THRIVE

HOMESCHOOL EDITION



AN EDUCATIONAL AND INSPIRATIONAL GUIDE
FOR TODAY'S MILITARY FAMILIES

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Dear Five & Thrive Community,

As military families, we understand finding the best fit for your children's education amidst constant moves and transitions can be incredibly challenging. The process can feel overwhelming, especially when considering homeschooling.

Sabrina Dalton, a dedicated Space Force spouse, experienced these challenges firsthand. When she chose to homeschool her children, she encountered numerous difficulties in finding the right support and resources to aid her journey. Recognizing a need within our community, Sabrina came to us with the idea to create an easy-to-use homeschool guide. Creating the Thrive Guide: Homeschool Edition has been a true labor of love, reflecting the dedication and passion of those committed to supporting homeschooling families.

We have partnered with both Sabrina and our dedicated School Liaison Program to bring you this comprehensive resource. It is meticulously crafted to provide valuable insights, practical advice, and a wealth of information to help families navigate their educational journey with confidence and success.

"The availability of these resources is crucial, as it complements the family's educational choices and helps create a stable learning environment amidst the frequent relocations and adjustments inherent to military life. By supporting homeschooling efforts, the School Liaison Program helps maintain continuity in education, which is vital for military children's academic and emotional well-being."

Lori Phipps, DAF School Liaison Division Chief

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Sabrina for her dedication and contributions and our School Liaisons for their constant advocacy. Their experience and passion have been instrumental in bringing this guide to life.

Whether you are just starting or looking for additional resources, this guide aims to be your trusted companion on your homeschool journey. We are committed to supporting you every step of the way, ensuring that your children's educational experience is enriching and successful.

In this together,

Your Thrive Team



Sabrina Dalton and her children exploring Rocky Mountain National Park.

HOW TO USE THE THRIVE GUIDE

SCHOOL LIAISON

FIND YOUR SL

School Liaisons (SLs) partner with local and state-level educators as well as other policymakers. These partnerships impact quality of Pre-K through 12th-grade education and allow for tailored support to families, commanders, and total force families in meeting the challenging demands of the military lifestyle. The School Liaison Program provides military-connected children the opportunity to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, regardless of duty station, deployments, or transition status.

The School Liaison Program provides essential support for homeschool military families, recognizing their unique challenges. This program offers resources, guidance, and connections to local homeschooling groups, ensuring that military families can access quality educational materials and community support.

HOMESCHOOL RESOURCES

The resources in this guide represent a small offering of what is available to homeschooling families. While not exhaustive, these resources are a great place to start when beginning homeschooling or after a PCS or when looking to get connected with the homeschool community. The information in this guide is organized into national resources, and also by state or territory. Families are strongly encouraged to seek out additional resources in their local community.

Know a homeschool resource or co-op at your installation?
Submit them along with pictures of your family homeschooling and we will add them to this living digital guide.

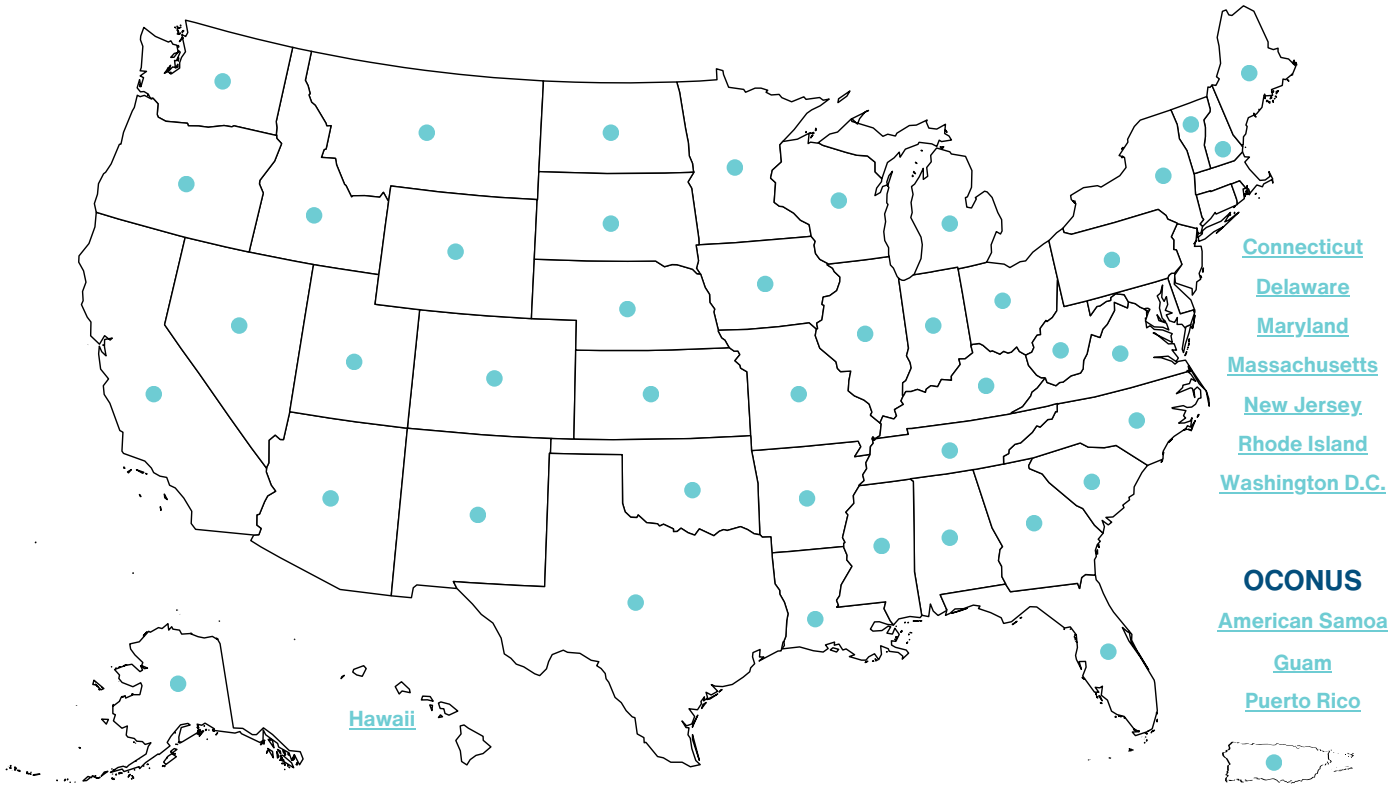


TESTIMONIALS

Testimonials throughout the Thrive Guide offer advice, wisdom, and experiences from other military families who are homeschooling. If you'd like the opportunity to have your testimonial included, please submit them here.

For the most recent version of this guide visit fiveandthrive.org/thrive-guide. This guide is intended to be used as a living digital document. You will find many active links to additional information. If you find a resource that no longer exists please reach out to thriveteam@fiveandthrive.org or submit the information here.

HOMESCHOOLING RESOURCE MAP



OCONUS INFORMATION

Generally speaking, under the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), military families and their children are exempt from the compulsory attendance laws of the host nation in which the family is living. SOFA status applies to dependents on the sponsor's orders. This means that families who choose to homeschool overseas are able to homeschool and do not have any oversight or legal requirements that they need to comply with. However, this is not true for all OCONUS locations and not every country allows for homeschooling. Regardless of where you are stationed, please contact the School Liaison of your gaining base/installation to learn the legal framework and entitlements of your new OCONUS assignment. It is also considered a best practice to keep records, work samples, and attendance logs of your homeschooling even if none are required to be submitted.

Homeschool students are able to access many resources at DoDEA schools on their installation. Homeschoolers can access auxiliary services which include academic resources, access to the school library, participation in music, sports and other interscholastic activities. Parents should contact their local DoDEA school for more information.

Additionally, homeschool students who are stationed near a DoDEA school and have an IEP are able to receive special education services through a DoDEA school while still maintaining their homeschool status. These services can include speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, clinical psychology, and other academic interventions.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the difference between Homeschooling, Home Education, Home study, etc?
In short, nothing. Within this guide you will find various terms for homeschooling depending on what term the state or territory prefers to use.

What does compulsory school age mean?
Compulsory school age refers to the ages in which you need to provide educational instruction to your child. In most cases, the school year in which you need to begin homeschooling is the year your child turns the required age. For example, if the school age is five and you live in a state that requires parents to submit a notice of intent, a parent would submit notice in the fall of the year their child is five. Every state has different requirements so make sure you are in compliance for your specific state.

Can my homeschooled child participate in extracurriculars or interscholastic activities?
Maybe. The answer to this is state dependent. The only extracurricular activity that your homeschool child can participate in every state is JROTC as this is protected by federal law. Your School Liaison can help you with locating after school and extracurricular activities and actively advocates to ensure these opportunities are available for our families.

We are stationed in X state but we maintain residency in Y state. Which state laws do I follow?
According to HSLDA, military families should follow the homeschooling laws of the state where their children are physically present, even if their legal residency is elsewhere.

"The first base where we homeschooled, I became friends with the school liaison and if someone came to him inquiring about homeschooling, he often emailed me and asked if I would mind talking with them because I had already been homeschooling for 6 or 7 years. Homeschooling is growing all over and is definitely a great way to stay connected as a family unit. I've now graduated 3 and have 1 entering 10th grade."

DeeDee, Retired Navy Spouse

NATIONAL RESOURCES

DoD STARBASE
Homeschool students are able to participate in DoD STARBASE at their assigned installation. DoD STARBASE provides participating students the ability to engage with “hands-on, minds-on” STEM activities as well as the opportunity to observe STEM applications in the “real world”. STARBASE locations exist across the nation at participating National Guard, Marine, Air Force Reserve, Army, Air Force and Space Force bases.

Tutor.com
K-12 students of active duty, and active duty spouses are eligible for free access to online tutoring and SAT/ACT prep with Tutor.com thanks to their partnership with the Department of Defense.

Kahn Academy
Khan Academy is a not-for-profit with the goal of changing education for the better by providing a free world-class education for anyone anywhere. Khan Academy's materials and resources are available to anyone completely free of charge and is a great resource for tutoring or helping your child at home.

Military Homeschoolers Association
Military Homeschoolers Association’s vision is to empower homeschooling families worldwide with the resources and support they need to thrive on their educational journey. MHA hosts the Base2Base podcast, provides support groups for military homeschooling leaders and has a directory of military homeschooling support groups on its website.

Classical Conversations
Classical Conversations is a Christian homeschool program created by parents for parents. They use a Christ-centered and family-friendly approach to homeschooling that makes everything biblical and hospitable, focused on three simple key areas: Classical, Christian and Community.



“I started attending a weekly park recess for homeschooling families on base so my kids could make some friends and get their wiggles out. What I didn't realize is how beneficial the homeschool recess was for me, as I was able to build relationships with other homeschooling parents who also attended. Those fellow homeschooling parents became a safe place for me to ask questions, share resources and curriculum, and create community. Those women really helped build up my confidence to homeschool!”

Katie, Coast Guard Spouse

ALABAMA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

Do you know of resources we could add to this state? Submit them here, along with your homeschooling testimonial and pictures of you and your family homeschooling and we will add them to this living digital guide.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 17 years old.
- Homeschoolers are able to play public school sports at the school the family is zoned for. This is protected through the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA).

THREE OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN ALABAMA

Attend a Church School

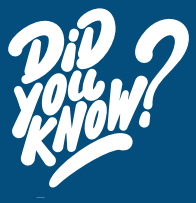
- A church school can be an outreach ministry of a local church, denomination or association and can meet onsite at a church or at your home. Every church school has different requirements.
- The principal teacher must keep attendance records but there are no required days, hours or reporting requirements.
- A church school form must be submitted to the local school district. The form only needs to be submitted upon enrollment in the school and does not need to be submitted annually.

Attend a Private School

- Parents may opt into existing private schools or establish their own private school with their home listed as the school's location.
- Notification: private schools must report the name and ages of all students to the local superintendent on the fifth day after the start of school. Attendance logs must be submitted.
- The private school must offer 'education instruction.'

Private Tutor

- Parents may opt to have a private tutor conduct homeschooling. The tutor must be a certified teacher in the state of Alabama and offer instruction in the subjects required in public school.
- Tutors must file with the local superintendent and keep a record of a child's work indicating hours of instruction and attendance for a minimum of three hours a day for 140 calendar days, during the hours of 8 AM- 4 PM.



Parents of homeschooled children in Alabama can receive Education Savings Account (ESA) funds of up to $2,000 per student, or up to $4,000 total for multiple children.

ALASKA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Alaska Homeschooling Resources

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 16 years old.
- Parents are able to enroll their child in a public school part-time.

FOUR OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN ALASKA

Homeschool Statute

- Alaska has an extremely open ended approach. There are no requirements to homeschool under this option. No notification, instruction time requirement, required subjects, attendance reporting or assessment requirements.
- The Alaska state compulsory education law does not apply if the child is being educated at home by their parent or legal guardian.

Correspondence Program

- Parents can choose to enroll their child in a full time correspondence program at the local district or state level. Parents will work with a certified teacher that is available to him/her through the correspondence program to provide advice and assistance. Parents are able to access education funds through their correspondence program to be used on selected education expenditures.
- Students must have 50% of their work be in math, language arts, social studies, science, world language and technology.
- Students must take standardized tests through the state starting in 3rd grade.
- Only students enrolled in a correspondence program have full access to sports and other extracurricular activities in their local district or an adjacent district with approval.

Private Tutor

- Parents must have a teaching certificate and offer instruction that is comparable to what is offered in public schools in the area.
- There is no requirement of notification, hours of instruction, record keeping or assessment.

Private School

- Parents can opt to homeschool as a private school. Parents must notify the local superintendent annually and offer 180 days of instruction that is comparable to what is offered in public schools. Attendance, academic records, immunization records and state testing are required.

Homeschooling with School Board Approval

- A child does not have to attend public school if they are “equally well-served by an educational experience approved by the school board.” Parents would need to submit a written request to the principal of the child’s school and receive a written excuse from school attendance.

AMERICAN SAMOA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- U.S. Department of Education American Samoa Resources

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age Is 5 - 18 years old.
- American Samoa considers all homeschools to be private schools.
- Parents must submit the following to the American Samoa Department of Education:
  - a statement of its purposes and aims
  - the names and addresses of its sponsors and supporters
  - the age, grade, and sex of each student who will attend
  - the cost of tuition
  - the curriculum to be taught.
- Parents must also maintain permanent report cards for each student.
- Homeschools are required to submit annual reports to the Department of Education which include:
  - the calendar of the school year (Homeschools are required to operate for the same number of days as the local public schools.)
  - a list of the teachers' names, ages, experiences and qualifications
  - a certificate of health for each teacher
  - a list of curriculum and books to be used
  - a schedule of classes
  - monthly enrollment reports must be submitted to the Department of Education.



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ARIZONA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Empowerment Scholarships to help pay for homeschooling.
- Davis-Monthan Air Force Base has a curriculum and board game loan locker.
- Love Your School Arizona

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 16 years old.
- AZ is a school choice state.
- Parents must submit a one-time notification to their school district within 30 days of beginning homeschooling and 30 days of completing homeschooling. The affidavit should include the child's name, date of birth, address and the names, telephone numbers and addresses of those who have custody of the child.
- Children must receive instruction in reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies, and science.
- There are no requirements for attendance or assessment.
- Homeschool students are able to enroll part time at the local districts discretion.
- Homeschool students are able to try out for interscholastic activities at their local school.

ARKANSAS



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Arkansas Homeschooling Website
- Arkansas Homeschooling FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 17 years old.
- Parents must submit a Notice of Intent to their local district Superintendent by August 15 every year or five school days before withdrawing their student. The notice of intent can be submitted electronically, via mail, or in person to the applicable Superintendent.
- There are no requirements pertaining to subjects taught, assessments, hours mandated, or record keeping.
- Students are able to part time enroll in their local public school with district approval.
- Homeschool students are able to participate in extracurriculars and interscholastic activities at the school district in which their parents reside, provided the principal is notified and the homeschool student meets academic eligibility.

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CALIFORNIA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Vandenberg Space Force Base - The Launch Co-Op

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Some districts may allow homeschool students to enroll part time.

FOUR OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN CALIFORNIA

Homeschooling as a Home-based Private School

- Parents are required to submit an online form, called the Private School Affidavit, to the California Superintendent of Public Instruction annually between October 1st and 15th.
- Parents must maintain an attendance register, and provide instruction in commonly taught courses.

Homeschooling through a Private School Satellite Program

- Parents enroll their child in a supervising private school who will maintain records and compliance with the state.
- Instruction must be in English and cover branches of study required in public schools.

Homeschooling via Instruction by Private Tutor

- Person providing the instruction must have a California teaching credential.
- Child must receive instruction for at least three hours a day, between 8 AM and 4 PM, 175 days a year, in the same courses offered at public school and in the English language.
- Families using this option are not required to file a PSA or report additional information to the state.

Independent Study through a Charter School

- Independent Study Overview
- List of Independent Study Programs by County
- Students may enroll in an independent study program through local charter schools or public schools in their area or county. These students are technically considered public school students but schooling takes place at home/ off site. Some independent study programs allow parents access to state funds to support educational activities/ expenditures. These funds range in amount but are generally between $2,000-$3,500 per child, annually.
- Each independent study program has different reporting requirements.
- Per Rule 301 of the California Interscholastic Federation's bylaws, homeschool students are not eligible for public school athletics. Some Independent Study Programs are eligible for public school athletics.

COLORADO



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Homeschooling Resources for Enrichment and Co-ops
- Peterson Space Force Base Library offers a monthly Homeschool Hangout on the first Friday of the month, as well as story times for various age groups and clubs/community groups for children to participate in.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 17 years old.
- A letter of intent must be submitted annually at least 14 days prior to beginning a homeschool program and can be submitted to any public school district office.
- Parents are required to teach reading, writing, and speaking, mathematics, history, civics, literature, science, and the constitution of the United States.
- Must keep record of tests, evaluations, and attendance for at least 172 days a year, four hours a day.
- Students in grades 3,5,7,9,11 must participate in a nationally standardized achievement test and submit those results to their local school district.

**Other options exist that are not covered here: Umbrella School, Private Tutor.*

CONNECTICUT



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Connecticut Homeschooling FAQ
- Consolidated Connecticut Homeschool Statutes

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 18 years old.
- Parents are required to provide “equivalent instruction” to what is taught in public schools and teach English Language Arts (reading, writing, spelling and English grammar), geography, arithmetic, US History, citizenship (including a study of town, state and federal governments).
- There are no other legal requirements to homeschool in Connecticut but it is strongly recommended for parents to file a notice of intent to their local superintendent and keep work samples/a portfolio for annual review.
- Dual enrollment is left up to the local district.
- Homeschool students are not able to participate in sports or extracurriculars per CIAC eligibility.

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DELAWARE

FIND YOUR SL

EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Apply for nonpublic school approval through EdAccess.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 16 years old.

TWO OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN DELAWARE

Single-family and Multi-family Homeschool

- Both require applying through EdAccess for a nonpublic Delaware Department of Education school.
- Subjects and assessment are not specified. Parents should record attendance in order to submit the required end-of-year information.
- Part time enrollment is up to the local school district to decide.
- Homeschool students are barred from participation in Extracurriculars or Interscholastic activities.



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FLORIDA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Florida state FAQ for Homeschooling
- Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
- Step Up For Students: Family Empowerment Scholarship for Unique Abilities
- Personalized Education Program
  Funds available typically range from $7,000-$9,000 per student per year, depending on the county they live in. Additional stipulations to participate in this program and receive funds may be required beyond what is legally required to homeschool in Florida. Active Duty families are able to apply for this tax credit as soon as they receive PCS orders.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 16 years old.

THREE OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN FLORIDA

The Homeschool Statute

- A Home Education Affidavit must be filled with the local school district superintendent within 30 days of beginning homeschooling. The affidavit only needs to be submitted once, not annually.
- A portfolio of work must be maintained for at least two years for every student which contains work samples and contemporaneously made logs of educational activities.
- **A student must be evaluated annually through one of five means:**
  1) A Florida certified teacher may evaluate the child's school work portfolio and have a discussion with the child.
  2) A child may take a nationally standardized achievement test under the supervision of a certified teacher.
  3) A child may take a state standardized achievement test at their local school district.
  4) A student may be evaluated by a psychologist with an active, valid license.
  5) Any other mutually agreed upon evaluation.

Homeschooling under a Private School or Umbrella School

- Private school must be registered with the Florida Department of Education. The private school will oversee your homeschooling program and parents are required to be in compliance with the private school's requirements.

Private Tutor

- A private tutor may complete the homeschooling requirements. The tutor must hold a valid Florida teaching certificate and maintain records to submit to the state and district school boards.
- Students must attend 180 days per year.
- Students are able to participate in extracurricular and sports at their local district (2.0 GPA required).
- Homeschool students are able to dual enroll.

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GEORGIA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Fort Moore School Support Services offers access to homework help, a technology lab and the gym at the School Age Center every Tuesday morning during the school year.
- Fort Moore Child and Youth Services Youth Sports offers a homeschool PE class every Wednesday afternoon. Call CYS Youth Sports at (706)545-0522.
- Robins AFB Youth Programs partners with GA 4-H and Robins K-12 STEM to offer STEMtastics Xplore to homeschool students twice a month throughout the school year. Contact the Youth Center at 478-327-6834 to register.
- Central Georgia Arts & Athletics offers programs for homeschool Students in the Robins AFB area.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 16 years old.
- A Declaration of Intent to homeschool must be submitted to the Georgia Department of Education 30 days prior to beginning a homeschool program and by September 1 annually thereafter. The Declaration of Intent can be completed online and can be submitted electronically, via mail or fax.
- Georgia home study law requires instruction in five academic areas: Math, English Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and Reading. Parents are able to instruct in other areas too.
- Homeschool students must sit for an appropriate nationally standardized test beginning at the end of third grade and every three years after.
- Students must be taught for a minimum of 180 days with at least 4 ½ hours of instruction per day.
- Pursuant to the Dexter Mosely Act (SB 42), home school students in grades 6 - 12 are able to participate in extracurriculars and interscholastic (E/I) activities at their local public school. Important requirements include the parents responsibility to notify the school at least 30 days prior to the first day of the semester in which the student plans to participate as well as the requirement for the student to enroll in and complete at least one qualifying course at the zoned school for each semester that they participate in E/I activities.

GUAM



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Homeschool Support across the Island of Guam

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 18 years old.
- Parents are required to teach their child for at least three hours per day for 170 days per year.
- Parents must provide instruction in “the several branches of study required in public schools in Guam and in the English Language.”
- DoDEA schools offer eligible homeschool students the opportunity to take classes or enroll in auxiliary services. Auxiliary services can include the use of academic resources, access to the library and participation in music, sports and other extracurricular and interscholastic activities. Parents should reach out to their local DoDEA school for more details and to verify eligibility.



HAWAII



FIND YOUR SL

EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Hawaii Homeschool FAQs
- Hawaii State Resources for Military Homeschooling Families
- The Hickam Homeschoolers Co-op is a community for current and active homeschoolers with base access to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Meeting weekly during the academic year, the primary focus of the co-op is connecting with other homeschooling families through extracurricular, semi-educational classes to create regular friendships.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 18 years old.
- Parents must submit a Form 4140 to their local neighborhood school or a letter of intent before beginning homeschooling.
- There are no required subjects to be taught but it is suggested that parents instruct in appropriate grade level work per Hawaii state subject standards.
- Parents are required to submit standardized achievement scores in grades 3,5,8,10. Students are able to take the Hawaii statewide test for free at their local school or parents may pay for a private test online.
- Parents must keep a record of their planned curriculum and a copy of all tests.
- Students are barred from participating in extracurricular or interscholastic activities.

IDAHO



FIND YOUR SL

EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

Do you know of resources we could add to this state? Submit them here along with your homeschooling testimonial and pictures of you and your family homeschooling and we will add them to this living digital guide.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 16 years old.
- Parents must instruct a student in subjects commonly taught at public schools for the amount of time public schools are in session.
- No requirement to notify a school district, keep attendance records or submit assessments.
- Students are able to dual enroll in public school classes and extracurriculars/other nonacademic courses. If a student is in an academic course through dual enrollment, a parent may be asked to submit standardized testing or portfolio review to ensure the child is on grade level.

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ILLINOIS



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

Illinois Homeschool FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 17 years old.
- Parents are able to homeschool as a private school. Parents intending to remove their child from public school are recommended to notify their school but this option is voluntary.
- Parents must provide instruction in “branches of education taught to children at the corresponding age and grade as in a public school” but no specific subjects are required.
- There are no requirements for attendance, record keeping, or assessments.
- Homeschooled students are able to part time enroll in a local public school. Requests for part time enrollment must be made by May 1 of the previous school year.

INDIANA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Indiana state homeschooling FAQ
- Optional Homeschool Registration Form
- Indiana Private School/Homeschool Tax Deduction

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 18 years old.
- Parents are able to be considered a “non-accredited, nonpublic school” when homeschooling.
- Parents must maintain attendance records and provide 180 days of instruction.
- There is no specific subject, assessment, or notification requirements if a child has never been enrolled in an Indiana public school.
- If a child is being withdrawn from a public high school to homeschool, the parent is required to submit the Withdrawal to Non-accredited and Non Public School Located in Indiana form.
- Students are able to part time enroll in a public school at the local schools discretion.
- Students are able to participate in high school athletics as long as they are enrolled in at least one class at the school they wish to represent and meet set academic requirements for participation, as laid out by the Indiana High School Athletic Association Bylaws.

IOWA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Comparing Homeschooling Options in Iowa.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 16 years old.

FIVE OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN IOWA

Independent Private Instruction

- There are no requirements for instructional days per year or notice of intent.
- Parents must provide regular instruction in math, reading, language arts, science and social studies.
- Students do not have access to dual enrollment.

Competent Private Instruction (CPI) with No Reporting

- There are no requirements for subjects matter, instructional days per year, or notice of intent.
- Students do not have the option do dual enroll for classes or extracurricular activities.

CPI with Reporting and Annual Assessment

- Parents must file Form A with the state.
- Parents must submit an annual assessment by August 1st. The assessment can be a report card from a school or accredited correspondence school, a portfolio review from a teacher with a valid license, or a standardized test from a list approved by the Iowa Department of Education.
- Students are able to dual enroll in public school classes, extracurricular activities and low-cost college classes.

CPI with Reporting and Parent-selected Teacher Supervision

- Parents must file Form A with the state.
- Parents must teach for a minimum of 148 days per year and 37 days per quarter.
- Parents must hire a qualified teacher to supervise your student. The teacher must make contact with your student twice each 45 days of instruction, one of which must be in person. *A parent with an appropriate license can be his/her own supervising teacher.*
- Students are able to dual enroll in public school classes, extracurricular activities and low-cost college classes.

CPI with Reporting and Home School Assistance Program (HSAP) Assigned Teacher Supervision

- Parents must file Form A with the state.
- Parents must teach for a minimum of 148 days per year and 37 days per quarter.
- HSAP typically provides families with free secular books and access to a teacher of the school's choice. The HSAP is able to impose extra conditions on participation including annual testing.
- Students are able to dual enroll in public school classes, extracurricular activities and low-cost college classes.

KANSAS



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Kansas Homeschooling Fact Sheet

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 18 years old.
- Homeschooling in Kansas is done as a "non-accredited private school."
- Parents must complete a one-time registration with the Kansas Board of Education.
- The parent educator must be "competent" and the instruction must be "substantially equivalent to the period of time a public school is maintained."
- There are no mandated subject, record keeping or assessments requirements.
- As of 2023, and the passage of Senate bill 113, non-accredited private school (homeschool students) are able to participate in extracurricular activities.

KENTUCKY

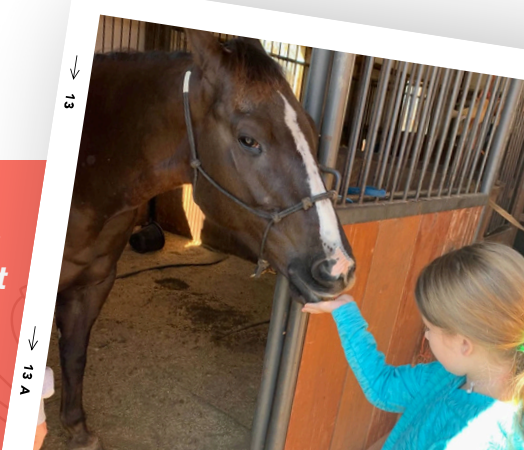


EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Kentucky Department of Education Homeschool Information Packet

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Kentucky considers homeschools to be private schools.
- Parents must submit written notification to their local superintendent of their intent to homeschool. The letter must include the name, age, and residence of all children in attendance of the homeschool. A sample letter is available from the Kentucky Department of Education.
- Parents must homeschool for a minimum of 1062 hours per year and the school year must not be shorter than the school year of the local district's public schools.
- Subjects taught should include reading, writing, spelling, grammar, history, mathematics, science, and civics.
- A portfolio of work samples is recommended but not required.
- Part time enrollment and participation in extracurriculars is determined by the local school district.



"We didn't have any control over where we were stationed, but through all we had the consistency of homeschooling and great field trips all over the world."

Suzette, Retired Air Force Spouse

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LOUISIANA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Louisiana Home Study Application
- BESE Approved Home Study Guidelines

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 18 years old.

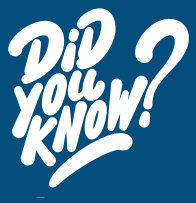
TWO OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN LOUISIANA

Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) Approved Home Study Program

- Parents are required to submit an online application to the Louisiana Department of Education no later than 15 days after beginning a home study program and resubmit annually by October 1st.
- Applications for renewal must contain evidence that the curriculum you're offering is of a similar quality to what is offered at the local public schools. This can include an outline of subjects taught, a list of books and materials used, copies of students work, and statements from third parties who have observed your child's progress.
- In lieu of submitting the above materials, a parent may submit their child's score on the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) test, your child's score on another nationally standardized achievement test or a written statement by a certified teacher.
- Parents must operate their home study program for 180 days each year.
- Parents must instruct in subjects typically taught at the local public school.
- Students can participate in interscholastic athletics with approval from the local school principal.
- Parents are able to borrow state-approved textbooks from their local public school.

Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval

- Parents must provide written notice of enrollment to the public school within 10 days of enrollment in a home-based private school.
- Parents must notify the Louisiana Department of Education annually of your home-based private schools total attendance.
- Parents must instruct for 180 days of the each academic year.
- *Students are not eligible for the TOPS scholarship.*



If enrolled in a BESE approved program, 11th and 12th grade students can apply for the Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) Scholarship.

MAINE

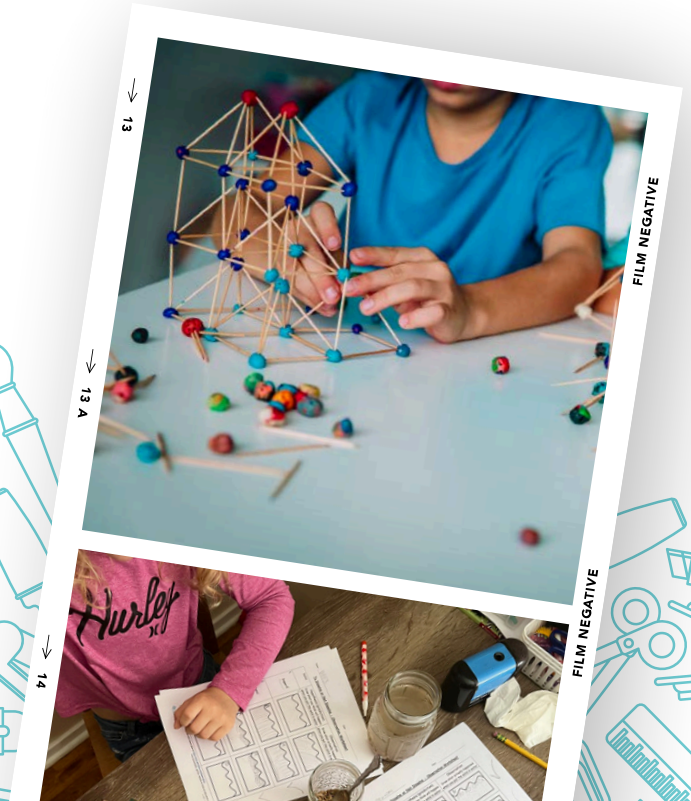


EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Maine Home Instruction Requirements, Forms, & Laws
- Maine Home instruction FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 17 years old.
- Parents must educate for a minimum of 175 days per year.
- Parents must submit a notice of intent to their local school district within 10 days of beginning home instruction. This can be done via email, mail or online portal.
- Each subsequent year of home instruction, parents need to submit a notice of intent and an annual assessment of the students academic progress which can be any of the following options.
  - A standardized achievement test.
  - A test developed by local school officials.
  - A review of a students academic progress by someone with a current Maine teacher's certificate.
  - A review of the students progress based on, but not limited to, a presentation of an educational portfolio to a local homeschooling support group.
  - A review of the student's progress by a local advisory board.
- Parents must provide instruction in english, language arts, math, science, social studies, physical education, health education, library skills, fine arts each year. Maine studies must be provided at least once from grade 6-12 and the student must demonstrate proficiency in computer usage once between grade 7-12.
- Students are able to dual enroll and participate in interscholastic extracurriculars.



MARYLAND



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- The Maryland Home Instruction Fact Sheet
- Maryland Home Instruction FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 18 years old.

THREE OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN MARYLAND

All options require annual notice to the local superintendent of the decision to homeschool.

Homeschool Statute

- Parents should notify their local school district superintendent at least 15 days prior to beginning homeschooling. Parents should submit the Homeschool Notification Form from the Maryland Department of Education and should submit the form annually.
- Students should be taught the following subjects: English, mathematics, social studies, science, art, music, health and physical education. Instruction should be “regular during the school year.”
- Parents must maintain a portfolio of student’s work in the required subjects and make this available to the superintendent or other district representative to review up to three times per year.

Homeschooling Under the Supervision of an Umbrella School (Church School or Private School)

- Parents should provide annual notice to their local school superintendent of their decision to homeschool. Separately, a parent should enroll their child in the umbrella school of their choosing and will be required to comply with the individual regulations of that particular school.

Homeschool Under a State-approved School Umbrella

- Parents still need to submit a notice of intent to homeschool to the local superintendent.
- The local school must assign a school-based teacher to assist in homeschooling. The assigned teacher will issue progress reports, mark papers, and grade tests.
- Homeschool students are not able to part time enroll in public school classes.
- The Maryland Department of Educations allows homeschool students to participate in standardized testing if the parent chooses to do so.
- Homeschool students are not able to participate in extracurriculars or athletics per the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association Handbook.

MASSACHUSETTS



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

Do you know of resources we could add to this state? Submit them here along with your homeschooling testimonial and pictures of you and your family homeschooling and we will add them to this living digital guide.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 16 years old.
- Families intending to homeschool must seek approval from their local school districts to homeschool. This should be done annually and every school district is able to set their own requirements, provided they comply with the basic outlines of the applicable court cases. The basic outlines of what a district can and cannot require are as follows:
  - Districts cannot require parents to have a college degree or teaching certificate.
  - Districts may require parents to provide at least 180 days, 900 hours of instruction for elementary students and 990 hours of instruction for high school, and maintain attendance records.
  - Districts may require annual testing by standardized test or portfolio review.
  - Parents should submit an educational plan when seeking approval to homeschool to their local school district. Homeschools must teach the same subjects as public schools including: orthography, reading, writing, the English language and grammar, geography, arithmetic, drawing, music, the history and constitution of the United States, the duties of citizenship, health education, physical education and good behavior.
- School districts may deny homeschooling approval but in order to do so, the district must show the program does not resemble the thoroughness or progress the local public schools can make.



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MICHIGAN



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Homeschooling in Michigan State PowerPoint
- Michigan State Homeschool Information

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Submitting a notice of intent to a family's local school district and maintaining student records of attendance and academic progress throughout the year is recommended, but is optional.
- Parents should instruct in mathematics, reading, English, science, social studies, U.S. Constitution, Michigan Constitution, the history and present form of civil government of the U.S. and Michigan, and in grades 10-12 the political subdivisions and municipalities of Michigan.
- Homeschooling families requesting special education services, need to submit a Homeschool Registration Form to the Michigan Department of Education. Additionally, a parent who has submitted a report to MDE is required to have a minimum bachelor's degree to be approved to homeschool and receive special education services unless they claim a sincerely held religious belief against teacher certification.
- Students are able to part time enroll in their local public school in nonessential classes, to include advanced placement classes.
- Students are able to participate in extracurriculars at the districts discretion.

MINNESOTA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Minnesota Homeschooling FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 17 years old.
- Parents are required to submit a notice of intent to their local school superintendent which includes:
  - Child's name, birth date and address.
  - Annual test intended to be used for evaluation. Parents can choose the standardized achievement test but it must be nationally normed. In order to waive the annual testing requirement, parents have the option to accredit their home-based education.
  - Immunization records for all students.
- Parents are required to instruct in reading and writing, literature and fine arts, mathematics and science, social studies (to include history, geography, economics, government and citizenship), health and physical education.

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MISSISSIPPI



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Mississippi Homeschooling FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 17 years old.
- Parents must submit the Home School Certificate of Enrollment form annually and return it to their local School Attendance Officer (SAO). The original form must be signed in blue ink. This form should be completed by September 15.
- Students are able to part time enroll and participate in extracurriculars at the districts discretion.

MISSOURI



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Missouri Homeschooling FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 17 years old.
- Notification to any institute is not required.
- Parents must provide at least 1,000 hours of instruction per year, with at least 600 hours of instruction in reading, math, social studies, language arts, and science. 400 of the required 600 hours should occur at the child's regular home school location.
- Parents should maintain records indicating subjects taught, activities engaged in, and records of the child's academic progress.
- Students are able to part time enroll and participate in extracurriculars at the districts discretion.

"We had a wonderful experience homeschooling as we moved around with the military. It helped us to always know what we were doing for school as we moved. We were always able to find a group of homeschoolers everywhere we moved and had friends. We were able to do fun things in Hawaii, like a water sports class and in Mississippi we were part of a homeschool 4-H group. We've even been able to play football and basketball with homeschool teams."

DeeDee, Retired Navy Spouse

MONTANA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Montana Homeschooling Information Packet

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 16 years old.
- Parents must notify their local superintendent of their intent to homeschool annually.
- Parents must maintain attendance and immunization records and make both available upon request.
- For grades 1-3, 720 hours of instruction each year are required, for grades 4-12, 1,080 hours of instruction are required.
- Parents must provide instruction in the “subjects required at public schools.”
- Students are able to part time enroll in their local public school.
- Students are able to participate in extracurriculars and sports at their local public school.

NEBRASKA



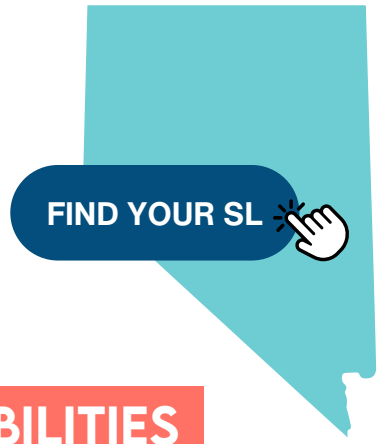
EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Nebraska Homeschool Packet

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Homeschooling in Nebraska is considered a private school.
- Parents need to fill out and submit the Nebraska Exempt School Program via paper copy or online. These forms contain all information a parent is required to submit annually by July 15.
- Parents are required to instruct in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and health.
- If a parent is electing to homeschool for nonreligious reasons, you must also comply with vaccination requirements.
- Homeschool students are able to participate in interscholastic activities and dual enroll at the discretion of their local school district.

NEVADA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Nevada Homeschool District Contact List
- Nevada Department of Education Homeschooling

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory age is 6-18 years of age (effective as of 1 Jul 2024).
- Parents must file a one time Notice of Intent to Homeschool with their local district superintendent. Notice must be given with 10 days of withdrawal from public school or within 30 days of establishing residency in the state.
- Parents must complete an educational plan of instruction covering English, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, including history, geography, economics, and government as appropriate for the age and level of each child. Not every subject must be taught every year.
- Students are able to part time enroll and participate in extracurriculars. Parents must submit a separate Notice of Intent in order for their student to participate.

NEW HAMPSHIRE



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- The Education Tax Credit Scholarship is available to homeschool families to support their educational needs. To be eligible for the New Hampshire ETC,
  - the parent must be a New Hampshire resident.
  - the child must be between the ages of 6 and 18 and not graduated from high school.
  - household income must not exceed 300% of the federal poverty level.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Parents are required to submit a notification of homeschooling once (not annually), within 5 business days of beginning homeschooling, to either the: Commissioner of the Department of Education, resident district superintendent or principal of a participating nonpublic school.
- Parents must instruct in science, math, language arts, reading, writing, spelling, government, history, health, the history of the constitutions of New Hampshire and the United States and an exposure to art and music.
- Families are required to keep a portfolio of records including work samples for two years.
- Parents are required by law to annually evaluate their students' academic progress through a written evaluation of progress by a certified teacher, the results of a national student achievement test, NH state student assessment test, or another mutually agreed upon evaluation tool between the parent and the participating agency.

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NEW JERSEY



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- New Jersey state Homeschooling FAQ
- Cape May County Coast Guard Community Foundation Homeschooling Support Program
  Homeschooling families assigned in Cape May County are eligible to apply for funding to supplement the cost of homeschool curriculum. The maximum amount awarded is $400 per family, per school year.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 16 years old.
- Parents are required to provide equivalent instruction to public schools. There is not a requirement of notification, attendance records, assessment or specific subjects to be taught.
- If choosing to remove a student from a New Jersey high school for the purpose of homeschooling, parents are asked to complete a transfer form with the local district.
- Homeschool students are able to part time enroll and participate in extracurriculars at the district's discretion.

NEW MEXICO



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Kirtland Air Force Base's School Liaison List of Local Resources
- AFRL TECH Mission allows homeschool students in grades 6-8 to explore applications of basic STEM concepts and engineering design.
- DoD STARBASE provides hands-on, minds-on activities for homeschool students in grade 5 while participating in a national program that provides opportunities to explore engineering, math operations and applications, physics, chemistry, technology and STEM careers.
- New Mexico Lottery Scholarship

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 18 years old.
- Any Person operating or intending to operate a home school shall:
  - submit a homeschool registration form before August 1 of each subsequent year.
  - maintain records for student immunizations or any waivers.
  - ensure instruction is provided by someone with a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent.
  - offer instruction in reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies and science.
- *Students attending online public schools in New Mexico are **not** considered homeschool students.*

NEW YORK



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

Do you know of resources we could add to this state? Submit them here along with your homeschooling testimonial and pictures of you and your family homeschooling and we will add them to this living digital guide.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 16/17 years old.
- Parents must submit a notice of intent to homeschool to the district superintendent by July 1.
- Parents must submit an Individualized Home Instruction Plan (IHIP) by August 15 which includes your child's name, age, and grade level; a list of your syllabi, curriculum materials, textbooks, or plan for instruction; dates for submission of quarterly reports; and the name of the instructor.
- Parents must maintain records of attendance each year demonstrating that the child has met the "substantial equivalent" of 180 days per year. Students are required to meet hourly attendance requirements: 900 hours for grades 1-6 and 990 hours for grades 7-12.
- Parents must file quarterly reports to the district superintendent that include the number of hours of instruction each quarter, a description of the material covered in each subject, and a grade or narrative evaluation in each subject.
- Students are not able to dual enroll or participate in extracurricular or interscholastic activities at their local public school.

SPECIFIC SUBJECTS PER GRADE LEVEL FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN NEW YORK

All grades (k-12) are required to instruct patriotism and citizenship, substance abuse, traffic safety, fire safety, and US an New York history and constitutions (at least once before grade nine). For grades 7-12, New York adopts a credit system where students must complete X amount of credits per subject. One credit is equal to 108 hours of instruction.

Grades 1-6

- Arithmetic, reading, spelling, writing, English, geography, US History, science, health, music, visual arts, physical education

Grades 7-8

Physical education, health education, practical arts, and library skills on a regular basis.

- English, history and geography, science, mathematics (2 credits each)
- Art and music (½ credit each)

Grades 9-12

- Mathematics, science, and physical education (2 credits each)
- English, social studies, including American history, government, and economics (4 credits each)
- Art or music (1 credit each)
- Health (½ credit)
- Electives (3 credits each)

REQUIRED ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN NEW YORK

- Standardized tests can be administered at a local public school or in your home by a New York-certified teacher or other qualified person with the consent of the superintendent.
- Students must demonstrate satisfactory progress each year, meaning their composite score on the test must be above the 33rd percentile or the score must represent one academic year's worth of progress compared to the previous year. Only certain tests are allowed to satisfy the testing requirement.

Grades 1-3

- Children may take a standardized test or parents may opt to have a written narrative evaluation for their child. The narrative evaluation must be conducted by a certified teacher, a home instruction peer group review panel, or other person with the consent of the local superintendent.

Grades 4-8

- Standardized testing is required at least every other year with a narrative form assessment being appropriate for the off years.

Grades 9 - 12

- Standardized testing is required for every year of high school.



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NORTH CAROLINA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- North Carolina guide to Completing the Notice of Intent
- North Carolina Education Student Accounts
  The ESA+ program is available to meet the needs of students with disabilities. All students eligible for this program must have a North Carolina public School IEP eligibility determination on file. Families are able to receive $9,000 annually with certain disabilities eligible to receive $17,000 per year. Homeschool families are able to take advantage of this program and use the funds for curricula, educational therapy, tutoring, among other options. Applications for the ESA+ program open in February annually.

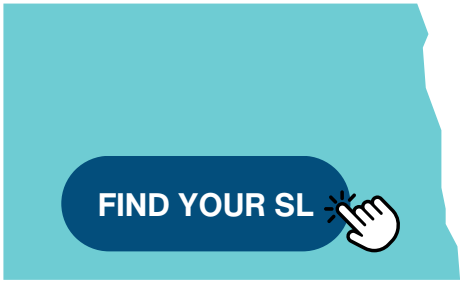
UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 16 years old.
- Parents are required to have a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- Parents must electronically submit their Notice of Intent after July 1 to the Division of Non-Public Education (DNPE) through the DNPE's portal.
- Parents must operate their homeschool for at least nine calendar months per year and maintain annual attendance records.
- Students must participate annually in a nationally standardized achievement test and make those results available to DNPE when requested.
- There are no state mandated subjects.
- Students can dual enroll or participate in interscholastic activities at their local districts discretion.

"As someone who attended two elementary schools, three middle schools, and five high schools I had huge gaps in my own education. I was able to make sure my boys didn't have those same gaps because of military moves. We could do school in hotels, on planes, and for the two months they wouldn't allow us to leave Japan because of quarantine! Also, we were able to take advantage of so many educational opportunities outside of the classroom."

Suzette, Retired Air Force Spouse

NORTH DAKOTA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- North Dakota Home Education FAQ
- Academic and Career and Technical Education Scholarship
- North Dakota provides a statement of intent for homeschool students to submit.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 16 years old.

TWO OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN NORTH DAKOTA

Home Education Law

- A notice of intent must be filed annually with the local district superintendent.
- Parents must have a high school diploma or G.E.D to homeschool. If the parent poses neither, a North Dakota State certified teacher must monitor homeschooling.
- Students must receive at least four hours of instruction per school day, for at least 175 days per year.
- Parents are required to instruct in the following subjects: English language arts, grammar and spelling, math, social studies (U.S. history, civics, geography), North Dakota State social studies (geography, history, agriculture of the state and federally recognized Indian tribes in the state), science, physical education and health.
- Parents must submit to state testing in grades 4, 6, 8 and 10 or opt out if they have a "philosophical, moral, or religious objection to the use of standardized achievement tests."
- If a child does not score above 30% on a standardized achievement test, a multidisciplinary assessment will be completed with a possible remediation plan implemented.

Homeschooling as a Private School

- Parents need to submit a yearly statement of intent with their local district superintendent.
- Parents must be a certified North Dakota teacher and undergo a criminal history record check.
- Parents are required to teach the same subjects as are taught in public schools and a child's attendance must be for the same length of time public schools are in session.
- Students are able to participate in extracurriculars in their local district and to be receive a high school diploma from their school district of residence.

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OHIO



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Ohio Home Education Factsheet

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Parents must submit a notice of intent to homeschool their children within five calendar days after beginning home education and are required to notify their school district annually by August 30th.
- Parents are required to provide instruction in English language arts, mathematics, science, history, government and social studies.
- Students are able to participate in extracurriculars within their local school district. If they want to participate in an activity their school district does not have, they may request to participate in another school district that offers the activity.

OKLAHOMA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Oklahoma Parental Choice Tax Credit.
- Beginning in 2024, Oklahoma will have a refundable income tax credit of up to $1,000 per student is allowed for homeschooling expenses. The credit will be claimed on the Oklahoma income tax return for the tax year in which the qualified expenses were made. Nonresident military service members stationed in Oklahoma qualify as eligible Oklahoma taxpayers for this tax credit. Qualified expenses can include textbooks and curriculum, among other options.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 18 years old.
- Parents are only required to provide 180 days of instruction. There is no requirement to notify the district or state of the intent to homeschool, no required subjects, attendance records or assessment requirements.
- Students can dual enroll and participate in extracurriculars at a local school district's discretion.

OREGON



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Oregon Homeschooling FAQ
- Oregon State Homeschooling Website

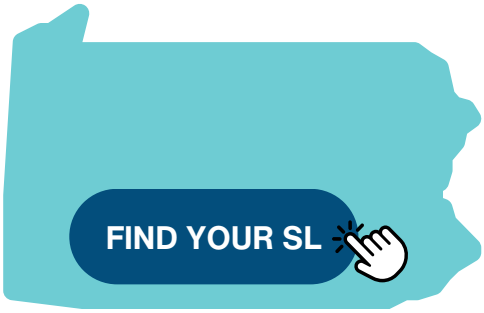
UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Parents must notify their local Education Service District (ESD) within 10 days of the start of the school year. This can be done electronically or via mail.
- Students must participate in a nationally-normed, multiple choice achievement test that assess grade level skills at the end of grades 3, 5, 8, and 10. These test scores must be submitted to the students local ESD by August 15. New homeschooling families have an 18 month grace period before their student must be assessed.
- Oregon law allows homeschool students to participate in interscholastic activities at their resident school provided the student is current on all testing requirements to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress.



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PENNSYLVANIA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Pennsylvania State Homeschooling Website

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Parents are required to submit a notarized affidavit or unsworn declaration of their intent to homeschool by August 1st of each school year.
- Parents must provide 180 days/900 hours of instruction at the elementary school level and 180 days/990 hours of instruction at the secondary level per year.
- Parents are required to maintain a portfolio of work completed, including work samples, worksheets, tests taken, etc.
- Students in grades 3, 5, and 8 must sit for a nationally normed standardized test with the results included in the students annual portfolio.
- The students annual portfolio must be evaluated by a qualified evaluator and submit the results of the evaluation to the local superintendent by June 30.
- A qualified evaluator can be a licensed psychologist, a certified teacher or a nonpublic school school teacher or administrator.
- The evaluation must contain a review of the students portfolio and an interview with the student.
- Parents have the right to request textbooks from their local school district to use in instruction.
- Students are able to dual enroll in classes at their local school.
- Students are able to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities at their local school.

SPECIFIC SUBJECTS PER GRADE LEVEL FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN PENNSYLVANIA

Elementary (K-6)

- English (Spelling, reading, writing), arithmetic, civics, history of the U.S. and Pennsylvania, Health and physiology, physical education, music, art, geography, science and safety education (which includes fire prevention)

Secondary level (7-12 grade)

- English (language, literature, speech, composition), math (general math, algebra and geometry) social studies (civics, US and Pennsylvania history, world history), health, physical education, music, art, geography, science, and safety education (which must include regular and continuous instruction in fire safety)
- 4 years of English
- 3 years of math
- 3 years of science
- 3 years of social studies
- 2 years of arts and humanities

PUERTO RICO



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

Do you know of resources we could add to this territory? Submit them here along with your homeschooling testimonial and pictures of you and your family homeschooling and we will add them to this living digital guide.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Puerto Rico considers homeschools to be “nongovernmental schools” and does not regulate them. It is still considered best practice to keep academic and attendance records, teach core subjects and to maintain work samples each year you homeschool your child.

RHODE ISLAND



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Rhode Island Homeschool FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Parents must submit a notice of intent to their local school district. Each district may have different homeschool requirements as homeschooling is not regulated at the state level or by state statute.
- Parents must instruct their children for 180 days per year.
- Parents must provide instruction in reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, health and physical education, US history, Rhode Island state history, and the principles of American government.
- Parents must keep an attendance register and make it available to the school district at the end of the school year.
- Parents are able to loan textbooks form their local school district, including e-books, in English/language arts, history/social science, science, math, and modern foreign languages.
- Students may be able to participate in extracurriculars and dual enroll at their local neighborhood school. The State Commissioner of Education has encouraged all school districts to permit this but each district will make their own determination.

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SOUTH CAROLINA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

South Carolina State Homeschooling FAQs

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 17 years old.

THREE OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Homeschooling Under the School District

- Parents may homeschool their children at home if the district board of trustees approves and the following standards are met:
  - the parent holds at least a high school diploma or the equivalent certificate or has earned a baccalaureate degree.
  - the instructional day is at least four and one-half hours, excluding lunch and recesses, and the instructional year is at least one hundred eighty days.
  - the curriculum includes, but is not limited to, the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature.
- Parents must maintain records of attendance, subjects taught, samples of the student's academic work, and a record of evaluations of the student's academic progress in each of the basic instructional areas and submit a semiannual progress report to the school district.

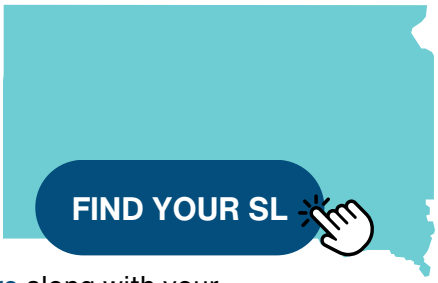
South Carolina Association of Independent Home Schools (SCAIHS)

- Parents simply enroll in SCAIHS and follow the rules and policies required by SCAIHS.
  The minimum requirements are:
  - Parents must have at least a high school diploma or GED.
  - Parents must instruct for 180 days per school year.
  - The curriculum used must include reading, writing, math, science, social studies, and, in grades 7-12, composition and literature.

Homeschool Association

- Parents must find a homeschool association with at least 50 member families.
- Parents must comply with the homeschool associations requirements.
  The minimum requirements per state law are:
  - Parents must have at least a high school diploma or GED.
  - Parents must instruct for at least 180 days per year.
  - The curriculum used must include reading, writing, math, science, social studies, and, in grades 7-12, composition and literature.
  - Parents must keep the following education records:
    - a plan book of subjects taught and activities
    - a portfolio of work samples
    - a semiannual progress report including attendance records and documentation of your child's academic progress.

SOUTH DAKOTA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

Do you know of resources we could add to this territory? Submit them here along with your homeschooling testimonial and pictures of you and your family homeschooling and we will add them to this living digital guide.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Parents must file an Alternative Instruction Notification with the Department of Education or local school district once via mail, in person, or electronically through the state portal.
- Instruction must be in basic language arts and mathematics.
- There are no requirements for record keeping and assessments.
- Students are able to participate in interscholastic activities.
- Students are able to dual enroll in their local district school.
- 11th and 12th graders can dual enroll in public technical colleges and universities in South Dakota if they meet university admission standards.

TENNESSEE



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

Tennessee Homeschooling FAQ
Tennessee Promise Scholarship

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 17 years old.

TWO OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN TENNESSEE

Independent Home School

- Parents must possess a high school diploma or a high school equivalent credential.
- Parents must submit an Intent to HomeSchool Form to the local school district annually.
- TCAP assessment must be taken in grades 5,7, and 9.
- Each district has a homeschool coordinator to assist families in compliance.

Church-related Umbrella School

- Parents must follow the requirements outlined by the umbrella school to be in legal compliance.
- A notice of intent is not required to be submitted.

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TEXAS



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Fort Bliss Homeschool Association (FBHA)
  FBHA supports our homeschooling active duty military families and retirees by providing a cooperative environment that offers student interaction and parent to parent support for an enriched educational experience.
- CYS Youth Sports offers a homeschool P.E. Class twice a week for credits.
- Del Rio Homeschool Group
- HB547-Homeschool Participation League

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 19 years old.
- Parents must to satisfy three requirements:
  - schooling must be bona fide.
  - written and visual curriculum including books, workbooks and online curriculum.
  - curriculum must meet basic goals of reading, spelling, grammar, math and good citizenship.
- There are no legal notification or record keeping requirements.
- Students are able to part time enroll in public school and participate in extracurriculars at the local school districts discretion.

UTAH



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Utah State Board of Education Homeschooling Website
- Homeschool FAQs
- Utah Fits All Scholarship
- Utah Fits All (UFA) Family Handbook

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Parents must submit a signed and notarized affidavit to their local school district indicating the child will be homeschooled and the parents will assume responsibility for the child. The affidavit only needs resubmitted upon a change of school district.
- There are no assessment, subject or attendance record requirements.
- Homeschool students are able to part time enroll in and participate in extracurriculars at their local public school.

VERMONT



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Vermont Home Study

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 16 years old.
- Parents are required to submit a Notice of Intent via mail, fax or online to the Vermont Agency of Education after March 1st but 10 days prior to the start of school.
- Parents must instruct in a Minimum Course of Study (MCOS).
- Home Study students are able to enroll in two of the five main courses at their local school (math, science, reading and writing, history/civics/government, and literature) as well as electives, athletics and extracurriculars as space permits.

VIRGINIA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Driver's Education Information for Homeschoolers
- Virginia State Homeschool Website
- Fort Belvoir Home Educators

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 18 years old.

The Virginia state Homeschool Statute

- Parents must satisfy one of the requirements to be able to homeschool:
  - hold a high school diploma or higher credential.
  - have a current Virginia teacher's license.
  - provides the child with a program of study or curriculum which may be delivered through a correspondence or distance learning program.
  - provide evidence proving they can provide an adequate education for the child.
- Parents submit an annual notice of intent to their local school district by August 15 which includes home instruction qualification and curriculum description. Families moving to the area have 30 days to comply with notification.
- Parents must submit evidence of academic progress annually.
  - a national standardized achievement test with scores in/above the fourth stanine.
  - an evaluation letter from a licensed teacher in any state, or someone with masters degree or higher in an academic discipline.
  - a report card or transcript from a community college, college distance learning program or home-education correspondence school.
- Part time enrollment is allowed at district discretion.

**Other options exist that are not covered here.*

WASHINGTON



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

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UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 8 - 18 years old.

TWO OPTIONS FOR HOMESCHOOLING IN WASHINGTON

The Homeschool Statute

- Parents must meet one of the teacher qualifications:
  - Instructing only your child and being supervised by a certified person who has weekly contact with the child and is able to evaluate the child's progress.
  - Instructing only your child and having either 45 college quarter credits or the equivalent in semester credits. (~30 semester credits)
  - Instructing only your child and having completed a course in home based education at a post secondary or vocational institution.
  - Instructing only your child and being "deemed sufficiently qualified to provide home based instruction by the superintendent of the local school district."
- Parents must annually file a declaration of intent by September 15 with their local superintendent.
- Parents are required to teach for 180 days/1000 hours per year.
- Parents must instruct in occupational education, science, math, language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing, spelling, and the development of an appreciation of music.
- Parents must have their students complete an annual assessment.
  - The assessment may either be a standardized test approved by the state board by a "qualified" person or you may have your child evaluated by a certified person currently working in the education field.

Homeschooling with a Private or Denominational School

- Parents are able to homeschool as an extension of an approved private school.
- Parents must find a school that offers this type of program and comply with all requirements.



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WASHINGTON D.C.

FIND YOUR SL

EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) Homeschool Information
- The DC Educator's Library Card provides additional benefits to homeschooling families, including extended borrowing times and librarian support.
- Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling (JBAB) JBAB Home Educators is a homeschool support group for military families from all branches living in the greater DC area that offers a variety of activities for its members.
- High school students are able to take Advanced Placement exams at their local DC public school.

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 5 - 17 years old.
- Parents must have a high school diploma or equivalent, or petition for a waiver attesting they are able to provide the student with a "thorough and regular education."
- Parents must notify the Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE) via electronic portal 15 business days prior to the start of homeschool instruction and by Aug 15 every year subsequently.
- Parents must provide thorough and regular instruction in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, art, music, health and physical education.
- Parents must maintain a portfolio demonstrating the students current work for at least one year and the OSSE may request the portfolio for review with 30 days notice.
- Students are able to participate in sports by petition of the DC State Athletic Association.



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WISCONSIN



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Wisconsin Homeschooling FAQ

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 18 years old.
- Parents must submit the PI-1206 by October 15 every year to the Department of Public Instruction. This form requires parents to affirm their instruction is in compliance with the law.
- Students are required to receive 875 hours of instruction per year in a “sequentially progressive curriculum” in reading, language arts, math, social studies, science and health.
- Students can attend any public school part time taking up to two courses per semester provided space is available.
- Students are eligible to participate in extracurriculars though their local school district though may not be able to play sports due to conflict between the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and state law.

WYOMING



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- Wyoming Homeschooling FAQ
- Wyoming Educational Savings Accounts (Income based)
- Hathaway Scholarship (For homeschool graduates)

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 7 - 16 years old.
- Homeschooling is protected by state statute.
- Parents must submit a letter of intent to their local school district or complete the applicable district’s homeschool registration form.
- Parents must provide a summary of their curriculum to their local school district office annually
- Parents must instruct in reading, writing, literature, math, science, history and civics.
- There are no assessment or attendance requirements.
- Students are able to part time enroll in their local school district and participate in extracurriculars.

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WEST VIRGINIA



EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES

- The Hope Scholarship Program
  For the 24/25 school year, a child must be enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school for at least 45 consecutive calendar days before applying for the scholarship. For the 25/26 school year, this requirement will be waived. The total amount offered for 2024/2025 is $4,921.39 per student. There are additional eligibility requirements for participation in this scholarship beyond what may be required to homeschool in West Virginia.
- Homeschool students are eligible for The Promise Scholarship which will pay $5,500 per year or the cost of tuition and mandatory fees, whichever is less, at an eligible West Virginia 2 or 4 year institution. Promise Scholarship Homeschool Grade Report Form
- Guidance and Considerations for County Homeschool Policy

UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Compulsory school age is 6 - 17 years old.
- Parent providing home instruction shall submit either their high school diploma (or equivalent) or a post secondary degree.
- A one time notice of intent should be sent to the county superintendent assuring there will be instruction in reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.
- An academic assessment must be completed annually with multiple options:
  - a nationally normed standardized achievement test
  - the testing program currently offered in public schools
  - a portfolio of work samples to be reviewed by a certified teacher
  - an alternative academic assessment mutually agreed upon with county superintendent.
- Textbooks and resources, including teaching material, are available to the homeschooling parent from their local district.
- Home school students are able to enroll part time in a local public school.





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Note: While the Thrive Team strived to make the information in this guide as timely and accurate as possible through coordination with U.S. Department of Defense School Liaison Office and programs, we make no claim, promise, or guarantee about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents of this guide, and expressly disclaims liability for errors and omissions in the contents of the guide. No warranty of any kind, implied, expressed, or statutory, including but not limited to the warranties of non-infringement of third party rights, title, merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose or freedom from computer virus, is given with respect to the contents of this guide or its links to other Internet resources. References or the appearance of hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement of non-federal entities or imply Department of Defense endorsement of any company or organization.