



FALL 2020-21 FCPS HOME INSTRUCTION (HOME SCHOOL) NEWSLETTER



Greetings Home Instruction Families! We sincerely hope that you and your family are healthy. At this time Frederick County Public Schools, including the Home Instruction Office remain closed without an appointment. Since our working arrangements include telework, our general email box homeinstruction@fcps.org continues to be the best way to reach us. We apologize for any delay in communication on our part, and we greatly appreciate your patience. Also, please join us in welcoming Lee Jeffrey who joined the Home Instruction Office team.



HELPFUL INFORMATION, RESOURCES and REMINDERS



WEBSITE FOR HOME INSTRUCTION (HOME SCHOOL): <http://www.fcps.org/academics/home-instruction>

This site includes links to MSDE Regulations; FCPS Regulation, Home Instruction Notification form, Portfolio Review Summary Form NEW, Home Instruction FAQ, GED information, MVA form (signature no longer required), FCC Tuition Reduction (signed form).

FCC ENROLLMENT INFORMATION: If your child is interested in pursuing college level courses at FCC, please visit <https://frederick.edu/admissions/dual-enrollment.aspx> for more information.

FCPS STANDARIZED TESTING OPTIONS: At least two weeks prior to testing, contact the public school your child would be attending to let them know you want your child to participate in the testing program. School staff will then schedule your child to be assessed in the school and in accordance with the school's regular testing schedule.

FCPS CALENDAR AND SCHOOL CLOSURES: The Home Instruction Office will follow the FCPS School Calendar and Inclement Weather Policy [Click here for FCPS CALENDAR INFO](#)

HOME INSTRUCTION ANNUAL VERIFICATION, CHANGE IN STATUS and STUDENT RECORDS UPDATES:

Thank you to the returning 2019-2020 homeschooled/home instruction families who have provided us with annual verification of continued participation in home instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. Returning families are NOT required to complete a new notification form. An email communicating continued participation in home instruction is acceptable. Also, please email our office with any changes in your child's/children's status (return to school or switch to umbrella oversight) or changes to contact and/or address information.

RETURNING TO A FCPS SCHOOL FROM HOME INSTRUCTION (HOME SCHOOLING):

Students may return to their public school at any time, however, be sure to contact the school's front office in advance to obtain re-enrollment and re-entry information. Homeschool students who want to transfer back to a public school will have their homeschool portfolio materials, etc., evaluated by the school principal to determine placement and transfer credits. Please refer to [FCPS Regulation 400-49](#) for details on this process.

VERIFICATION CARD: For your convenience, we are providing you with the 2020-2021 Home Instruction Verification Card which you may wish to retain for your records. The verification card may allow for discounts at some businesses.



PORTFOLIO REVIEW INFORMATION (over)

 Frederick County Public Schools <i>Reach. Challenge. Prepare.</i>	Verification of Home Instruction (Homeschooling) for the 2020-2021 School Year
Home Instruction Office 33 Thomas Johnson Drive Frederick, MD 21702	
Email: homeinstruction@fcps.org	
Website: http://www.fcps.org/academics/home-instruction	

PORTFOLIO REVIEW INFORMATION

PORTFOLIO REVIEWS FOR 2ND SEMESTER OF THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR:

If you were a 2019-2020 home school/home instruction family and a 2nd semester portfolio review did not occur due to the impact of COVID 19, you may utilize this link to the pdf [Portfolio Summary Review Form](#) or download the fillable word document from our website [Home Instruction Website](#) to submit last year's 2nd semester portfolio review information. Be sure to specify on the form that the information being provided is for the 2019-2020 school year.

PORTFOLIO REVIEWS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021: Due to continued health and safety concerns, and until further notice, all portfolio reviews will be electronic/email/mail-in reviews. Email is the best way to submit portfolio review materials. Two reviews are required each year. The first review will be completed by January 2021, and the second review will be completed by June 2021.

SEMESTER 1 REVIEW OPTIONS:

- **Option 1: Portfolio Summary Review Form:** Email/or mail a completed *Portfolio Summary Review Form* found on our website [Home Instruction Website](#) as a fillable word document or use this link to a pdf [Portfolio Summary Review Form](#)
- **Option 2: Transcripts/Grade Reports:** Email/scan/or mail photograph copies of a transcript/grades/progress report received from the organization/college/program/co-op (i.e. Penn Foster, Liberty, Keystone, ABEKA etc.) your child is working with.
- **Option 3: Electronic Portfolio:** Email/scan/mail/photograph a few samples of relevant materials for each subject.

(If you cannot access one of these options, please contact your Home Instruction Monitor directly.)

WHO WILL PERFORM MY CHILD'S PORTFOLIO REVIEW?

If this is your first homeschooling experience with FCPS, your home instruction monitor will likely be Lee Jeffrey, but may be Joe Burau or Laura Ritchie.

If you are a returning homeschooling family and/or you previously reviewed with Joe Burau, you will remain with Joe.

If you are a returning homeschooling family and/or you previously reviewed with Laura Ritchie you will remain with Laura.

FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS and MONITORING: You will receive additional information through emails directly from your assigned home instruction monitor. Returning Home Instruction families can expect to remain monitored by their 2019-2020 monitor. Please contact us if you have any questions.

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Laura Ritchie laura.ritchie@fcps.org