

GUIDANCE FOR HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS AND PARENTS

- Both the law and rule create equal access for home school students to be able to compete on equal footing and receive equal opportunity for nomination at the local level for the statewide selection process. The law and the rule do not provide home school students guaranteed participation in the Governor's Honors Program.
- Home school students interested in the Governor's Honors Program (GHP) nomination process should contact the local school system GHP coordinator for the school district in which they reside. The list of local school system GHP coordinators and their contact information is published on the GHP web page.
- Home school students must demonstrate compliance with Georgia's home study law O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690 in order to participate in the GHP nomination process.
- The number of nominations for the local school system will be derived from the total count of both public and home school 10th and 11th grade students residing in the local school system. Local nominations will be conducted without regard to the public or home school enrollment status to provide a fair and equal opportunity for all constituents.

GUIDANCE FOR LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM GHP COORDINATORS

- It is important to note that the law and the rule do not provide for guaranteed participation in the Governor's Honors Program. The law and rule create equal access for home school students to be able to compete on equal footing with public school students and provide equal opportunity for nomination at the local school system level for the statewide selection process.
- Home school students and/or home school nominating teachers will be directed to contact the local school system GHP coordinator for information pertaining to the local nomination process.
- Once the local school system has verified that the home school student is compliant with Georgia's home study law O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690, the student will be considered eligible for consideration for local nomination to the Governor's Honors Program.
- Eligible 10th and 11th grade home school students will be added to the local school system's 10th and 11th grade FTE count. The number of nominations for the system will be derived from the total count of both of these constituent groups. Local nominations will be conducted without regard to the public or home school designation as long as the student meets the program participation requirements in order to provide a fair and equal opportunity for all constituents.

Example

SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.09 stipulates that each local school system and private school shall receive one nomination for every 100 students or major fraction thereof enrolled in the 10th and 11th grades during the previous academic year.

System “A” has a total public school enrollment of 4985 in grades 1-12, with 639 students (i.e., 13% of the system’s total enrollment*) enrolled in the 10th and 11th grades.

System “A” also has a total eligible home school enrollment of 189 in grades 1-12. Because home school enrollment is not reported by grade level, the number of home school students enrolled in the 10th and 11th grades shall be based on the proportional equivalent of the public school enrollment in those grades (i.e., 13% in this case), resulting in a total enrollment of 24 eligible home school students in the 10th and 11th grades.

The combined total public school and eligible home school enrollment in grades 10-11 for System “A” is 663, which yields a GHP nomination for seven students.

*It is important to note that this percentage will vary from system to system.