Environmental Charter Schools
(“ECS”)

HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION POLICY

1) INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

a. This statement of the Board of the Environmental Charter Schools (the “Board”) sets forth the policies governing home and hospital instruction.

b. Existing law requires each person subject to compulsory education to attend full-time school or continuation school. The Home and Hospital Instruction Program (California Education Code Section 48206.3) serves students who incur a temporary disability, which makes attendance in the regular day classes or alternative education program impossible or inadvisable. The LEA in which the home or residential health facility is located is responsible for instructing and educating pupils who must be hospitalized or remain at home due to a temporary but extended illness or disability. There is no provision in statute that specifically addresses instructional content; however, the goal of home or hospital instruction should be maintenance of the pupil’s former level of performance while recovering.

c. The Board will review this policy as needed, but at least triennially, to ensure its continued appropriateness. Any changes to this policy must be approved by the Board.

2) HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION POLICY

a. A student with a temporary disability which makes school attendance impossible or inadvisable shall receive individual instruction in the student's home or in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding state hospitals. This instruction applies to students incurring a physical, mental or emotional disability after which they can reasonably be expected to return to regular day classes or an alternative education program without special intervention. It does not apply to students identified as individuals with exceptional needs pursuant to Education Code 56026.

b. Home or hospital instruction shall be provided only by teachers with valid California teaching credentials who consent to the assignment. (Education Code 44865)

c. ECS shall offer at least one hour of instruction for every day of instruction offered by the ECS in the regular education program. No student shall be credited with more than five days of attendance per calendar week or credited with more than the total number of calendar days that regular classes are offered by the LEA in any fiscal year. (Education Code 48200, 48206.3)

d. Insofar as possible, the teacher providing home or hospital instruction shall consult with the student’s current classroom teacher(s) so as to provide a continuity of instruction that enables the student to stay abreast with the regular school program.
e. The ECS Chief Executive Officer or designee may require verification through any reasonable means, including a doctor’s note, that the student requires home instruction. In addition, this verification shall also state that the disabling condition will not expose the teacher to a contagious disease that can be transmitted through casual contact. Home or hospital instruction shall not be denied to students with Hepatitis B, herpes or HIV/AIDS, as long as the home or hospital practices current preventive protocol as determined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.

f. Parental Notifications

   a. At the beginning of the school year, the ECS Chief Executive Officer or designee shall notify parents/guardians that: (Education Code 48208, 48980)

      i. Individual instruction is available for temporarily disabled students as prescribed by Education Code 48206.3.

      ii. If a student becomes temporarily disabled, it is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to notify the ECS of the student’s presence in a qualifying hospital or home care setting.