

Frequently Asked Questions About Homeschooling in Nevada

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1. What are the Nevada statutes regarding compulsory education?

The following Nevada Revised Statutes apply to compulsory attendance in public school, exemption from compulsory attendance, a definition of homeschooling and authority given to the state board of education.

NRS 392.040

1. Except as otherwise provided by law, each parent, custodial parent, guardian or other person in the State of Nevada having control or charge of any child between the ages of 7 and 17 years shall send the child to a public school during all the time the public school is in session in the school district in which the child resides.

NRS 392.070

1. Attendance required by the provisions of NRS 392.040 must be excused when satisfactory written evidence is presented to the board of trustees of the school district in which the child resides that the child is receiving at home or in some other school equivalent instruction of the kind and amount approved by the state board.

NRS 385.007 Definitions.

3. "Homeschooled child" means a child who receives instruction at home and who is exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.070.

NRS 385.080 Regulations. The state board may adopt regulations for its own government and as necessary for the execution of the powers and duties conferred upon it by law.

2. What are the Nevada Administrative Codes adopted by the State Board of Education that regulate homeschooling?

NAC 392.011 Definitions. (NRS 385.080, 392.070) As used in NAC 392.011 to 392.065, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Parent" means the parent, custodial parent, guardian, or other person in the State of Nevada having control or charge of a child, who has a legal right to direct the education of that child.
2. "Instructional materials" are any items that may be used for instruction, including but not limited to books, library materials, software, or a correspondence program.
3. "Proposed educational goals" is a description of the anticipated kind of instruction, by subject, for one school year.
4. "Initial filing" refers to the notification of intent to homeschool that is served by the parent to the school district in which the child resides when:
 - (a) the child reaches the age specified in NRS 392.040; or
 - (b) the parent has received a written acknowledgment from one Nevada district that the child is being homeschooled, and the child has moved to another district, an "initial filing" must be submitted in the new school district at the beginning of the next school year; or
 - (c) the child has moved from out of state into a Nevada school district, to be submitted within thirty school days of establishing residency; or
 - (d) the parent begins homeschooling the child after discontinuing another education method as defined by NRS 385.007.
5. "Subsequent filing" refers to the notification of intent to homeschool that is filed annually in consecutive years within the same district after an initial filing has been made.

NAC 392.018 Exemption of child: Duty of board of trustees of school district; written acknowledgment. (NRS 385.080, 392.070)

1. The board of trustees of a school district in which a child resides shall exempt the child from compulsory attendance at a public school if the parent of the child files with the school district written evidence in the form of a "notification of intent to homeschool" that complies with NAC 392.024 and NAC 392.026, as applicable.
2. Upon receipt of a notification of intent that is complete and complies with the requirements of subsection 1, the school district shall provide to the parent who filed the notification a written acknowledgment which clearly indicates that the parent has provided the notification required by law and that the child is being homeschooled for the duration of the school year. The written acknowledgment shall be deemed proof of compliance with Nevada's compulsory attendance laws.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Education by R009-03, eff. 10-30-2003)

NAC 392.022 Notification of intent to exempt child: Development and dissemination of standard form. (NRS 385.080, 392.070)

1. The Department of Education shall develop a standard form for the notification of intent to homeschool. The form must not require any information or assurances that are not otherwise required pursuant to statute or regulation.

2. The board of trustees of each school district shall, in a timely manner, make only the form developed by the Department of Education available to parents.
- (Added to NAC by Bd. of Education by R009-03, eff. 10-30-2003)

NAC 392.024 Notification of intent to exempt child: Contents; proof of identity of child. (NRS 385.080, 392.070)

1. The initial filing and any subsequent filing of a notification of intent to homeschool must include:
 - (a) The full name of the child;
 - (b) The name and address of the parent(s) of the child;
 - (c) The address where the child resides;
 - (d) A contact phone number, if available, for the parent;
 - (e) The birth date of the child
2. A statement signed by the parent declaring that the parent assumes full responsibility to assure that the child will receive the equivalent instruction required by NAC 392.035 and that all biographical information is true and accurate; and
3. An option for the parent to sign the following statement: "The above-signed expressly prohibited the release of any and all information contained in this document, including directory information as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (a)(5)(A), without prior written consent by the above-signed. See 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (a) (5) (B) and NRS 392.029."

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Education by R009-03, eff. 10-30-2003)

NAC 392.026 The Initial Filing of a Notification of Intent (NRS 385.080, 392.070) In addition to the requirements of NAC 392.024, the initial filing of a notification of intent to homeschool must include:

1. A statement of the educational plan for the child that includes the proposed educational goals for the child or the instructional materials to be used; and
2. A statement initialed by the parent that the parent has:
 - (a) At least one year of homeschooling experience in any state or territory of the United States; or
 - (b) A teaching credential from any state or territory of the United States; or
 - (c) Read and understands NAC 392.011 to 392.065, inclusive.
3. Proof of the identity of the child, consisting of the child's birth certificate or some other document sufficient to establish the child's identity, which shall not be photocopied or kept on file by the school district.
4. The name and city of the most recent Nevada public school attended within the previous year, if applicable.

NAC 392.035 Required instruction: Kind, timing and amount. (NRS 385.080, 392.070)

1. To constitute equivalent instruction, the kind of instruction to be given a homeschooled child must include instruction in:
 - (a) The core academic subjects of:
 - (1) English, including reading, composition and writing;
 - (2) Mathematics;
 - (3) Science; and
 - (4) Social studies, including history, geography, economics and government.
 - (b) To the extent practicable:
 - (1) The arts;
 - (2) Computer education and technology;
 - (3) Health; and
 - (4) Physical education.
2. The subject areas listed in subsection 1 may be taught as the parent determines is appropriate for the age and level of skill of his child. The parent is not required to ensure that each subject area is taught each year that the child is homeschooled.
3. The instruction required by subsection 1 does not need to comply with the standards of content and performance adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 389.520.
4. The minimum amount of instruction that a child who is homeschooled must receive in 1 school year is the equivalent of 180 days of instruction.
5. The parent(s), at their own discretion, may use a licensed teacher or a Nevada State Board approved or any regionally accredited correspondence program of their choosing to assist in the development of the educational plan and/or facilitation of instruction pursuant to 392.024 and 392.026.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Education, eff. 7-2-84; A 6-23-86; R009-03, 10-30-2003)

NAC 392.041 (In effect Dec 4, 2004. LCB may change wording and assign a different reference instead of 392.041) Acceptance of correspondence programs by public and private schools.

If a previously homeschooled child enrolls in a public or private school, correspondence programs used by homeschooled pupils will be accepted by public schools and private schools if (pursuant to) the requirements of NAC 389.680 or, NAC 394.080, or NAC 389.445, as applicable.

NAC 392.048 Provision of information and documents to parents of homeschooled children. (NRS 385.080, 392.070)

1. The board of trustees of each school district shall make available in a timely manner to each parent of a child who is pursuant to NAC 392.011 to 392.065, inclusive:
 - (a) Written notice of the registration dates and examination dates for the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test; and
 - (b) Information regarding the millennium scholarship program set forth in NRS 396.911 to 396.938, inclusive.
2. Any information or documents provided to a parent of a child who is being homeschooled shall not require or request the signature or initials of the parent to ascertain receipt thereof.
3. Any information pertaining to homeschooling distributed by the Department of Education, a board of trustees, a district administration or a public school administration shall not be more restrictive than the statutes and regulations that govern homeschooling.
4. Any policy pertaining to homeschooling or homeschooled children adopted by a board of trustees, a district administration or a public school administration shall not be more restrictive than the statutes and regulations that govern homeschooling pursuant to NRS 386.360 subsection 2.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Education by R009-03, eff. 10-30-2003)

NAC 392.055 School district not required to compensate parent. (NRS 385.080, 392.070)

A school district is not required to compensate a parent who possesses a teaching license issued by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and homeschools their child pursuant to NAC 392.011 to 392.065, inclusive of this regulation.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Education, eff. 7-2-84; A 12-10-92; R009-03, 10-30-2003)

NAC 392.065 Duration of exemption. (NRS 385.080, 392.070) A written acknowledgment that a child is being homeschooled is effective for one school year. The board of trustees of the school district shall provide a written acknowledgment that a child is being homeschooled for every school year for which the parent demonstrates compliance with NAC 392.011 to 392.065, inclusive.

3. What is the responsibility of the local school board regarding exemption from compulsory attendance of homeschooled children?

The compulsory attendance law is enforced by the local school district. However, if the board of trustees of a local school district receives “written evidence” from the “parent, custodial parent, guardian, or other person in the State of Nevada having control or charge of any child between the ages of 7 and 17”, that the “child is receiving at home...equivalent instruction of the kind and amount approved by the state board”, the board of trustees must excuse the child from compulsory attendance in the public school. Upon receiving a completed Notification of Intent to Homeschool the school district must provide a “written acknowledgment which clearly indicates that the parent has provided the notification required by law and that the child is being homeschooled for the duration of the school year”.

4. What information should a parent of a homeschooled child submit to the local school board/district?

Nevada law (NRS 392.070) provides for a waiver of the compulsory attendance laws if the parent provides written evidence to the local school district that their child will be receiving equivalent instruction at home. This written evidence must be prepared following the regulations set forth in NAC 392.011 - 392.065. The “Notification of Intent to Homeschool” form developed by NHN, or the Nevada Department of Education form distributed by your school district, meet these requirements when completed and submitted. Or, other written evidence that meets or exceeds the requirements set forth in NAC 392 may be submitted to the district.

5. Where and how do I turn in my intent form?

You may mail or hand-deliver your intent form to your local school district office. If you mail the intent form to your school district it is recommended you do so by certified mail with a return receipt request. The district will mail you a written acknowledgment as proof of compliance with Nevada's compulsory attendance laws. If you hand-deliver your intent form the district is required to provide a written acknowledgment upon receipt of your completed form.

If you are removing your child from the public school or a private school mid-year you may submit your intent form to the school district office and take the written acknowledgment provided by the district to the school your child is enrolled in and immediately withdraw your child's enrollment. Following this procedure will ensure that your child will not be marked absent and run the risk of being truant.

6. When are the "initial" and "subsequent" intent forms used?

The "initial" notification of intent form (Sections 1 and 2) is submitted the first year a child is going to be homeschooled, either when he/she turns seven years of age or when discontinuing another educational option. You would also submit an initial intent form for the next school year if you move to a new school district after receiving a waiver from another Nevada school district for the current school year or within thirty days of establishing residence in Nevada.

You file a "subsequent" intent form (Section 1 only) annually in consecutive years within the same district once an initial filing has been made.

7. Is it the responsibility of the local school board/district to review and approve the educational plan for a homeschooled child?

No. The law does not require or authorize the local school board to review and approve the educational plan for a homeschooled child. When a parent "assures that the child will receive the equivalent instruction required by NAC 392.035" they are responsible for the academic progress of the child. The local board of trustees of the school district is not required nor authorized to monitor the academic progress of the child.

8. Should the local school board/district establish a file for the homeschooled child?

A local school board/district is not required to keep a file on a homeschooled child. If the school board/district receives a notification of intent to homeschool, the board may establish a file for the child for the sole purpose of documenting that the child is receiving equivalent instruction as required by law.

However, a local school board/district may not keep on file a copy of the child's birth certificate or some other document used to establish the child's identity. A birth certificate presented with an initial notification of intent to homeschool must be returned to the parent at the time the intent is delivered to the school district, if delivered in person, or by mail if the district receives the intent by mail. As a courtesy, if a parent mails in the intent, a self-addressed stamped envelope should be included for return of the birth certificate.

9. Are parents required to teach or meet public school "standards of content and performance" in their homeschool instruction?

No. The Nevada Administrative Code was amended in December of 2002 defining equivalent instruction as instruction in core subjects; English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies and to the extent practicable for the student; the Arts, Computer, Health, and Physical Education. These subjects may be taught as the parent determines is appropriate for the age and skill level of the child and do not need to comply with Nevada state

standards for public schools. For assistance in writing educational goals or choosing instructional materials parents may find the local library or the Internet helpful. Enter the words “home” “schooling” or “homeschooling” in Nevada in the search engine for a listing of local, regional, or state homeschool organizations with resources available to homeschoolers in your area. These websites usually offer free services as a support to the homeschooling community.

10. May the parent of a homeschooled child request information regarding public school curriculum from the local school board/district?

Yes. Parents may seek information about the school curriculum from the local school board/district. If the parent requests such information, the board/district must provide it since a district’s curriculum is a matter of public record (NRS 390, NAC 390). The district, however, is not obligated to provide books and materials.

11. Are parents required to work with a consultant during their first year of homeschooling?

No. Many parents however, benefit from the experience of other home educators. The homeschooling parent may choose to use correspondence programs, computer programs, textbooks, the internet, library resources, licensed teachers, co-ops, tutors, specialty instructors, or any other resources the parent desires to meet the educational needs of their child, but it is the parent who directs the education of the child. There are many local, regional and statewide homeschool organizations available to assist a new homeschooling parent. Many of these groups have websites or are listed in the telephone directory. Talking with someone else who is already homeschooling will give you an opportunity to find out how to get started and learn about the many valuable resources available to you according to the educational style you choose to employ. The NHN website and phone number is listed at the beginning of this document for more assistance should you need it.

12. What is the amount of time a homeschooled child is required to receive instruction?

The minimum amount of instruction a homeschool child must receive in one school year is the equivalent of 180 days of instruction. By law, the school year runs from July 1 to June 30. You may follow a traditional nine month calendar or follow your own year round schedule within that twelve month period. There is no longer a “minutes per day of instruction” requirement as it was recognized that in a tutorial education program a student can generally accomplish more in a shorter period of time than in a group setting.

13. Is the parent required to have a teaching license or any special training?

No. The parent is not required to have a teaching license or any special training. You do need to be the parent or legal guardian. You have a constitutional right to direct the education of your child.

14. Are there any testing requirements of homeschooled children in Nevada?

No. However, many parents periodically administer standardized tests to evaluate progress and use in future planning. Many homeschooled children are in different grade levels for different subjects, thereby limiting the usefulness of standardized tests. Some homeschool support groups offer annual testing using nationally standardized tests such as the Stanford Achievement Test. Or exams may be ordered online, such as those available from www.familylearning.org (800) 405-8378.

All children, especially those who are academically gifted, who are entering their junior year of high school should consider taking the PSAT/NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) at the local high school. National Merit Scholars are highly sought by the most prestigious universities. The local district is required to

make information available to homeschoolers in a timely manner regarding signups for the PSAT/NMSQT (NAC 392.048). Though not required, a homeschooler may also take the Nevada High School Proficiency Exam, which is a requirement if the student is seeking the Nevada Millennium Scholarship. Contact your district for information on signups and test dates for the Proficiency Exam.

15. Does a homeschooled child receive a high school diploma from a local school district?

No. A homeschooled child will not receive a public high school diploma. A diploma is a certificate that says the student has completed a certain course of study. Homeschooled children have completed a course of study in compliance with NAC 392.035, and are therefore eligible to receive a diploma from the parents or from an institution employed by the parents such as a correspondence course. For more information on this topic, you may visit these websites: www.homeschooldiplomas.com and www.learninfreedom.org You may also contact a local, regional, or statewide homeschool organization for assistance in homeschooling a high school student.

16. What documents are the local school districts required to provide to a homeschooling parent?

The local district is required to make available in a timely manner the Nevada Department of Education Notification of Intent to Homeschool Form, the PSAT/NMSQT registration dates and examination dates, and information regarding the State of Nevada Millennium Scholarship.

17. May a homeschooled child participate in programs of special education and related services through the public school?

In cases of special education, Nevada law (NRS392.070) equates a homeschooled child to a private school child for purposes of Nevada and Federal special education laws and regulations. Under these laws, a homeschooled child is not entitled to services that would be provided by a FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education) and IEP (Individualized Education Plan) offered by the local public school.

Instead, after a homeschooled child has been “identified” via the Child Find provisions of IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), the local public school district consults with homeschool representatives to determine how the funding allocated to homeschooled students will be distributed. The greater the number of homeschooled children who have been identified, the greater the proportionate amount of funding to be provided to the homeschooled segment. Unlike a public schooled child, not every homeschooled child is entitled to receive services. For those homeschooled children who do receive services, with final determination by the local district, a service plan is developed (similar to an IEP), and services are provided.

Following is NRS 392.070 with regards to programs of special education and related services for homeschooled children:

NRS 392.070

2. The board of trustees of each school district shall provide programs of special education and related services for children who are exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to subsection 1 and receive instruction at home. The programs of special education and related services required by this section must be made available:

(a) Only if a child would otherwise be eligible for participation in programs of special education and related services pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive;

(b) In the same manner that the board of trustees provides, as required by 20 U.S.C. § 1412, for the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians; and

(c) In accordance with the same requirements set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 1412 which relate to the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians.

5. The programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2 may be offered at a public school or another location that is appropriate.
6. The department may adopt such regulations as are necessary for the boards of trustees of school districts to provide the programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2.
7. As used in this section, “related services” has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. § 1401(22).

18. The local school district is sending me letters and forms to fill out for special needs children. Am I required to fill out and return these?

No. If you do not wish to receive any services, you do not have to return any of these, whether the district is aware of a special needs child in your home or not. If you wish to ask for special education services from the local public school district, you must fill these out and return them.

The district is required by Federal law to comply with the Child Find process, but you are not required to respond or have your child “identified” as having special needs in any way if you do not wish. If you should decide to have your child identified as a special needs child, you still are not required to receive services from the district and may refuse them if they are offered. The advantage to having your special needs child identified, and then not partaking of any services that might be offered, is that more funding will now be made available for other homeschooled special needs children. However, you are under no obligation to participate for this reason. Once your child has been identified you do not need to have your child re-identified for 3 years.

19. May a homeschooled child participate in a class or an extra-curricular activity at the public school or charter school?

Yes. Nevada Revised Statute 392.070 #3&4 (for public schools) and NRS 386.580 #4 (for public charter schools), if the class or extracurricular activity is “not available to the child...at home school...” the child must be allowed to participate if: a) space is available, and b) the child is qualified to take the class. Sports are a special type of extracurricular activity and are handled separately in the NRS. If the class does happen to be “available to the child” (such as an English class), this language gives the district or charter school leeway to let the child take the class or extra curricular activity if it chooses. Districts and charter schools are reimbursed by the Nevada State Department of Education for each class taken by a homeschooled child in accordance with the provisions of NRS 387.1233 1(a)(8). Policies made by local school boards/districts or charter schools must adhere to the following statutes:

NRS 392.070

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 for programs of special education and related services, upon the request of a parent or legal guardian of a child who is enrolled in a private school or who receives instruction at home, the board of trustees of the school district in which the child resides shall authorize the child to participate in a class that is not available to the child at the private school or home school or participate in an extracurricular activity, excluding sports, at a public school within the school district if:

- (a) Space for the child in the class or extracurricular activity is available; and
- (b) The parent or legal guardian demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board of trustees that the child is qualified to participate in the class or extracurricular activity.

If the board of trustees of a school district authorizes a child to participate in a class or extracurricular activity, excluding sports, pursuant to this subsection, the board of trustees is not required to provide transportation for the child to attend the class or activity.

4. The board of trustees of a school district may revoke its approval for a pupil to participate in a class or extracurricular activity at a public school pursuant to subsection 3 if the board of trustees or the public school determines that the pupil has failed to comply with applicable statutes, or applicable rules and regulations of the board of trustees. If the board of trustees revokes its approval, neither the board of trustees nor the public school are liable for any damages relating to the denial of services to the pupil.

NRS 392.580

4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, upon the request of a parent or legal guardian of a child who is enrolled in a public school of a school district or a private school, or a parent or legal guardian of a homeschooled child, the governing body of the charter school shall authorize the child to participate in a class that is not otherwise available to the child at his school or home school or participate in an extracurricular activity at the charter school if:

- (a) Space for the child in the class or extracurricular activity is available; and

(b) The parent or legal guardian demonstrates to the satisfaction of the governing body that the child is qualified to participate in the class or extracurricular activity.

If the governing body of a charter school authorizes a child to participate in a class or extracurricular activity pursuant to this subsection, the governing body is not required to provide transportation for the child to attend the class or activity. A charter school shall not authorize such a child to participate in a class or activity through a program of distance education provided by the charter school pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive.

5. The governing body of a charter school may revoke its approval for a child to participate in a class or extracurricular activity at a charter school pursuant to subsection 4 if the governing body determines that the child has failed to comply with applicable statutes, or applicable rules and regulations. If the governing body so revokes its approval, neither the governing body nor the charter school is liable for any damages relating to the denial of services to the child.

NRS 387.1233 Calculation of basic support.

(8) The count of pupils who are enrolled in classes for at least one semester pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 386.560, subsection 4 of NRS 386.580 or subsection 3 of NRS 392.070, expressed as a percentage of the total time services are provided to those pupils per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2).

20. May a homeschooled child participate in interscholastic sports?

Yes. Nevada Revised Statute 386.462-386.464 provides for a homeschooled child to be eligible for and participate in interscholastic activities and events (sports). Policies made by local school boards/districts and/or associations must adhere to the following statutes:

NRS 386.430 Adoption of regulations by association; consultation with Homeschool Advisory Councils required under certain circumstances.

1. The association shall adopt rules and regulations in the manner provided for state agencies by chapter 233B of NRS, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of NRS 386.420 to 386.470, inclusive. The regulations must include provisions governing the eligibility and participation of homeschooled children in interscholastic activities and events.
2. If the association intends to adopt, repeal or amend a policy, rule or regulation concerning or affecting homeschooled children, the association shall consult with the Northern Nevada Homeschool Advisory Council and the Southern Nevada Homeschool Advisory Council, or their successor organizations, to provide those Councils with a reasonable opportunity to submit data, opinions or arguments, orally or in writing, concerning the proposal or change. The association shall consider all written and oral submissions respecting the proposal or change before taking final action.

NRS 386.462 Participation by homeschooled children; applicability of provisions to homeschooled children.

1. A homeschooled child must be allowed to participate in interscholastic activities and events in accordance with the regulations adopted by the association pursuant to NRS 386.430.
2. The provisions of NRS 386.420 to 386.470, inclusive, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto that apply to pupils enrolled in public schools who participate in interscholastic activities and events apply in the same manner to homeschooled children who participate in interscholastic activities and events, including, without limitation, provisions governing:
 - (a) Eligibility and qualifications for participation;
 - (b) Fees for participation;
 - (c) Insurance;
 - (d) Transportation;
 - (e) Requirements of physical examination;
 - (f) Responsibilities of participants;
 - (g) Schedules of events;
 - (h) Safety and welfare of participants;
 - (i) Eligibility for awards, trophies and medals;
 - (j) Conduct of behavior and performance of participants; and
 - (k) Disciplinary procedures.

NRS 386.463 Limitation on challenges based upon participation by homeschooled children. No challenge may be brought by the association, a school district, a public school or a private school, a parent or guardian of a pupil enrolled in a public school or a private school, a pupil enrolled in a public school or private school, or any other entity or person claiming that an interscholastic activity or event is invalid because homeschooled children are allowed to participate in the interscholastic activity or event.

NRS 386.464 Limitation on adoption of regulations and rules by school districts and schools concerning eligibility and participation of homeschooled children. A school district, public school or private school shall not prescribe any regulations, rules, policies, procedures or requirements governing the:

1. Eligibility of homeschooled children to participate in interscholastic activities and events pursuant to NRS 386.420 to 386.470, inclusive; or
2. Participation of homeschooled children in interscholastic activities and events pursuant to NRS 386.420 to 386.470, inclusive, that are more restrictive than the provisions governing eligibility and participation prescribed by the association pursuant to NRS 386.430.

21. May a homeschooled child enroll in a public or private school after a parent has homeschooled him or her?

Yes, a homeschool student may enroll in a public or private school after homeschooling for a time. However, there are many things a parent should know.

Private Schools K-12

Private schools develop their own enrollment policies. Please contact the private school you are considering when choosing not to homeschool any longer.

Public Elementary School Level

For enrollment into grades K-6 a homeschooled student is considered the same as a student moving into Nevada from another state and is placed in the grade appropriate for his/her age.

Public Middle or Junior High School Level

For enrollment in public middle or junior high school a homeschooled child is the same as a student transferring in from another state and is usually placed in the age appropriate grade, though each school district may handle this differently. Current regulation for this grade level does not specify the transference of a homeschooled child and the student generally falls under NAC 389.445 (6) to gain credit for promotion into a public high school:

NAC 389.445 Required units of credit; pupils with disabilities; pupils who transfer between schools. (NRS 385.080, 392.033)

6. If a pupil transfers to a junior high or middle school from a junior high or middle school in this State or from a school outside of this State, the courses of study and units of credit completed by the pupil before he transferred must be evaluated by the school district that the pupil transfers to in accordance with the procedure adopted by the board of trustees of the school district pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 392.033.

Public High School Level

For enrollment into high school, after completing middle school or junior high school at home, the student is again considered the same as a student moving to Nevada from another state. In some districts a placement test, sometimes called an ALT, is administered to evaluate the academic abilities of the student for placement into a specific achievement level within the first year of high school.

If a homeschooled child enrolls in public school high school after starting high school at home the school district's high school diploma policy comes into play. Coursework done in a "non-correspondence" setting may or may not be accepted for credit towards graduation at the local public high school. Parents need to be aware that if they continue to choose, teach, and grade their student's high school courses (instead of using a correspondence course where the correspondence company does the testing and grading) it may be difficult for your student to later get credit towards graduation if they enroll in a public school. Your student may be able to "make up" credits in summer school or through correspondence courses in order to meet the high school graduation requirements.

The requirements for a high school diploma are regulated in NAC 389.655 to 389.699. Subsection 2 of NAC 389.680 (below) was recently added to require acceptance of credits by all Nevada districts if a correspondence course used at home is accredited by one of the seven associations listed. If a correspondence course is not accredited by one of the listed associations, credits may be granted by the district in accordance with NAC 389.680 subsection 1 (also below). To find out about accreditation for a particular correspondence program

(such as American School, Calvert, Keystone, etc) you can make an inquiry to the company that publishes the program. The Dept of Education also publishes an approved list that shows accreditation at www.doe.nv.gov.

NAC 389.680 Credit for correspondence courses. (NRS 385.080, 385.110, 389.160)

1. A school district may grant a pupil credit toward graduation from high school for his successful completion of a correspondence course if:
 - (a) The course is provided by a secondary educational institution which is approved by the State Board of Education; and
 - (b) The course is equivalent to a course offered in a regular program of the high school.
2. A school district will accept credit in accordance with policies developed by the local Board of Trustees toward graduation from high school for his successful completion of a correspondence course if:
 - (a) The course is provided and credit was issued by a secondary educational institution which is approved by one of the following national or regional accrediting associations
 - (1) Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
 - (2) New England Association of Schools and Colleges
 - (3) North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
 - (4) Northwest Association of Accredited Schools
 - (5) Southern Association of Schools and Colleges
 - (6) Western Association of Schools and Colleges
 - (7) Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation; and
 - (b) The course is equivalent to a course currently offered in a regular program of the high school

It would be wise to meet with a high school counselor or principal prior to beginning high school at home if you think there is a chance your student will later want to enroll. Also, please contact a local homeschool support organization in your area for help in learning your school district's diploma policy.

General comments:

If the child has used resources other than correspondence courses when homeschooling during middle/junior high or high school years, the local district or school policies, based on applicable state regulations, apply. In some cases, based on the age of the child and the time remaining to earn sufficient credits for graduation, a diploma may not be attainable. In those cases a GED might be considered. Or, since a GED is considered a stigma by the military and others, a child in this situation should consider applying directly to a community college or university based on their ACT or SAT scores. Many colleges and universities look favorably on homeschooling and do not require a GED or diploma when the ACT or SAT scores show competence.

22. May a homeschooled child skip a grade after being homeschooled upon enrollment in a public school if the parent can prove the child is academically capable?

The policies of each school district vary, and it is within the discretion of the local district to determine the grade level where a child is placed.

23. May a homeschooled child take distance education classes?

It depends on who is sponsoring the Distance Education. NRS 388.850 #3 and NRS 386.580 #4 specifically exclude a homeschooled child from a distance education program that is sponsored by the local Nevada school district or a Nevada charter school as defined in NRS 388.289. A homeschooler may use a Distance Education program offered by any other entity, in state or out of state.

24. A charter or other public school is offering “education at home” where I educate my child at home and they provide the supplies, correspondence program and/or computer program with a licensed teacher to help periodically. Is this homeschooling?

No. These schools are governed by Nevada Revised Statutes other than NRS 392.070 which is specific to homeschoolers. Under Nevada law and regulation a parent of a homeschooled child takes full responsibility to assure that their child will receive equivalent instruction. Charter and public schools operate under other Nevada laws and regulations and have other requirements. Some charter and public schools offer Independent Study programs and Distance Education programs where children who are enrolled in those schools receive education at home.

25. Who are the Northern and Southern Homeschool Advisory Councils to the Nevada State Board of Education and what do they do?

As their names imply, the Advisory Councils offer advice to the State Board of Education on matters concerning homeschooling in Nevada. The State Board is responsible for the drafting of the NAC (Nevada Administrative Code) regulations that regulate homeschooling in Nevada in accordance with the NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes). Advisory council members are appointed by the State Board of Education in accordance with Advisory Council bylaws and include representatives from local, regional and statewide homeschool organizations. All meetings are public and must meet open meeting law requirements.

26. Can a homeschooled student apply for the Millennium Scholarship?

Yes, a homeschooled student is eligible for the Millennium Scholarship. Districts are required to make this information available to homeschool families. To qualify a homeschooled student must provide:

1. A “certificate of completion” from the homeschool program, this may be a “home produced” certificate or diploma or a GED if applicable.
2. A copy of the school district’s written acknowledgment of exemption from compulsory attendance for each year the student was homeschooled.
3. A copy of the results of the Nevada High School Proficiency Exam (required of a homeschool student only if the student is applying for the Millennium Scholarship).
4. A copy of the results of either the ACT (minimum score of 21) or the SAT (minimum score of 990).
5. A copy of official public/private high school transcripts if the homeschooled student was ever enrolled in a public or private high school or took any classes there under the dual enrollment clause. This is to meet the GPA requirement, i.e. a 3.0 if graduating 2004 or earlier, 3.1 2005 or 06, and 3.25 graduating 2007 or later.

Please note that this **Homeschooling Frequently Asked Questions** document has been provided by the **Nevada Homeschool Network** and is intended to promote general guidance for parents and school administrators, and does not constitute legal advice. A parent may wish to consult with an attorney regarding specific situations or questions.

Because laws and regulations are subject to change, and because new questions are always being posed, it is imperative that you use the latest edition of these FAQs. Please visit our website at **nevadahomeschoolnetwork.com** to view the latest edition.

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