

Frequently Asked Questions about Homeschooling

I want to homeschool my child; now what?

The first step is to ensure your child is officially unenrolled from any public school. Moving forward, you (parent/guardian) are responsible for providing all curriculum and instruction. You can view the <u>Idaho Content Standards here</u>; they will show you what is expected for each grade level and subject for students enrolled in Idaho public schools. As a homeschooling parent/guardian, you can determine which standards you want to teach. Parents/Guardians homeschooling their children are not required to hold teaching licenses.

What reporting requirements exist for homeschool families in Idaho?

There are no reporting requirements in Idaho for homeschool families. There is no list, no monitoring, no check-ins from the state level. The Idaho Department of Education does not maintain records for homeschooling families. It is recommended that homeschooling families keep their own records of attendance, work completion, etc.

Are there state testing requirements for homeschooling families in Idaho?

No. There are no requirements for state testing for homeschooling families. There may be an option for a homeschooled child to participate in state tests. This is a decision of local districts and/or charters schools. Arrangements must be made with the school before the testing period begins. Districts and charters are not required to accommodate homeschool students but may be willing if space is available and arrangements are made in advance.

Can a homeschooled child participate in public school classes or extra-curricular activities?

Yes. According to <u>Idaho Code §33-203</u> (commonly known as the Dual Enrollment Law), the parent or guardian of a child of school age who is enrolled in a nonpublic school or public

charter school shall be allowed to enroll the student in a public school for dual enrollment purposes. Contact the school or district for more information on enrollment and policies.

How might the decision to homeschool affect a child's academic journey?

- 1. Homeschooled children will not graduate with an official high school diploma from an accredited high school. This may affect entry into certain occupations.
- 2. There will be additional entry requirements for homeschoolers when applying for colleges or universities.
- 3. If a homeschooled child is re-enrolled into a public school, it will be up to the receiving school on how to proceed with grade placement. Examples of what a district may use for determining placement include testing, review of homeschool coursework and/or records, or provisional placement in an age-level grade.

Does Idaho have a voucher or tax credit program that offers educational expense assistance for homeschooling families?

Idaho's private school tax credit, House Bill 93, was signed into law by Gov. Brad Little on February 27, 2025, and is retroactive to January 1, 2025. The tax credit program will be administered by the <u>Idaho Tax Commission</u>. The full text of the law is available <u>here</u>.