

§ 20-2-319.6. Home study student participation in resident school system extracurricular and interscholastic activities; short title; definitions; requirements for participation; impact of student withdrawal; reporting requirements

(a) This Code section shall be known and may be cited as the "Dexter Mosely Act."

(b) As used in this Code section, the term:

(1) "Athletic association" means any association of schools or any other similar organization which acts as an organizing, sanctioning, scheduling, or rule-making body for interscholastic activities in which public schools in this state participate.

(2) "Extracurricular activities" means public school-sponsored activities in which students take part on a voluntary basis; which do not offer or provide school or course credits; which are generally conducted outside regular school hours or, if conducted in whole or in part during regular school hours, at times agreed to by the participants and approved by a school official; and which are managed and operated under the guidance of a teacher, other school employee, or other adult approved by a school official. Examples of extracurricular activities include but are not limited to intramural and interscholastic athletics; band, chorus, and other musical activities; drama and other theatrical activities; and clubs and organizations as defined in subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-705.

(3) "Home study student" means any student in grades six through 12 who is in a home study program that meets the requirements of subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690.

(4) "Interscholastic activities" means extracurricular activities, public school-sponsored athletic programs, and other public school-sponsored programs that are sanctioned or supported by a state-wide interscholastic activities governing body, including but not limited to an athletic association.

(5) "Qualifying course" means a course facilitated by the home study student's resident school system:

(A) By applying one or more of the mechanisms provided for in paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-319.4;

(B) By way of a dual credit course as provided for in Code Section 20-2-161.3; or

(C) By way of an on-site course required for participation in designated extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

(6) "Resident school" means the public school in which a home study student would be enrolled based on his or her residence.

(7) "Resident school system" means the public school system in which a home study student would be enrolled based on his or her residence.

(c) A home study student shall be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities and interscholastic activities under the sponsorship, direction, and control of the resident school or resident school system, provided that each of the following requirements is met:

(1) At least 30 calendar days before the first school day of the semester in which a home study student will enroll in a qualifying course as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a parent or guardian of

the home study student provides to the principal of the resident school and the superintendent of the resident school system:

(A) Written notice that the home study student intends to participate in one or more specified extracurricular or interscholastic activities as a representative of the resident school or resident school system; and

(B) A copy of the home study student's most recent annual progress assessment report, as provided for in paragraph (8) of subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690, along with written verification by the home study program instructor that the home study student is currently receiving a passing grade in each home study program course, is maintaining satisfactory progress toward advancement, and meets the requirements for participation in the specified extracurricular or interscholastic activity;

(2) For each semester of the regular school year during any part of which the home study student participates in an extracurricular or interscholastic activity, the home study student enrolls in and attempts to complete one qualifying course;

(3) The home study student meets established age, academic, behavioral, conduct, disciplinary, residence, zoning, and other rules and requirements applicable to all students for participation in the specified extracurricular or interscholastic activity and provides any supporting documentation required by the resident school;

(4) The home study student abides by the same student code of conduct and disciplinary measures and transportation policies as students enrolled at the resident school who are participating in the same extracurricular or interscholastic activity as the home study student;

(5) The home study student completes the tryout process or the equivalent for participation in the specified extracurricular or interscholastic activity applicable to all students for participation in the specified extracurricular or interscholastic activity and provides any supporting documentation required by the resident school; and

(6) For an extracurricular or interscholastic activity which involves a competitive selection process, the home study student is selected.

(d) A student who withdraws from a public school to participate in a home study program shall be ineligible for participation in any extracurricular or interscholastic activity for 12 months from the date of the declaration of intent to utilize a home study program provided to the Department of Education as provided under paragraph (2) of subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690.

(e) For purposes of this Code section, participation in an extracurricular or interscholastic activity includes participation in the following school-sponsored activities related to the extracurricular or interscholastic activity: tryouts; off-season practice, rehearsal, or conditioning; summer and holiday practice, rehearsal, or conditioning; in-season practice, rehearsal, or conditioning; and all exhibitions, contests, and competitions, including scrimmage, preseason, regular season, postseason, and invitational.

(f) A resident school, a resident school system, or an athletic association shall not deny a home study student the opportunity to try out and participate if selected in any extracurricular or interscholastic activities available at the resident school or in the resident school system if the student meets the

requirements contained in subsection (c) of this Code section and is not ineligible under subsection (d) of this Code section.

(g) No public high school which receives funding under this article shall participate in, sponsor, or provide coaching staff for interscholastic activities which are conducted under the authority of, conducted under the rules of, or scheduled by any athletic association that does not deem eligible for participation a home study student who meets the requirements contained in subsection (c) of this Code section and is not ineligible under subsection (d) of this Code section.

(h) Home study students shall participate in extracurricular or interscholastic activities on behalf of such home study student's resident school.

(i) The specific assigned program of each home study student enrolled in a qualifying course shall be included for a one-sixth segment of the school day, or the block scheduling equivalent, by the home study student's resident school system in reports made to the Department of Education as provided in subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-160.