

FACT SHEET ON HOME SCHOOLING IN ARKANSAS

(501) 682-1874

State law regulates home schooling in Arkansas.

By law, every parent, guardian, or other person residing within the State of Arkansas having custody or charge of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before September 15 of that year shall enroll and send the child to a public, private, or parochial school, or provide a home school for the child in accordance with the requirements of the home school law.

1. DEFINITION OF A HOME SCHOOL

A "home school" is a school conducted primarily by parents or legal guardians for their own children.

2. ELIGIBILITY TO PROVIDE A HOME SCHOOL

Parents/legal guardians may provide a home school for their own children. There are no educational requirements for parents/guardians who provide a home school for their child(ren).

3. NOTIFICATION REQUIRED BY LAW

Parents/legal guardians are required to utilize printed, current-year forms that are available from each local school district superintendent's office.

Complete the Notice of Intent to Home School and Waiver forms at the beginning of each school year but no later than August 15; or, subject to the requirements of state law if filing after August 15 or December 15. Return completed, signed forms to the superintendent of the local public school district.

Notice of Intent to Home School forms submitted after the deadlines are subject to a fourteen (14)-calendar day waiting period that the superintendent controls. Call the Home School Office for clarification.

4. NOTICE OF INTENT TO HOME SCHOOL AND WAIVER FORM

Do not file a separate form for each child; file one form per family. Parents/legal guardians must not leave the required areas blank on the Notice of Intent to Home School and Waiver forms. Incomplete forms do not meet the requirements of state law and will not be accepted.

Parents/legal guardians will not receive books, curricula, or an approval letter as a result of filing required Notice of Intent to Home School and Waiver forms.

Parents/legal guardians are not required to meet with the local superintendent to discuss their choice of home schooling. The law does not require parents/legal guardians to provide a reason for their choice.

5. STUDENTS UNDER DISCIPLINARY ACTION AT THE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Public school students who are under disciplinary action by the local school district shall be eligible for enrollment in a home school if the superintendent or local school board chooses to allow the child to enroll in a home school; the disciplinary action against the student has been completed or at the end of a school semester, whichever occurs first; or the student has been expelled.

6. CURRICULUM, BOOKS, MATERIALS

Parents/guardians are free to select and purchase their choice of books, curricula, or correspondence programs. Parents/guardians also set their own schedule of instruction for their child(ren).

The Arkansas Department of Education, local school districts, and education service cooperatives are not required to furnish books, curricula, or materials. It is the

parents/guardians responsibility to locate and purchase all books, curricula, or materials.

7. REQUIRED TEST

State law mandates testing of grades 3 through 9; a student that refuses to participate in the testing program or the alternative testing program shall be subject to Arkansas laws regarding truancy. Home school students in grades other than 3-9 will not be tested by the state. Testing occurs in the spring of each year at designated home school test sites. Review test information at: <http://www.arhomeschooltesting.org/>

Tentative test dates will be April 1-12, 2013.

REQUEST FOR TEST MODIFICATION OR EXEMPTION:

A request for test modifications or exemption must be submitted in writing to the Home School Testing Office at least three weeks prior to the test date. A copy of the child's IEP or other acceptable documentation from a physician must be included with the request.

8. TEST NOTIFICATION

The Arkansas Home School Testing Office (AHSTO) will notify home school parents by mail. February 2013 letters will be sent out announcing testing dates. Deadline for registering to test is March 1, 2013. You can reach the Home School Testing Office at 501-354-3136.

9. TEST RESULTS

Parents/guardians receive the student's original Individual Performance Profile; the original is mailed directly from the (AHSTO) to the parents address as listed on the Notice of Intent to Home School.

(AHSTO) at 501-354-3136.

10. MONITORING OF STUDENT'S WORK

The law does not give the Arkansas Department of Education or the school district the authority to review or monitor a home school student's work. Some parents/guardians may choose to keep the following records: attendance record, a portfolio of student's work at each grade level, grades for each subject, and a transcript for each student. Records may be very beneficial to a home school student in the future.

11. HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

No diploma is provided by school districts, education service cooperatives, or the Arkansas Department of Education for students enrolled in home school.

Contact your curriculum provider or your state/local support group regarding information on obtaining a diploma.

12. RE-ENTERING PUBLIC SCHOOL

a) Students transferring from a home school to a school that is accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education shall be evaluated by the staff of the accredited school to determine proper placement.

b) Home schools are not accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education. There are no grades, credits, transcripts, or diplomas provided by the Arkansas Department of Education, education service cooperative, or by the local school district for students enrolled in home school.

c) Any home school student who re-enters a local school district must attend classes for at least nine (9) months immediately prior to graduation before the student can become eligible to receive a high school diploma from the local school district.

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(501) 682-1874

PUBLIC SCHOOL POLICY REGARDING CREDITS FOR GRADUATION:

It is possible that a home school student who returns to a public high school may not be eligible to receive a diploma. School districts may or may not give credit for a student's work during the time they were home schooled. All requirements of the local school district policy regarding credits for graduation must be met before a student is eligible to receive a diploma. Call the local high school for requirements.

13. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Parents/guardians may home school a student with disabilities. Home school students will be given the same consideration for special education services as private school students in Arkansas; this does not guarantee an individual student services. There are no certification requirements for parents/guardians who teach their special needs child(ren).

14. CLASSES AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School districts are not required to accept part-time students from home schools or private schools; however, there is a funding mechanism in place for school districts that allow home school students to enroll in academic classes as part-time students.

15. SPORTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Questions regarding participation in sports and extra curricular activities at public schools should be referred to:

Arkansas Activities Association
3920 Richards Road
North Little Rock, AR 72117
(501) 955-2500
www.aahsaa.org/

16. AGE TO DROP OUT OF SCHOOL

A student is required to attend school until they are eighteen (18) years of age, or meet other requirements specified by state law.

17. GED PROGRAM

Parents may contact the state GED office for enrollment requirements:

Adult Education
GED Program
Department of Workforce Education
3 Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-1980

<http://ace.arkansas.gov/adulteducation/programsged/ages/default.aspx>

20. MOVE DURING SCHOOL YEAR

A move to a new school district requires that new Notice of Intent to Home School and Waiver forms be submitted to the superintendent of the new district within thirty-(30) calendar days of establishing residency within the district.

21. PRIVATE SCHOOL/CURRICULUM SUPPLIER/UMBRELLA SCHOOL

A curriculum supplier may state that they are a "private school" or "umbrella school." The supplier may state that if parents' enroll or purchase curriculum from them, the parents will not have to file Notice of Intent to Home School and Waiver forms each year in Arkansas. **THIS INFORMATION IS FALSE.**

The obligation to file Notice of Intent to Home School and Waiver forms does not depend on the source of the material used but rather on the location of the student's instruction.

Contact the Home School Office if there are questions regarding maintaining legal home school status.

22. ARKANSAS SUPPORT GROUPS

The support groups listed below may provide information on the following:

- Local support groups
- Home school conventions
- Newsletters
- New/used book fairs
- Organized activities for students
- Curriculum suppliers
- Test companies for off year testing

Family Council/Education Alliance
414 S. Pulaski, Suite 2
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 978-5503
Fax: (501) 375-7040
edu@familycouncil.org
www.arkansasahomeschool.org

Central Arkansas Homeschoolers (CArH)

<http://www.centralarkhomeschoolers.org/>

Home Educators of Greater Little Rock Little Rock Home Ed
<http://www.homeedonline.com/>

NATIONAL SUPPORT GROUPS

National Black Home Educators Resource Association

13434 Plank Road, PMB 110
Baker, Louisiana 70714
E-mail: contact@nbhera.org
Eric and Joyce Burges, Founders
<http://www.nbhe.net/>

Network of Black Homeschoolers

P. O. Box 28325
Richmond, Virginia 23228
Phone: (804) 562-2884
E-mail: NBH4@yahoo.com

➤ The Home School Office will **NOT** accept forms from home school parents. Forms must be filed with parent/legal guardian's local superintendent's office.

➤ In order to maintain legal home school status, file each year no later than August 15, or meet other requirements of state law. One form per family.

➤ **SUBMIT ONLY CURRENT YEAR FORMS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FROM SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN LATE MAY OF EACH YEAR** or our website:
<http://arkansased.org/about/schools/home.html>

➤ It is to the parents/students benefit to ensure that the information entered on the required forms is legible.

ACCURATE HOME SCHOOL INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING:

Arkansas Dept. of Education
Home School Office
Four Capitol Mall – Room 304B
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-1874

<http://arkansased.org/about/schools/home.html>

Information about home schools may be accessed on the Department's Web page by selecting the site's "About ADE" link. Click on this link and select "Schools" located on the left hand side, select the phrase "Home School" from the center of the page.

Curriculum Providers

ARKANSAS RESOURCES:

Chain bookstores, local religious bookstores, or educational supply stores may have home school curriculum in stock, or they may order the curriculum for you.

Arkansas Education Alliance Group
<http://www.arkansashomeschool.org/>
 Serves as Arkansas' largest state-wide home school organization. 501-978-5503

OUT OF STATE RESOURCES:

American Baptist Book Store
 4605 N State Line Avenue
 Texarkana, Texas 75503
 (800)-264-2482
<http://www.abapblist.org/curriculum.html>

A Beka Book and Academy
 P. O. Box 17600
 Pensacola, FL 32522-7750
 (877) 223-5226 **Books only**
 (800) 874-3592 **Academy**
www.abeka.com
www.abekaacademy.org
Grades: K-12 Diploma (Academy)

Accelerated Christian Education
Independent Home School Option
 P.O. Box 299000
 Lewisville, TX 75029-9000
 (800) 925-7777 (Orders)
<http://www.schooltomorrow.com/homesc>
<http://www.index.asp>

Allied National High School
(*WASC, DETC & CITA)
 22952 Alcalde Drive,
 Laguna Hills, CA 92653
 (800) 968-4034
 (949) 218-0178 (fax)
Online courses
www.alliedhighschool.com

Lighthouse Christian Academy
PACES (866) 746-6534
 P. O. Box 7300
 Seminole, FL 33775-7300
Grades: K-12 Diploma (Academy)
<http://www.lcaed.com/?content=main>

* List of Accrediting Agencies:
 (CES) Commission on Elementary Schools (Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools)
 (CSCS) Commission on Secondary Schools (Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools)
 (DETC) Distance Education and Training Council
 (NASAC) Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
 (NCA) North Central Association
 (SACS) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
 (WASC) Western Association of Schools and Colleges
 (CITA) Commission On International and Transregional Accreditation
 [Disclaimer: The Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) does not endorse the curriculum and other educational programs offered by the organizations listed above. It is provided to assist you in your search for a suitable home educational program for your child(ren). The ADE is not responsible for the content of any educational material received through these organizations. Please call or write these organizations for details concerning the curriculum of interest. Parents/guardians are responsible for verifying the current accreditation status of the school they select. This is by no means a comprehensive list of available curriculum, just a starting place.]

Correspondence Programs/Online Courses/Books and Curriculum for Home Instruction

Alpha Omega Publications
 804 N 2nd Avenue East
 Rock Rapids, IA 51246
 (800) 622-3070
Grades: K-12
<http://www.aop.com/homeschool/>
Alpha Omega Academy
 (800) 682-7396
<http://www.aoademy.com/index.php>
 LIFEPAC Curriculum,
 Switched-On Schoolhouse Curriculum
Grades: K-12 online courses, diploma

American School *(NCA)
 2200 E. 170th Street
 Lansing, IL 60438
 (708) 418-2800
 (866) 260-7221
www.americanschoolsincorr.com
Grades: 9-12 diploma, online

Bob Jones University Press
 Customer Services
 1700 Wade Hampton Blvd.
 Greenville, SC 29614-0062
 (800) 845-5731
<http://www.bjupress.com/page/home>
Grades: K-12, online, diploma

Bob Jones University Press
Testing/Evaluation – Norm reference
 Email: testing@bjupress.com
 Phone: (800) 845-5731

Calvert School *(CES)
 10713 Gilroy Rd., Suite B
 Hunt Valley, MD 21031
 (888) 487-4652
<http://calvertschool.org>
Grades: K-8

Compass Learning Odyssey
 Compass Learning, Inc.
 203 Colorado Street
 Austin, Texas 78701
 (512) 478-9600
 (800) 232-9556
<http://www.compasslearning.com/why-compass-learning/>
Grades: K-12 Online courses only

Core Curriculum of America
 14503 S. Tamiami Trail
 North Port, FL 34287
 (888) 689-4626
www.core-curriculum.com
www.homeschoolsupercenter.com
Grades: Kindergarten
Grades: 1-12 Secular
Grades: 1-12 Christian
Online courses
Educators Book Depository of Arkansas
 6700 Sloan Drive
 Little Rock, AR 72206
 (501) 490-0007
<http://www.educatorstextbooks.com/>
 Textbooks - same as used in public schools. Must have ISBN number before calling.

Christian Liberty Academy
CLASS homeschools
 502 W. Euclid Avenue
 Arlington Heights, IL 60004-5402
 (800) 348-0899 Info. Packet
www.homeschools.org
Grades: K-12 diploma

Citizens' High School *(DETC)
 188 College Drive
 P. O. Box 66089
 Orange Park, FL 32065-6089
 (800) 736-4723
 (904) 276-1700
www.citizensschool.com
Grades: 9-12 Diploma

Cionlara School
 1289 Jewett
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104
 (734) 769-4511
www.cionlara.org
Grades: K-12 diploma

Compass Learning
 (800) 232-9556
<http://www.compasslearning.com/why-compass-learning/>
Grades: K-12 Online courses only

Curriculum Providers

Correspondence Programs/Online Courses/Books and Curriculum for Home Instruction

GRIGGS University International Academy *(SACS)
 12501 Old Columbia Pike
 Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600
 (800) 782-4769
<http://www.hsi.edu>
Grades: K-12 diploma, online courses

Houghton Mifflin Education Place
 1900 S. Batavia Avenue
 Geneva, IL 60134-3399
 (800) 225-5425
 (800) 733-2828
www.eduplace.com
 Books/Curriculum
Grades: K-8

James Madison High School *(SACS)
 6625 The Corners Parkway, Suite 500
 Norcross, GA 30092-3406
 (800) 957-5412
www.jmhs.com
<http://www.jmhsonline.com>
Grades: 9-12 diploma
 Online, college prep

Keystone National High School *(NASC)
 920 Central Road
 Bloomsburg, PA 17815-1564
 (800) 255-4937
 (570) 784-5220
www.keystonehighschool.com
Grades: 9-12 diploma
 (Also online courses)

Laurel Springs School *(WASC)
 302 W El Paseo Road
 Ojai, CA 93024-1440
 (800) 377-5890
 (805)-646-2473
www.laurelsprings.com
Grades: K-12 diploma
online/honors and Special Needs courses

The Moore Foundation
 P.O. Box 1073
 The Dalles, OR 97058
 (541) 467-2444 (orders)
 (541)-825-3663 K-8th grade
 (707)-786-4160 High School
 (541)-825-3663 Special Needs Students
www.moorefoundation.com
Grades: K-12 Diploma

NATHAN
 National Challenged Homeschoolers
 Associated Network
 P. O. Box 310
 Moyie Springs, ID 83845
 (208) 267-6246
 (800) 266-9837
www.nathan.com

Almaden Valley Christian School
 2000 Barrett Avenue
 Morgan Hill, CA 95037
 (408) 776-6691
www.almadenvalleychristianschool.com

See Laurel Springs School listed above.
Special Needs and Gifted Children
Special Education Resources on the Internet
<http://www.servweb.com>
HOME SCHOOLING GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN:

Duke University Talent Identification Program
 1121 West Main Street
 Durham, NC 27708-0780
 (919) 668-9100
www.tip.duke.edu

The Center for Talented Youth
 5801 Smith Avenue
 #400 McAuley Hall
 Baltimore, MD 21209
 (410) 735-4100
www.jhu.edu/~gifted

Blueprint Education *(NCA)
 5651 W Talavi Blvd., Suite 170
 Glendale, AZ 85306
 (800) 426-4952
 (602) 674-5555
www.blueprinteducation.org
Grades: 7-12 Diploma

Head Oak Academy *(NCA)
 2717 Yorkshire St. Irving, TX 75061
 (800) 655-6905
<http://www.rosschool.com/>
Grades: K-12 Diploma online
courses/concurrent courses
 Academic Needs of Regular and Special
 Needs Students with Learning
 Differences

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Curriculum Providers

Correspondence Programs/Online Courses/Books and Curriculum for Home Instruction

Center for Talent Development
Northwestern University
617 Dartmouth Place
Evanston, IL 60208-4175
(847) 491-3782
<http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/>

Education Program for Gifted Youth
(EPGY)
Stanford University
Ventura Hall
220 Panama Street
Stanford, CA 94305-4101
(800) 372-3749
<http://www-epgy.stanford.edu/>

Also: <http://ambly.com/educate/gifted.html>

Red Oak Academy*(NCA)
See Red Oak Academy listed above.
Special Needs and Gifted Children
<http://www.roasschool.com/>

Standardized Testing Alternates:

(Must contact Arkansas Home School
Testing Office for approval before using
outside testing vendors, 501-354-3136)
Bob Jones University Press
(Testing and Evaluation)
(800) 845-5731
Seton Home Study School *(SACS)
(Testing and Evaluation)
(540) 636-9990

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Correspondence Courses available from Colleges and Universities

05/08/12

Pulaski Technical College
3000 West Scenic Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118
(501) 812-2231
<http://www.pulaskitech.edu>
Grades: 9-12

University of Oklahoma
Independent Learning High School
1600 Jenkins, Room 101
Norman, OK 73072-6507
(405) 325-1921
(800) 942-5702
<http://cidi.ou.edu/>
Grades: 9-12 Diploma

University of Tennessee
Distance Education and
Independent Study
600 Henley Street, Suite 208
Knoxville, TN 37996-4126
(800) 670-8657
<http://honors.utk.edu/courses/independe>
<http://dent-study/>
Grades: 9-12

Texas Tech University
Outreach & Extended Studies
605 Indiana Ave
Box 42191
Lubbock, TX 79409-2191
(800) 692-6877
www.dce.ttu.edu/
Grades: K-12

Indiana University
High School Diploma Program
408 North Union Street
Bloomington, IN 47405-7101
(800) 334-1011
<http://scs.indiana.edu>
Grades: 9-12 Diploma

Louisiana State University
Independent Study
High School Courses
1225 Pleasant Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
(800) 234-5046
<http://www.lsu.edu/home.asp?nid=1>
[02&level=HS&online=0](http://www.lsu.edu/home.asp?nid=1)
Grades: 9-12

University of Missouri
Independent Study
136 Clark Hall
Columbia, MO 65211-4200
(573) 882-2491
(800) 609-3727
<http://cdi.missouri.edu/>
Grades: 3-8
MU High School: 9-12 Diploma

**University of Nebraska-
Lincoln**
Independent Study High School
PO Box 888400
2100 Vine Street
Lincoln, NE 68588-8400
(866) 700-4747
<http://nebraskahs.unl.edu/index.shtm>
Grades: 9-12 Diploma

**North Dakota Center for
Distance Education**
P.O. Box 5036
1510 12th Avenue North
Fargo, ND 58105
(701) 231-6000
www.ndcde.org

University of Arizona
High School Correspondence
Program
888 North Euclid Avenue
P. O. Box 210158
Tucson, AZ 85721-0158
(520) 621-7724
(800) 955-8632
<http://www.ceao.arizona.edu/corresp/index.html>
Grades: 2-12

Brigham Young University
Independent Study
206 Harmon Bldg.
120 MORC
Provo, UT 84602-1514
(800) 914-8931
<http://ce.byu.edu/>
Grades: 9-12
HS Diploma Program for students 19
years of age or older.

University of Colorado at Boulder
Division of Continuing Education
High School Independent Learning
178 YCB 1505 University Ave
Boulder, CO 80309-0178
(800) 331-2801
www.colorado.edu/ccis
<http://www.colorado.edu/ce/www/highschool.html>
Grades: 9-12

University of Florida
Correspondence Study, Suite 101
2124 NE Waldo Road, Suite 101
P.O. Box 113172
Gainesville, FL 32609
(800) 327-4218
(352) 392-1711
www.correspondencesstudy.ufl.edu
Grades: 9-12

University of Idaho
Independent Study in Idaho
P.O. Box 443081
Moscow, ID 83844-3081
(877) 464-3246
E-mail: indepst@idaho.edu
<http://www.uidaho.edu/isi/>
Grades: 9-12

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General Information Sites

5/8/12

Arkansas Student Loan Authority

Student Financial Aid, Loan Programs & Services, Borrower Assistance, Free Scholarship Search www.asla.state.ar.us

National Center for Education Statistics

(Direct link to over 7,000 colleges and universities in the United States) <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool>

SAT Official College Board Site

Information on College Board test dates, on-line SAT registration, and financial aid calculators www.collegeboard.com/splash

U. S. Department of Education

Student Financial Aid information www.ed.gov/index.html
Free publications.

WEB SITES PROVIDING INFORMATION ON HOME

SCHOOLING:

<http://homeschooling.gomipitas.com>

<http://homeschooling.about.com/body.htm>

Information on how to get started in home school, homeschool methods, course of study, curriculum resources, used curriculum, distance learning, home-schooling information for each state, etc.

<http://rsts.net/home/feature.htm>

Curriculum information, Home School Mall, Edu-Links, home school friendly colleges and universities, helpful home school links, free newsletter, etc.

<http://www.homeschoolcentral.com>

Provides the following information: State information, home school organizations, special needs, preschool, high school and beyond, curriculum and study resources, bookstore.

<http://www.midnightbeach.com/hs/>

A source of neutral, non-commercial homeschooling information.

Arkansas Education Alliance Group

<http://www.arkansashomeschool.org/> (501) 978-5503

Provides home school families in Arkansas with information on conventions, graduation, transcripts, resources, support groups, national organizations, and current issues.

Colleges, College Scholarships, and

Financial Aid Page

Colleges and Universities throughout the United States;

Free College Scholarship and Financial Aid

searches;

SAT and ACT test preparation tips www.college-scholarships.com

ACT Official Site

ACT Registration, Test Preparation, Taking the Test, Score Information, Frequently Asked Questions www.act.org/aap/index.html

Arkansas Department of Education

K-12 Information, State Board, statistics, parent information, and graduation units. <http://arkansasased.org/>

<http://arkansasased.org/parents/index.html>

http://arkansasased.org/about/pdf/current/ade_2_standards_0709_current.pdf

Arkansas Department of Higher Education

Links to Arkansas Colleges and Universities Financial Aid Information www.arkansasashighered.com

Arkansas Department of Workforce

Education

Adult Education/GED Program <http://dwe.arkansas.gov>

Arkansas Home School Testing Office

<http://www.arkhomeschooltesting.org/> (501) 354-3136

Administers home school norm reference testing for students in grades 3-9 and provides information about testing.

Parents/guardians who have access to the Internet will find a tremendous amount of information regarding home school. Use one of the following search engines, enter the search words "home school," "home schooling," or "home school curriculum." Some of the available search engines are AltaVista, Google, Ask Jeeves, Excite, HotBot, AlltheWeb, Lycos, Netscape and Yahoo.