

# Graduation from Home Instruction

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## **Superintendent's Letter of Equivalency**

If you wish your child to receive a Superintendent's Letter of Equivalency, contact us early in the spring of your child's last year of high school. Make an appointment and bring along all your home instruction records i.e. IHIPs, Quarterly Reports, Standardized Tests, etc. You will also need a typed transcript; you may use the BOCES form as a model. During the meeting, we will go through the BOCES file, making sure that it is complete and if not, copying any missing records from your own file. If there is documentation for everything, we will send the file onto the Superintendent along with a recommendation regarding the letter of equivalency. It is the Superintendent who is ultimately responsible for writing the letter.

## **Suggested strategies for home-instructed students to help gain entrance to colleges**

Listed below are some suggested strategies for home-instructed students (and their parents) to consider using to help them gain entrance to colleges. Consideration can be given to using a combination of these strategies. Please note that there is no guarantee that following any or all of the strategies listed below will ensure a home-instructed student's admission to any college. Again, if home-instructing students choose to pursue admission to college, they (and their parents) are fully responsible for this.

### **Suggested Strategies**

1. A portfolio of the student's work, demonstrating its breadth and depth, might be developed over time. This portfolio can be shared with college admissions personnel to demonstrate the student's capabilities.
2. If a home-instructed student has taken Regents exams at the public school of residence, he/she can request the public school district to produce, on school letterhead, a list of the exams taken, the date on which they were taken, and the score the student earned. This list of Regents exam scores can be shared with college admissions personnel.
3. Home-instructed students can take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and/or other standardized tests used for college admissions purposes. Scores on these tests can be shared with college admissions personnel. Home-instructed students should contact their public school district about arrangements for taking the Scholastic Aptitude Test and/or achievement examinations offered by the College Board or the American College Testing Service.

4. If the student is beyond the age of compulsory education, and has completed a program of home instruction in compliance with [Section 100.10 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education](#), he/she can request that the superintendent of schools of the public school district of residence attest to this, in writing, on district letterhead. This can be shared with college admissions personnel. Please note, however, that the superintendent of schools may, but is under no obligation to, attest to this.
5. Home-instructed students can take the Test Assessing Secondary Completion or TASC (formerly known as the GED exam), when they have reached eligibility to do so. Students passing the TASC can share their High School Equivalency Diplomas with college admissions personnel.
  - TASC information - <http://www.tasctest.com/> or <http://www.acces.nysed.gov/ged/>

**Please note:**

Once your child turns 16 and completes that year of schooling, it is your choice to submit paperwork or not, even if he/she continues with home instruction. **However, be aware that if sometime in the future you request a Superintendent's Letter of Equivalency for college, OR dual-credit at a community college such as TC-3, or for Tuition Assistance Program applications, we will need to have complete documentation for all four years of high school: four IHIPs, all quarterly reports, and four standardized tests.**