

PATAULA CHARTER ACADEMY, INC.

HOME STUDY STUDENTS AND SPORTS POLICY

Purpose: This policy has been developed as a measure for Pataula Charter Academy (PCA) and Spring Creek Charter Academy (SCCA) to waive O.C.G.A. 20-2-319.6/Senate Bill 42 which allows home study students in the 6th-12th grades to “participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities in the student’s resident public school system.” As State Commission Charter Schools, PCA and SCCA are not considered “resident public school systems”.

O.C.G.A. 20-2-319.6/Senate Bill 42 does not implicate non-waivable matters:

- The law permits home study students to participate in appropriate activities that are under the sponsorship, direction, and control of the resident school or resident school system." (emphasis added). The "resident school" is the public school where a home study student would be enrolled based on residence." Because PCA and SCCA are state commissioned charter schools, they are not considered a “resident school”. Therefore, we would waive the ability of students to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities. Home study students would be referred to their resident school or resident school system, which would be the local traditional school system in the county of residency of the student.
- The law requires home study students who wish to participate in extracurricular/interscholastic activities to be enrolled in at least one “qualifying course” with the school. A qualifying course is a course facilitated by the resident school system through an on-site course required for participation in the designated E/I activities; by way of a dual credit course as provided for in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-161.3; or through one of Georgia’s public virtual instructional options identified in O.C.G.A. §20-2- 319.4(b) (Georgia Virtual School, contracted provider, inter-district agreements). PCA/SCCA does not offer enrollment on a “part-time” basis, and therefore cannot offer such qualifying courses to home-study students.

PCA and SCCA also do not offer extracurricular or interscholastic activities to home study students in grades K-5.

Board approved: 8/22/2022