

Private Tutoring in Pennsylvania: The Law

? **The law regarding private tutoring** can be found at the end of [24 PS 13-1327 Compulsory school attendance](#):

...Regular daily instruction in the English language, for the time herein required, by a properly qualified private tutor, shall be considered as complying with the provisions of this section.

For the purposes of this section, "properly qualified private tutor" shall mean a person who is certified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to teach in the public schools of Pennsylvania;

who is teaching one or more children who are members of a single family;

who provides the majority of the instruction to such child or children;

and who is receiving a fee or other consideration for such instructional services.

No person who would be disqualified from school employment by the provisions of subsection (e) of section 111 may be a private tutor, as provided for in this section.

The private tutor must file a copy of his Pennsylvania certification and the required criminal history record with the student's district of residence superintendent.

Private Tutoring in Pennsylvania: The Code?

? **The regulations regarding private tutoring** can be found in [22 Pa. Code § 11.31. Pupils not enrolled in public schools due to private tutoring](#). These regulations were changed in October 2004. Note that the superintendent can no longer approve the tutor, and can ask for extensive documentation only if there is a complaint.

EXCUSALS FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

§ 11.31. Students not enrolled in public schools due to private tutoring.

(a) Private tutoring requirements.

(1) The instruction of students not enrolled in public schools due to private tutoring by a qualified tutor under section 1327 of the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P. S. § 13-1327) must include for elementary school level students: English, including spelling, reading and writing; arithmetic; geography; the history of the United States and Pennsylvania; science; civics, including loyalty to the State and National government; safety education, including regular and continuous instruction in the dangers and prevention of fires; health, including physical education and physiology; music; and art.

(2) For secondary school level students, the instruction must include: art; English; health; mathematics; music; physical education; science; and social studies, including civics, world history, United States and Pennsylvania history.

(3) The instruction may include, at the discretion of the tutor, economics, biology, chemistry, foreign languages, trigonometry or other age appropriate planned instruction as contained in Chapter 4 (relating to academic standards and assessment).

(4) The instruction must be given during the school year for a minimum of 180 days of instruction or for a minimum of 900 hours of instruction for an elementary level student and a minimum of 990 hours of instruction for a secondary level student as the equivalent of 180 days of instruction.

(b) Documentation regarding private tutoring.

(1) School district approval is not required to commence private tutoring.

(2) The parent shall provide written assurance that the instructional requirements listed in this section have been met.

(3) When a superintendent receives a complaint that a student is not being provided instruction for the time prescribed or that a student is not making satisfactory progress in the tutoring program, the superintendent may request evidence of student academic progress and documentation that instruction is provided for the required number of days and hours.

(4) Evidence of satisfactory progress may include samples of student work, assessments, progress reports, report cards and evaluations.

(5) Documentation of instructional time may include logs maintained by the tutor or parent, attendance records or other records indicating the dates and time instruction was provided.