

How to Begin Homeschooling

A practical starter guide, plus a legal checklist for all 50 states and D.C.

By BowTiedQueenBee (@BowtiedQueenBee)

A “homeschooled homeschooler” and second-generation homeschool mom of four

Please read first: this is not legal advice

Homeschool laws change, sometimes mid-year, and this guide is not legal advice. Confirm your state’s current requirements before you file anything or withdraw a child.

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About the author

BowTiedQueenBee is a homeschooled homeschooler. She has been part of the homeschool community since the 1980s, when her parents began homeschooling her. She homeschools her four children, has done so from the beginning, and also works outside the home.

Part 1 shares her relaxed, eclectic approach along with practical steps for getting started. Part 2 summarizes the legal requirements in each state. Adapt what fits your family.

Part 1 — Getting Started

This part covers the practical side of beginning: deciding, understanding the law, choosing an approach, shaping your days, keeping records, socialization, community, and the harder seasons. Passages marked “From the author” are in BowTiedQueenBee’s own words.

1. Deciding to homeschool

Questions to consider before you begin:

- **Your goals.** Consider why you want to homeschool and what you hope your children will be like at 18. A clear end goal keeps the focus on your own family rather than on what others are doing.
- **Work.** Homeschooling can fit alongside a job, including full-time work.
- **Qualifications.** A high level of formal education is not required to teach your own children.

Getting started does not require extensive preparation.

From the author

If you want to start homeschooling, then just start. It’s that easy.

You don’t need to do all the research, buy all the curriculum, read the magazines and forums on the culture, etc.

Just go homeschool.

The best way to not be worried about what the Joneses are teaching is to have an end goal in mind.

I work full time, and so does my husband. I’ve almost always worked at least part time. And my kids have never been to a proper school.

My mom homeschooled four kids. She went to a year of Bible college. She homeschooled what became two engineers, a nurse and an accountant.

I came home one day and said, “King Bee, what if we homeschooled from the beginning?” He answered, “You couldn’t possibly do worse than my teachers did.” And we were off! My oldest was 18 months.

2. Know your state's law

Legal requirements are the one area where exact compliance matters. Find your state in Part 2 and follow its requirements closely.

From the author

If you don't have an HSLDA membership, get one.

Please don't take the bait or the money or the online "free" schools.

3. Choosing an approach and curriculum

Common approaches:

- **Traditional / textbook:** Grade-level texts and workbooks, often with teacher guides. The most structured option.
- **Classical:** Language-rich and history-centered, built around stages of learning.
- **Charlotte Mason:** "Living books," narration, nature study, and short lessons.
- **Montessori:** Hands-on, child-led work with prepared materials.
- **Unit studies:** One theme ties many subjects together (for example, KONOS).
- **Unschooling / relaxed:** Interest-led learning through real life, reading, and play.
- **Eclectic:** A combination of the approaches above.

Guiding principles

- **Treat curriculum as a tool.** Adjust, reorder, combine, or set aside materials that are not working. Favor real books over textbooks, and teach to mastery rather than to grade level.
- **Keep the early years light.** Kindergarten does not require a formal curriculum. Ruth Beechick's *The Three R's* is a useful starting point.
- **Read the homeschooling pioneers.** Recommended authors include Raymond and Dorothy Moore (*Better Late Than Early*), John Taylor Gatto, John Holt, Maria Montessori, and Charlotte Mason, as well as Plato's *The Republic*.
- **Value life skills.** Basic life skills are as important as math and English.
- **Make learning hands-on.** Physical models and projects help subjects come alive.
- **Fill the home with books.** A well-stocked home library can serve as the core of the curriculum.
- **Keep reading instruction low-key.** Teaching reading does not need to be complicated. Every child is different, so if something seems off, seek help.

From the author

My mom raised us on eclectic and unschooling and encyclopedias and boredom. And she raised a bunch of nerds: a nurse, two engineers and an accountant. My family has some structure, more than I grew up with. Math and reading and history, mostly done at their leisure.

I'm not saying whatever the curriculum you have is wrong.

I'm saying that it's not the curriculum, it's the love of learning. That's the important part.

If it's not working, throw it out! Use it out of order! Use fifteen different ones! Use real books. Toss the textbooks. Teach to mastery. Grade levels and graded work are made up, anyways.

Your kindergartener doesn't need a curriculum.

From the author

*My mom read a lot of Dr. Raymond and Dorothy Moore. Other authors to check out, all of whom are trained educators, are John Taylor Gatto and John Holt. Maria Montessori's books are amazing! I also recommend Charlotte Mason books. Also, read *The Republic* by Plato, if you haven't. In the end, homeschooling is a living energy in your home. How that energy fits best in your family is up to your family.*

We made a crawl-through inner ear when I used the original KONOS curriculum when the kids were in elementary.

We had an extensive library. That was the curriculum, no doubt.

People make a huge deal out of teaching reading. It's actually not hard. I stopped after our first formal reading lesson and found a way to "teach" it without making it obvious. They all learned by 5-7.

Flexibility and the law

A relaxed or interest-led approach can be fully legal. Make sure you can document whatever your state requires (see Part 2).

4. Setting up your days: rhythm over clock

Principles for structuring the day:

- **Avoid replicating a classroom.** Desks and chalkboards are unnecessary. Learning can happen anywhere in the home or on the go.

- **Think in rhythms rather than schedules.** Learning happens when time is available. Make materials and time available, and see what follows.
- **Expect seasons.** Periods of intensive work and periods of rest are both normal. Avoid doing too much or too little.

From the author

Please don't replicate a classroom. Read on the couch or in bed. Do math on the kitchen island or learn math facts in your head by drilling them in the car for fun.

Think of your day as a rhythm, not a clock. Learning in real life happens when time is available. It's never scheduled. Make lots of learning things and time available and watch what happens.

We go all in at times and rest at times. Life is a rhythm. Don't overdo it. Don't underdo it. And don't stress about it.

Sample rhythm (adjust to your state's day and hour requirements):

Morning anchor	Read-aloud, Bible or family time, and math practice (short and focused for younger children)
Mid-morning	Reading, writing, or a project block; outdoor time
Afternoon	Interest-led time: library trips, building, nature, music, chores and life skills
Weekly	Co-op day, field trip, or a park meet-up with other homeschool families
If your state counts time	Record days and hours as you go (a calendar or a simple spreadsheet works)

5. Record-keeping

Record-keeping requirements vary by state (see each state's **Records** row in Part 2). A simple monthly habit helps: add a few work samples, a photo or two, and a book list to one folder per child, on paper or in the cloud.

6. Socialization

Opportunities for social connection include church and youth groups, library programs, park days, scouting, 4-H, community sports leagues, music lessons, volunteering, homeschool sports teams, and (for teens) part-time jobs.

From the author

Socialization is natural. We were better socialized when we were homeschooled than otherwise. I spent my entire high school years (10-12) hanging out with friends and working and just doing schoolwork in the morning.

7. Support groups, co-ops, and community

- **Support group:** encouragement, meet-ups, field trips, and moms' nights.
- **Co-op:** families share teaching, with classes once or twice a week.
- **State homeschool organization:** most states have one. They often run conventions and keep lists of local groups.

Choose mentors and groups carefully, and extend grace to families whose approach differs from yours.

From the author

On co-op days, I drop the girls off at co-op and take my son to Bible study.

An older homeschooling woman decided to be my friend's mentor, went through her curriculum and told her, "You're going to fail." (My friend chose the gentle homeschool route.) Stay away from those types of people.

My church started a homeschool moms group. I thought I shouldn't join it. The homeschoolers in my church do things quite differently than I do, and I wasn't sure I wanted to discuss my ideas in person. But I decided to join. I joined for the women like me.

I think that criticizing other homeschoolers is tacky, uncalled for and a sign of not having taught long enough to see your own flaws. Having mercy and grace for others shows up online, as well as in the home.

8. Challenges and perseverance

Homeschooling includes difficult stretches, and it helps to expect them.

- **Avoid comparisons.** Each child is different, both from siblings and from other families' children. Trust the process and adjust as needed.
- **Educate the whole person.** Body, mind, and spirit all matter, and education is broader than academics. At its core, homeschooling is raising your children.

From the author

*the battle in your mind is constant;
the dishes, laundry and housecleaning never stop;
the meals are continual;
kids fight;
there's a balance between getting enough schoolwork done and not pushing to the point of
burning everyone out, but no one knows the correct balance;
not every kid is a genius and self-motivated (most aren't).*

*Your kids are each different from each other. Comparing them to each other isn't helpful,
let alone comparing them to other kids who aren't yours. Trust the process and change as
needed.*

Focusing on body, mind, and spirit is crucial. Education shouldn't be only academic.

*You, as the parents God gave your children, are perfectly capable of teaching them. So
slow down and stop stressing yourself and your kids out.*

Your first-30-days checklist

Use this list to cover the essentials in your first month.

- ☐ Find your state in Part 2 and note every deadline and form.
- ☐ Decide which legal option you will use (statute, umbrella/private school, tutor, and so on).
- ☐ Consider an HSLDA membership.
- ☐ File any required notice, affidavit, or enrollment, and keep a copy.
- ☐ Set up a records folder for each child: attendance/hours (if required), book list, and work samples.
- ☐ Start with only what you need. Read-alouds, a math resource, and a library card are enough for young children.
- ☐ Sketch a weekly rhythm rather than an hour-by-hour schedule.
- ☐ Find one local group or co-op and one experienced homeschooling friend.
- ☐ Plan any required testing or evaluation now to avoid a rush in spring.
- ☐ If your child is leaving a difficult school experience, allow time to decompress.

Part 2 — State-by-State Legal Checklists

This part summarizes each state's legal requirements. Find your state, read the entry carefully, and confirm details at the linked source.

How to read the state pages

Each entry summarizes HSLDA's **At a Glance** box and its **"How to Comply"** page for that state, as published on October 20, 2026. Rows:

- **Category:** Regulation level from the map at hsllda.org/legal.
- **Notice:** Any letter of intent, affidavit, registration, or enrollment filing.
- **Subjects:** Subjects the law requires.
- **Days / hours:** Instruction-time requirements.
- **Teacher:** Parent qualification requirements.
- **Assessment:** Testing or evaluation requirements.
- **Records:** What you must keep.
- **Options:** Ways to homeschool legally, including umbrella, private school, and tutor options.

"No requirement listed" means the source page didn't list one. It does **not** promise that none exists. A "Note:" marks entries with a verification note. Each state's source page and its date are shown in the entry.

Regulation categories at a glance

Category	What it means	States (count)
No notice, low regulation	No notification required to the school district or any government agency.	(13) Alaska, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Texas, Wyoming
Low regulation	Parents must notify the school district (or state).	(23) Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Wisconsin
Moderate regulation	Notification, plus test scores and/or professional evaluation of student progress.	(11) Hawaii, Maine, Minnesota, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia
High regulation	Notification or test scores/evaluation, plus other requirements (e.g., curriculum approval, parent qualifications, or home visits).	(4) Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island

Source: HSLDA map legend and map data, hsllda.org/legal

Alabama

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-17	hsllda.org/legal/alabama HSLDA page dated July 1, 2025
☐ Notice	Church school: file a one-time church school enrollment form with the local superintendent (signed by parent and church school administrator). Private school: report enrolled students' names/addresses to the superintendent 5 days after public school starts. Private tutor: tutor files a statement of students, subjects, and schedule.		
☐ Subjects	Church school: set by the church school. Private school: good-faith physical education program. Tutor: same branches as public schools, taught in English.		
☐ Days / hours	Church/private school: none set by statute (church schools may set their own). Tutor: 3 hrs/day, 140 days/yr, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.		
☐ Teacher	None, except a private tutor must be an Alabama-certified teacher.		
☐ Assessment	None required.		
☐ Records	Attendance register for every school day (all options). Private school: proof of immunization or exemption. Tutor: register of daily hours and attendance.		
☐ Options	Three: (1) church school (umbrella), (2) private school, (3) certified private tutor.		

Alaska

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 7-16	hslida.org/legal/alaska HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Homeschool statute: none. Religious private school option: annual enrollment form to local superintendent by first day of public school, plus state forms before Oct 15.		
☐ Subjects	None under the homeschool statute.		
☐ Days / hours	None under the homeschool statute. Religious private school option: records showing 180 days.		
☐ Teacher	None, except the tutor option requires an Alaska-certified teacher.		
☐ Assessment	None under the homeschool statute. Religious private school option: standardized tests in grades 4, 6, and 8 (results available to the Dept. of Education on request).		
☐ Records	None under the homeschool statute. Religious private school option: monthly attendance plus permanent records (immunizations, courses, testing, achievement, physical exams).		
☐ Options	Four: (1) homeschool statute, no notice or testing; (2) certified tutor; (3) school board approval; (4) religious/other private school.		

Arizona

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-16	hslida.org/legal/arizona HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	One-time affidavit of intent to the county school superintendent within 30 days of starting, plus a certified (or notarized copy of) birth certificate. File a termination letter within 30 days if you stop or move counties.		
☐ Subjects	Reading, grammar, math, social studies, science.		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed.		
☐ Options	One (homeschool statute).		

Arkansas

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 5-17	hslida.org/legal/arkansas HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Annual written notice of intent to the local superintendent by Aug 15. If withdrawing mid-year, file 5 days before withdrawing. Moving in: file within 30 days.		
☐ Subjects	None required.		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	No standardized tests required.		
☐ Records	Keep proof that you submitted the notice.		
☐ Options	One (homeschool statute). If a registered sex offender lives in the home or the child is under public school discipline, get individual legal guidance first.		

California

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6–18	hslida.org/legal/california HSLDA page dated October 7, 2026
☐ Notice	Private school option: file the annual Private School Affidavit with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Oct 1–15 (new schools can file as soon as they withdraw). PSP: the PSP files. Tutor option: no filing.		
☐ Subjects	Courses commonly taught in public schools (e.g., language arts, math, science, social studies, health, driver training), in English.		
☐ Days / hours	Private school/PSP: none listed. Tutor: 3 hrs/day between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., 175 days.		
☐ Teacher	Instructors must be "capable of teaching"; tutor option requires a California teaching credential.		
☐ Assessment	None required.		
☐ Records	Attendance register, list of courses of study, list of instructors with addresses and qualifications, immunization records (home-based private schools need not immunize).		
☐ Options	Three: (1) home-based private school, (2) private school satellite program (PSP), (3) credentialed private tutor. PSPs must check whether the Safe Learning Environments Act (effective July 1, 2026) applies.		

Colorado

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6–17	hslida.org/legal/colorado HSLDA page dated November 19, 2025
☐ Notice	Homeschool statute: notice of intent to any Colorado school district 14 days before starting and every year after (names, ages, residence, hours of attendance).		
☐ Subjects	U.S. Constitution, reading, writing, speaking, math, history, civics, literature, science.		
☐ Days / hours	172 days per year, averaging 4 hours per day.		
☐ Teacher	Instruction by a parent, guardian, or adult relative chosen by a parent (statute option). Certified-teacher option requires a Colorado teaching certificate.		
☐ Assessment	Nationally standardized achievement test or evaluation by a qualified person in grades 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11; results go to the district (or an independent/parochial school). A score at or below the 13th percentile (after a retest) can trigger required school enrollment.		
☐ Records	Attendance records, test/evaluation results, immunization records (or an exemption).		
☐ Options	Three: (1) homeschool statute, (2) enroll in an independent school (umbrella), (3) certified teacher (no notice or assessment).		

Connecticut (see Note)

No notice, low regulation

Compulsory ages: 5-18

hslida.org/legal/connecticut

HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025 (with 2026 note)

- ☐ **Notice** None currently required. State guidelines suggest an OPTIONAL notice of intent within 10 days of starting and an OPTIONAL annual portfolio review.
- ☐ **Subjects** Reading, writing, spelling, English grammar, geography, arithmetic, U.S. history, and citizenship (including town, state, and federal government).
- ☐ **Days / hours** No requirement listed.
- ☐ **Teacher** None.
- ☐ **Assessment** None required (portfolio review is optional).
- ☐ **Records** No requirement listed.
- ☐ **Options** One.

Note: LAW CHANGE PENDING: HSLDA reports HB 5468 (signed May 26, 2026) will require background checks for families withdrawing from public school to homeschool (effective July 1, 2027) and a notice of intent (effective July 1, 2028). Check HSLDA for updates.

Delaware

Low regulation

Compulsory ages: 5-16

hslida.org/legal/delaware

HSLDA page dated date not shown

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Notice | Annual enrollment report to the Delaware DOE online by Sept 30, plus an end-of-year attendance report by July 31. |
| ☐ Subjects | None for single- or multi-family homeschools. The district-coordinated option (not recommended) requires public school subjects. |
| ☐ Days / hours | No requirement listed. |
| ☐ Teacher | None. |
| ☐ Assessment | None. |
| ☐ Records | Enrollment and attendance reporting (online). |
| ☐ Options | Three: (1) single-family homeschool, (2) multi-family homeschool (needs a liaison), (3) single-family coordinated with the district (not recognized by the DOE; not generally recommended). |

District of Columbia (see Note)

Low regulation	Compulsory ages: 5-18	hslida.org/legal/district-of-columbia HSLDA page dated July 1, 2025
☐ Notice	OSSE form 15 days before starting, then annually by Aug 15. Include a copy of your high school diploma/GED the first time. Give 15 days' notice before you stop.	
☐ Subjects	Language arts, math, science, social studies, art, music, health, physical education.	
☐ Days / hours	"Thorough, regular" instruction during the period public schools are in session (no set hours).	
☐ Teacher	High school diploma or equivalent (waiver possible by petition).	
☐ Assessment	Testing not required. OSSE may review the portfolio up to twice a year.	
☐ Records	Keep a portfolio of current work for one year.	
☐ Options	One.	
Note: Category note: HSLDA's main map (hslida.org/legal/) shows D.C. as LOW, but an older map script on HSLDA's state pages still marks it MODERATE. This guide uses the main map.		

Florida

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-16	hslida.org/legal/florida HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Homeschool statute: one-time notice of intent to the county superintendent within 30 days of starting. File a notice of termination within 30 days of finishing or moving counties.		
☐ Subjects	None required.		
☐ Days / hours	Statute: none listed. Tutor option: 180 days (or hourly equivalent).		
☐ Teacher	None for parents. Tutor option: Florida-certified teacher.		
☐ Assessment	Statute option: annual evaluation (certified teacher's portfolio review, nationally normed test given by a certified teacher, state test, licensed psychologist, or another agreed method).		
☐ Records	Statute option: portfolio (a log of activities kept as you go, titles of reading materials, work samples), kept 2 years. The district may review it with 15 days' written notice.		
☐ Options	Three: (1) homeschool statute, (2) private school umbrella, (3) certified private tutor.		

Georgia

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-16	hslida.org/legal/georgia HSLDA page dated July 1, 2025
☐ Notice	Declaration of intent to the Georgia Dept. of Education within 30 days of starting, then every year by Sept 1.		
☐ Subjects	Reading, language arts, math, social studies, science.		
☐ Days / hours	180 days a year, at least 4.5 hours each day.		
☐ Teacher	Teaching parent (and any tutor) needs a high school diploma or GED.		
☐ Assessment	Standardized test at least every 3 years starting at the end of 3rd grade (not submitted).		
☐ Records	Annual written progress report in each required subject, kept 3 years (not submitted).		
☐ Options	One (home study program).		

Hawaii

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 5-18	hslida.org/legal/hawaii HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Notice of intent (Form 4140 or a letter) to the principal of the public school your child would attend, before you start. Also notify the principal when you stop.		
☐ Subjects	No set subjects, but the curriculum must be structured, cumulative and sequential, and fit the child.		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed (keep a record of hours per week).		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	Annual progress report to the principal. Grades 3, 5, 8, 10: standardized test results required. Other grades: test, certified teacher evaluation, or a written parent evaluation.		
☐ Records	Record of the planned curriculum: start/end dates, hours per week, subjects, how mastery is judged, and a list of materials.		
☐ Options	One.		

Idaho

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 7-16	hslida.org/legal/idaho HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	None. You don't have to give the district information if it asks.		
☐ Subjects	Subjects commonly taught in Idaho public schools (typically language arts, math, science, social studies).		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None (a parent, relative, or other person may teach).		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed.		
☐ Options	One.		

Illinois

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-17	hslida.org/legal/illinois HSLDA page dated July 1, 2025
☐ Notice	None. Homeschools are private schools; they can't register with ISBE.		
☐ Subjects	Language arts, math, biological and physical sciences, social sciences, fine arts, physical development and health, taught in English.		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed.		
☐ Options	One (private school). Call it a private school with officials, but a homeschool on the FAFSA.		

Indiana

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 7-18	hslida.org/legal/indiana HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	None (the DOE's online enrollment form is voluntary). If the state specifically asks, report how many children you teach, by grade.		
☐ Subjects	No mandated subjects. Instruction must be "equivalent" and in English.		
☐ Days / hours	Same number of days as local public schools (often 180).		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	Attendance records (available on request).		
☐ Options	One (non-accredited private school).		

Iowa

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-16	hslida.org/legal/iowa HSLDA page dated July 17, 2026
☐ Notice	Choices 1 and 2: none (respond only if officials ask in writing). Choices 3-5: file Form A (partly within 14 days, fully within 30 days if starting mid-year).		
☐ Subjects	Choice 1 (IPI): math, reading/language arts, science, social studies. Others: a course of study and a plan.		
☐ Days / hours	Choices 3-5: at least 148 days/yr (Choices 4-5: 37 days per quarter).		
☐ Teacher	None, except Choice 4 uses a licensed supervising teacher.		
☐ Assessment	Choice 3 only: annual assessment (report card, portfolio review by a teacher, or approved standardized test) submitted by Aug 1.		
☐ Records	Choices 3-5: immunization evidence (or exemption) for first-time homeschoolers.		
☐ Options	Five: (1) Independent Private Instruction, (2) Opt-Out, (3) annual assessment, (4) supervising teacher, (5) Home School Assistance Program. Choices 3-5 open more public school access (dual enrollment).		

Kansas (see Note)

Low regulation

Compulsory ages: 7-18

hslida.org/legal/kansas

HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025

- ☐ **Notice** One-time registration of your private school's name and address with the State Board of Education.
- ☐ **Subjects** None required.
- ☐ **Days / hours** About the same as public schools (usually 186 days). Instruction must be planned and scheduled.
- ☐ **Teacher** Teachers must be "competent."
- ☐ **Assessment** Test periodically (details not specified).
- ☐ **Records** No specific requirement listed.
- ☐ **Options** One (non-accredited private school).

Note: Partially verified: HSLDA's public page says to "test your student periodically" but gives no specifics.

Kentucky (see Note)

Low regulation

Compulsory ages: 6-18

hslida.org/legal/kentucky

HSLDA page dated June 17, 2020

- ☐ **Notice** Annual private school notice of attendance to the local board of education within the first two weeks of the school year (names, ages, addresses).
- ☐ **Subjects** Reading, writing, spelling, grammar, history, math, science, civics, taught in English.
- ☐ **Days / hours** At least 1,062 hours over at least 170 days.
- ☐ **Teacher** None.
- ☐ **Assessment** None.
- ☐ **Records** Attendance and scholarship reports (report cards), updated on a schedule similar to local public schools (every 6-9 weeks).
- ☐ **Options** One (private school).

Note: HSLDA's Kentucky "How to Comply" page is dated June 17, 2020. Confirm it's still current.

Louisiana

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 5-18	hsllda.org/legal/louisiana HSLDA page dated April 15, 2025
☐ Notice	Home study: apply to BESE within 15 days of starting and renew every year. Nonpublic school: notify the former public school within 10 days, then report attendance each year as of day 30.		
☐ Subjects	Home study: curriculum equal to public schools (including the Declaration of Independence in elementary and the Federalist Papers in high school). Nonpublic: none listed.		
☐ Days / hours	180 days (both options).		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	Home study renewal: work samples/packet OR a LEAP pass, a qualifying standardized test, or a certified teacher's statement.		
☐ Records	Home study: meningococcal immunization evidence at ages 11 and 16 (waivers available).		
☐ Options	Two: (1) state-approved home study (keeps TOPS scholarship eligibility), (2) nonpublic school not seeking approval (no TOPS if used through high school).		

Maine

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-17 (with exceptions)	hsllda.org/legal/maine HSLDA page dated June 3, 2025
☐ Notice	Home instruction: one-time notice of intent to the superintendent within 10 days of starting, then an annual letter by Sept 1 with the year-end assessment.		
☐ Subjects	English/language arts, math, science, social studies, physical and health education, library skills, fine arts, Maine studies (one grade, 6-12), computer proficiency (one grade, 7-12).		
☐ Days / hours	175 days per year.		
☐ Teacher	None for home instruction.		
☐ Assessment	Annual year-end assessment due Sept 1: a standardized test, a local test, or a review letter from a Maine-certified teacher, a support group with a certified teacher, or an advisory board.		
☐ Records	Keep copies of the notice, annual letters, and assessments.		
☐ Options	Two: (1) home instruction, (2) student of a Recognized-as-Equivalent Private School (REPS).		

Maryland

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 5-18	hslida.org/legal/maryland HSLDA page dated July 1, 2025
☐ Notice	Notice of Consent form to the local superintendent (the regulation says 15 days before starting; filing on the day you withdraw may be enough). Confirm every year that you're continuing, and file a change-of-status notice if you switch or stop.		
☐ Subjects	Math, English, social studies, science, art, music, health, physical education.		
☐ Days / hours	Regular, thorough instruction "of sufficient duration."		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	Portfolio option: the superintendent may review the portfolio up to 3 times a year. Umbrella options: the umbrella supervises.		
☐ Records	Portfolio of instructional/reading materials and work samples (portfolio option).		
☐ Options	Four: (1) portfolio review, (2) church umbrella, (3) church-exempt school umbrella, (4) state-approved school umbrella. Note: Maryland may not accept church-umbrella diplomas for some law enforcement jobs.		

Massachusetts

High regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-16	hslida.org/legal/massachusetts HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Annual notice of intent; districts approve home instruction in advance and may review the curriculum, hours, parent competency, materials, and assessment method.		
☐ Subjects	Spelling, reading, writing, English language and grammar, geography, arithmetic, drawing, music, U.S. history and Constitution, duties of citizenship, health (including CPR), physical education, good behavior.		
☐ Days / hours	Hours are reviewed by the district (no fixed statutory number listed).		
☐ Teacher	None (parents need no degree, but competency may be considered).		
☐ Assessment	Periodic standardized tests or another agreed method (progress reports, dated work samples), agreed with the district.		
☐ Records	No explicit requirement, but assessments may call for records and work samples.		
☐ Options	One (district-approved home instruction).		

Michigan (see Note)

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18	hslida.org/legal/michigan HSLDA page dated July 1, 2025
☐ Notice	Option 1: none. Option 2 (nonpublic school): reporting applies.		
☐ Subjects	Option 1: reading, spelling, math, science, history, civics, literature, writing, English grammar (organized educational program).		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed for Option 1.		
☐ Teacher	Option 1: none. Option 2: qualified instructor.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed for Option 1.		
☐ Options	Two: (1) homeschool statute (no notice), (2) nonpublic school (not generally recommended).		
Note: Partially verified: details for Michigan's Option 2 (nonpublic school) are members-only on HSLDA.			

Minnesota

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 7-17	hslida.org/legal/minnesota HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Report to the district superintendent by Oct 1 each year (or within 15 days of withdrawing) once the child is 7. Later years: a letter of intent to continue until age 16.		
☐ Subjects	Reading, writing, literature, fine arts, math, science, history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, health, physical education.		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	Parents are automatically qualified. Other instructors need a license, licensed supervision, an accredited school, or a bachelor's degree.		
☐ Assessment	Annual nationally norm-referenced test (agreed with the superintendent); at or below the 30th percentile triggers an evaluation for learning difficulties. Not required for accredited homeschools.		
☐ Records	Documentation of subjects taught and tests given (class schedules, materials, assessment methods). Immunization compliance on the first report and in 7th grade (objection allowed).		
☐ Options	One.		

Mississippi

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-17	hslida.org/legal/mississippi HSLDA page dated July 17, 2026
☐ Notice	Annual certificate of enrollment to the district attendance officer by Aug 15 (or when you start mid-year).		
☐ Subjects	None required.		
☐ Days / hours	None required.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	Keep a copy of the certificate of enrollment.		
☐ Options	One (home instruction program).		

Missouri

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 7-17	hslida.org/legal/missouri HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	None.		
☐ Subjects	Of 1,000 hours, 600 in reading, math, social studies, language arts, science (400 of those at the regular homeschool location).		
☐ Days / hours	1,000 hours per school term (a 12-month window you choose).		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	No formal testing. Keep academic evaluations as part of your records.		
☐ Records	Under 16: plan book/diary/log of subjects and activities, work samples, academic evaluations (or equivalent evidence). Keep 2 years on hand; keep high school records indefinitely. A daily hour log is strongly recommended.		
☐ Options	One (homeschool statute; no tuition, no more than 4 unrelated students).		

Montana

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 7-16 (with exceptions)	hslida.org/legal/montana HSLDA page dated June 4, 2025
☐ Notice	Notice of intent to the county superintendent every school fiscal year (July 1-June 30).		
☐ Subjects	Organized course: English language arts, math, social studies, science, health, arts, career education.		
☐ Days / hours	720 hours (grades 1-3); 1,080 hours (grades 4-12) per year.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	Attendance records (available to the county superintendent on request).		
☐ Options	One.		

Nebraska

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18	hslida.org/legal/nebraska HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Set up an exempt private school: certified birth certificate the first year, plus the Statement of Election and Assurances (Form A) and the Authorized Parent Representative form (Form B) when you start and by July 15 every year.		
☐ Subjects	Language arts, math, science, social studies, health.		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None beyond the parents' satisfaction that instructors are qualified.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed. If you choose a non-religious reason, you must follow vaccination requirements (or have an exemption).		
☐ Options	One (exempt private school).		

Nevada

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18	hslida.org/legal/nevada HSLDA page dated April 10, 2025
☐ Notice	One-time notice of intent to the local superintendent before starting (or within 10 days of withdrawing / 30 days of moving in), with an educational plan. Keep the acknowledgment letter.		
☐ Subjects	English language arts, math, science, social studies (history, geography, economics, government).		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	Keep the superintendent's acknowledgment letter.		
☐ Options	One.		

New Hampshire (see Note)

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18 (with exceptions)	hslida.org/legal/new-hampshire HSLDA page dated September 14, 2026
☐ Notice	Not required, unless you withdraw from public school or want access to public school programs (then file a declaration of home education).		
☐ Subjects	None listed.		
☐ Days / hours	None listed.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None listed (the current page lists no other requirements).		
☐ Records	None listed. An optional parent-issued certificate of completion is available.		
☐ Options	One.		
Note: Conflicting info on HSLDA: the At-a-Glance box still says notice "Yes," subjects "Yes," and assessment "Yes." The detailed page (updated Sept 14, 2026) says no notice unless withdrawing, and no other requirements. This guide follows the newer detailed page.			

New Jersey

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-16	hslida.org/legal/new-jersey HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	None (districts sometimes ask, but it isn't required by law).		
☐ Subjects	No mandated list. Education must be academically "equivalent" (typical public school subjects serve as the comparison).		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed.		
☐ Options	One.		

New Mexico

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 5-18	hslida.org/legal/new-mexico HSLDA page dated February 24, 2026
☐ Notice	Notify the NM Public Education Department within 30 days of starting, then annually by Aug 1 (by mail or online).		
☐ Subjects	Reading, language arts, math, social studies, science.		
☐ Days / hours	Same days as local public schools (generally 180).		
☐ Teacher	High school diploma or equivalent (GED).		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	Immunization records (religious/medical waivers available).		
☐ Options	One.		

New York

High regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-16/17	hslida.org/legal/new-york HSLDA page dated August 6, 2025
☐ Notice	Annual notice of intent to the district superintendent by July 1 (or within 14 days of starting). Then an IHIP (Individualized Home Instruction Plan) by Aug 15 or within 4 weeks of getting the form. NYC families file with the NYC DOE Home Schooling Team (email recommended).		
☐ Subjects	Long list by grade band (e.g., grades 1-6: arithmetic, reading, spelling, writing, English, geography, U.S. history, science, health, music, visual arts, PE; plus patriotism/citizenship, substance-abuse education, highway and fire safety K-12). Credit requirements for grades 7-12.		
☐ Days / hours	"Substantial equivalent" of 180 days; 900 hrs/yr (grades 1-6), 990 hrs/yr (grades 7-12).		
☐ Teacher	No certification; just a "competent" instructor.		
☐ Assessment	Quarterly reports plus an annual assessment: grades 1-3 test or narrative; grades 4-8 test at least every other year; grades 9-12 test every year. Passing means above the 33rd percentile or one year of growth.		
☐ Records	Attendance records (submit on request) and quarterly reports (hours, material covered, grade or narrative per subject).		
☐ Options	One.		

North Carolina

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 7-16	hslida.org/legal/north-carolina HSLDA page dated March 11, 2025
☐ Notice	One-time notice of intent to the Division of Non-Public Education (online). Notify DNPE when you close the school.		
☐ Subjects	None required (tests cover English grammar, reading, spelling, math).		
☐ Days / hours	Regular schedule, at least 9 calendar months a year (minus reasonable holidays and vacations).		
☐ Teacher	High school diploma or equivalent.		
☐ Assessment	Annual nationally standardized test (English grammar, reading, spelling, math). Keep scores for 1 year, available for inspection.		
☐ Records	Attendance and immunization records; test scores for 1 year.		
☐ Options	One (home school as a nonpublic school, no more than 2 families).		

North Dakota

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 7-16	hslida.org/legal/north-dakota HSLDA page dated April 1, 2025
☐ Notice	Yearly statement of intent to the district superintendent at least 5 days before starting (or within 14 days of moving in), with immunization record and proof of identity.		
☐ Subjects	Public school subjects: English language arts, math, social studies (including U.S. Constitution, ND studies in grades 4 and 8), science (including agriculture), PE, health. High school list is separate.		
☐ Days / hours	At least 4 hours per day, 175 days per year.		
☐ Teacher	High school diploma or GED (otherwise monitored by a certified teacher for 2 years). Private school option: ND-certified teacher plus a background check.		
☐ Assessment	Standardized test in grades 4, 6, 8, 10, given by a certified teacher, with scores submitted. Exemption is possible for philosophical, moral, or religious objection, or for parents with a license, bachelor's degree, or a qualifying test score. Below the 30th percentile triggers an assessment and a remediation plan.		
☐ Records	Yearly record of courses and academic progress assessments (including test scores).		
☐ Options	Two: (1) home education law, (2) private school (certified teachers).		

Ohio

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18	hslida.org/legal/ohio HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Option 1: annual notice to the resident superintendent by Aug 30 (or within 5 days of starting, moving, or withdrawing). The superintendent must acknowledge it in writing.		
☐ Subjects	English language arts, math, science, history, government, social studies.		
☐ Days / hours	Option 1: none. Option 2: 455/910/1,001 hours by grade.		
☐ Teacher	Option 1: none. Option 2: bachelor's degree or equivalent.		
☐ Assessment	Option 1: none.		
☐ Records	Keep copies of notices and all correspondence. Option 2: annual "report to parents" filed by Sept 30, plus an attendance report.		
☐ Options	Two: (1) homeschool statute, (2) non-chartered non-public (religious) school.		

Oklahoma (see Note)

No notice, low regulation

Compulsory ages: 5-18

hslida.org/legal/oklahoma

HSLDA page dated June 18, 2020

- ☐ **Notice** None.
- ☐ **Subjects** None required (math, language arts, science, and social studies strongly recommended).
- ☐ **Days / hours** 180 days.
- ☐ **Teacher** None.
- ☐ **Assessment** None.
- ☐ **Records** No requirement listed.
- ☐ **Options** One.

Note: HSLDA's Oklahoma "How to Comply" page is dated June 18, 2020. Confirm it's still current.

Oregon (see Note)

Moderate regulation

Compulsory ages: 6-18

hslida.org/legal/oregon

HSLDA page dated June 18, 2020

- ☐ **Notice** One-time notice to your local Education Service District within 10 days of starting or withdrawing.
- ☐ **Subjects** None required.
- ☐ **Days / hours** No requirement listed.
- ☐ **Teacher** None.
- ☐ **Assessment** Standardized test in grades 3, 5, 8, 10 by Aug 15, given by a qualified neutral person. Results go to the ESD only if it asks. Low scores (below the 15th percentile) start a retest/oversight process.
- ☐ **Records** No requirement listed (keep test results).
- ☐ **Options** One.

Note: HSLDA's Oregon "How to Comply" page is dated June 18, 2020. Confirm it's still current.

Pennsylvania

High regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18	hslida.org/legal/pennsylvania HSLDA page dated July 1, 2025
☐ Notice	Homeschool statute: notarized affidavit (or unsworn declaration) to the superintendent before starting, then by Aug 1 every year. Include learning objectives, immunization/health evidence, and a criminal-history certification.		
☐ Subjects	Detailed elementary and secondary lists (e.g., English, arithmetic, civics, U.S. and PA history, health, PE, music, art, geography, science, fire safety). Graduation needs 4 English, 3 math, 3 science, 3 social studies, 2 arts/humanities.		
☐ Days / hours	180 days or 900 hrs (elementary) / 990 hrs (secondary).		
☐ Teacher	High school diploma or equivalent (statute). Tutor option: PA-certified teacher.		
☐ Assessment	Standardized tests in grades 3, 5, 8 (not given by the parent). Annual evaluation by a qualified evaluator (interview plus portfolio review); submit the evaluator's certification by June 30.		
☐ Records	Portfolio: a log kept as you go with reading titles, work samples, and test results.		
☐ Options	Four: (1) homeschool statute, (2) certified private tutor, (3) satellite of a religious day school, (4) satellite of an accredited day/boarding school.		

Rhode Island

High regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18 (with exceptions)	hslida.org/legal/rhode-island HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Notice of intent to the local school committee, which approves it; many committees add their own policies.		
☐ Subjects	Reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, health, PE, U.S. history, Rhode Island history, principles of American government.		
☐ Days / hours	Same as public schools (180 days).		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None required by statute (local policies may add requirements).		
☐ Records	Attendance register, made available to the school committee at the end of the year.		
☐ Options	One (school committee approval).		

South Carolina

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 5-17	hslida.org/legal/south-carolina HSLDA page dated July 1, 2025
☐ Notice	Accountability options: enroll with SCAIHS or a 50-member association. Option 1: get district board approval (the board "shall approve" if assurances are met).		
☐ Subjects	Reading, writing, math, science, social studies, plus composition and literature in grades 7-12.		
☐ Days / hours	180 days (Option 1: 4.5 hours per day).		
☐ Teacher	High school diploma or GED.		
☐ Assessment	Option 1 only: annual statewide testing given by a district employee. Associations set their own policies.		
☐ Records	Plan book, portfolio of work samples, semiannual progress report with attendance (associations and Option 1).		
☐ Options	Three: (1) district approval (most burdensome; not recommended), (2) SCAIHS, (3) association with at least 50 member families.		

South Dakota

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18	hslida.org/legal/south-dakota HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Standard DOE notification form to the DOE or local district within 30 days of starting; refile within 30 days of a move or enrollment change.		
☐ Subjects	At minimum, language arts and math basic skills leading to mastery of English.		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None. One person may teach no more than 22 children.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed.		
☐ Options	One.		

Tennessee

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-17	hslida.org/legal/tennessee HSLDA page dated July 17, 2026
☐ Notice	Independent home school: notice of intent to the local superintendent before the school year ("for reporting only"), and submit attendance records at year-end.		
☐ Subjects	None required (list the curriculum on your notice). Tests cover ELA and math.		
☐ Days / hours	4 hours per day, 180 days.		
☐ Teacher	Parent or guardian with a high school diploma or GED (tutors the same).		
☐ Assessment	Independent home school: nationally normed test in grades 5, 7, 9 (ELA and math), proctored by a non-relative. Church-related school: set by the school.		
☐ Records	Attendance records, submitted to the superintendent at year-end.		
☐ Options	Three: (1) independent home school, (2) church-related school (umbrella), (3) Category III accredited distance-learning school.		

Texas

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6–19	hslida.org/legal/texas HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	None. If the school asks, send a letter assuring them your child is legally taught at home.		
☐ Subjects	Math, reading, spelling and grammar, good citizenship (science and history also recommended, for college).		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed. Use a written curriculum (online counts) and run it in a "bona fide" manner.		
☐ Options	One (homeschool as a private school, per Leeper).		

Utah

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6–18	hslida.org/legal/utah HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025 (notes the May 7, 2025 amendment)
☐ Notice	One-time notice of intent per child to the local school board (replaced the affidavit in 2025). The board issues an excuse certificate within 30 days.		
☐ Subjects	None required.		
☐ Days / hours	None required.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed.		
☐ Options	One.		

Vermont

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-16	hslida.org/legal/vermont HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Annual enrollment notice to the Secretary of Education (online), with attestations; the Agency must acknowledge it within 10 business days.		
☐ Subjects	Basic communication skills (reading, writing, numbers), citizenship/history/government (VT and U.S.), PE and health, English/American/other literature, natural sciences, fine arts.		
☐ Days / hours	Equivalent of 175 days.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	Annual end-of-year assessment (standardized test, certified teacher's report, portfolio report with 4 work samples, online school grades, or GED). Kept by the parent, not submitted.		
☐ Records	Keep the assessment record and the acknowledgment. New enrollees need professional evidence on disability status.		
☐ Options	One (home study program).		

Virginia

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 5-18	hslida.org/legal/virginia HSLDA page dated June 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Home instruction: annual notice to the superintendent by Aug 15 with your qualification and a list of subjects.		
☐ Subjects	None required (a subject list goes with the notice).		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed for home instruction.		
☐ Teacher	One of: high school diploma or higher, VA teacher license, provide a curriculum/program of study, or evidence you can provide an adequate education.		
☐ Assessment	Home instruction: annual evaluation by Aug 1 (test at or above the 4th stanine / 23rd percentile, an evaluation letter, a college/correspondence report card, or another approved method).		
☐ Records	No requirement listed (keep the evaluation).		
☐ Options	Four: (1) home instruction, (2) religious exemption, (3) certified tutor, (4) private school.		

Washington

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 8-18	hslida.org/legal/washington HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Annual declaration of intent to the local superintendent by Sept 15 (or within 2 weeks of the start of a public school term).		
☐ Subjects	Occupational education, science, math, language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing, spelling, art and music appreciation.		
☐ Days / hours	180 days or an average of 1,000 hours per year.		
☐ Teacher	One of: supervision by a certificated person, 45 college quarter credits, a home-based education course, or being deemed qualified by the superintendent.		
☐ Assessment	Annual standardized test or evaluation by a certificated person (kept, not submitted).		
☐ Records	Assessment results kept as part of the permanent record.		
☐ Options	Two: (1) homeschool statute, (2) extension program of an approved private school.		

West Virginia

Moderate regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-17	hslida.org/legal/west-virginia HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Notice of intent to the county superintendent or board on or before the day you start (good until you move counties or stop), with proof of your qualification.		
☐ Subjects	Reading, language, math, science, social studies.		
☐ Days / hours	Notice/learning-pod options: none listed. Board approval option: 180 days.		
☐ Teacher	High school diploma or equivalent, or a post-secondary degree or certificate.		
☐ Assessment	Annual assessment (test at or above the 23rd percentile or improved, public school testing, a certified teacher's portfolio review, or an agreed alternative). Submit results for grades 3, 5, 8, 11 by June 30.		
☐ Records	Keep assessments for 3 years.		
☐ Options	Three: (1) school board approval, (2) notice of intent (recommended), (3) learning pod.		

Wisconsin

Low regulation		Compulsory ages: 6-18	hslida.org/legal/wisconsin HSLDA page dated March 27, 2025
☐ Notice	Annual PI-1206 statement of enrollment to the Dept. of Public Instruction by Oct 15 (online).		
☐ Subjects	Sequentially progressive curriculum in reading, language arts, math, social studies, science, health.		
☐ Days / hours	875 hours per school year (July 1-June 30).		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	Keep copies of every PI-1206. Records of hours and subjects for high school should be kept permanently.		
☐ Options	One (home-based private educational program).		

Wyoming

No notice, low regulation		Compulsory ages: 7–16	hslida.org/legal/wyoming HSLDA page dated June 9, 2025
☐ Notice	None to homeschool. If withdrawing from public school, give a written withdrawal notice.		
☐ Subjects	Sequentially progressive curriculum in reading, writing, math, civics, history, literature, science.		
☐ Days / hours	No requirement listed.		
☐ Teacher	None.		
☐ Assessment	None.		
☐ Records	No requirement listed.		
☐ Options	Two: (1) homeschool statute, (2) parochial, church, or religious school.		

Part 3 — Sources and Verification Notes

States that need extra checking

All 50 states and D.C. were checked against HSLDA's live state page and "How to Comply" page on October 20, 2026. These entries could not be fully confirmed, or HSLDA's own pages disagree:

- **Connecticut:** LAW CHANGE PENDING: HSLDA reports HB 5468 (signed May 26, 2026) will require background checks for families withdrawing from public school to homeschool (effective July 1, 2027) and a notice of intent (effective July 1, 2028). Check HSLDA for updates.
- **District of Columbia:** Category note: HSLDA's main map (hsllda.org/legal) shows D.C. as LOW, but an older map script on HSLDA's state pages still marks it MODERATE. This guide uses the main map.
- **Kansas:** Partially verified: HSLDA's public page says to "test your student periodically" but gives no specifics.
- **Kentucky:** HSLDA's Kentucky "How to Comply" page is dated June 17, 2020. Confirm it's still current.
- **Michigan:** Partially verified: details for Michigan's Option 2 (nonpublic school) are members-only on HSLDA.
- **New Hampshire:** Conflicting info on HSLDA: the At-a-Glance box still says notice "Yes," subjects "Yes," and assessment "Yes." The detailed page (updated Sept 14, 2026) says no notice unless withdrawing, and no other requirements. This guide follows the newer detailed page.
- **Oklahoma:** HSLDA's Oklahoma "How to Comply" page is dated June 18, 2020. Confirm it's still current.
- **Oregon:** HSLDA's Oregon "How to Comply" page is dated June 18, 2020. Confirm it's still current.
- **Every state:** many HSLDA pages carry a March 27, 2025 date, and details such as deadlines, forms, and district practices change. Members-only HSLDA forms and memos were not reviewed.

Sources used

HSLDA, Homeschool Laws by State (map and category definitions) — hsllda.org/legal

HSLDA, 51 state pages: hsllda.org/legal/<state>, plus each linked "How to Comply" page — hsllda.org/legal