.1) . . . If the supervisor fails to submit the certification due on June 30 to the superintendent, the superintendent shall send a letter by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the supervisor [parent or legal guardian] of the home education program, stating that the certification is past due and notifying the supervisor to submit the certification within ten (10) days of receipt of the certified letter. If the certification is not submitted within that time, the board of school directors shall provide for a proper hearing in accordance with subsection (k).”

(k) If a hearing is required by the provisions of subsection (h.1 [supervisor fails to submit a written evaluation]), (i.1 [superintendent believes an appropriate education is not occurring]) or (j.1 [superintendent believes the home education program is out of compliance]), the board of school directors shall provide for a proper hearing by a duly qualified and impartial hearing examiner within thirty (30) days. The examiner shall render a decision within fifteen (15) days of the hearing except that he may require the establishment of a remedial education plan mutually agreed to by the superintendent and supervisor of the home education program which shall continue the home education program. The decision of the examiner may be appealed by either the supervisor of the home education program or the superintendent to the Secretary of Education, Commonwealth Court or court of common pleas.

(l) If the hearing examiner finds that the evidence does not indicate that appropriate education is taking place in the home education program, the home education program for the child shall be out of compliance with the requirements of this section and section 1327, and the student shall be promptly enrolled in the public school district of residence or a nonpublic school or a licensed private academic school. The home education program may continue during the time of any appeal.

(m) At such time as the child's home education program has been determined to be out of compliance with the provisions of this section and section 1327, the supervisor or spouse of the supervisor of the home education program shall not be eligible to supervise a home education program for that child, as provided for in subsection (b)(1) of this section, for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of such determination.