

NEW FAMILIES

Have you checked out our Home Study <u>website</u>? All the information you need is there. Here are the pieces that you will find helpful in developing your home study program:

The Required Forms for a NEW FAMILY (please email or complete them electronically)

- The Enrollment Form (Form A)
- Form B or equivalent (i.e. a report card, progress report or IEP/504 Plan)
- Minimum Course of Study (MCOS)

Required Forms for RETURNING Families:

- The Enrollment Form (Form A)
- <u>End of the Year Assessment</u> (this can be a form that we supply, or you can develop your own)
- <u>Minimum Course of Study</u> (if applicable)

Other Forms for NEW and RETURNING Families ~ These additional forms will not apply to everyone:

- If the student's last name and parent/s last names are not the same or if there is a single parent, then fill out the <u>Assurance Form</u>
- If a student has a disability, complete the <u>Adaptations</u> form
- If someone other than the parent is providing the instruction (i.e. if a friend is teaching Algebra) then fill out <u>Form C</u>

Additional Documents that will help you develop your Home Study Program:

- <u>List of various curricula</u> (the list is not exhaustive and doesn't have many online programs on the list, but there are MANY to choose from)
- How to develop your curriculum document...things to think about when designing it
- <u>Guidance document</u> that includes a lot of specific information regarding the rules and paperwork
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents
- Sample Minimum Course of Study documents
- How to complete an End of the Year Assessment (EOYA)

If you have a student with a disability:

• Please know that enrolling a student with disabilities in a home study program means that you give up the right for special education services. You may contact your special education administrator or school principal for the possibility of a services plan.

Contact Information:

If you have questions about this document or would like additional information, please contact:

Alicia Hanrahan, FESP, at alicia.hanrahan@vermont.gov.

Assigning Grades:

- The Home Study Team does not assign grades. Parents essentially determine which grade the student is in each year. We do not require that information.
- If/When the student goes back to a public or independent school, the family and school will need to work together to determine the grade that the student will be in.

Transcripts/Graduation:

• The Home Study Team does not issue diplomas. Students/families who want a diploma from a local high school will need to collaborate with their guidance department to develop a transcript and discuss options for graduation.

Enrollment Timeline:

- We have a <u>rolling enrollment process</u>. Families can enroll at any time during the 2021-2022 school year until May 1, 2022.
- Families can also withdraw from Home Study at any time during the school year and reenroll in a public or independent school (we just need the date that the student is withdrawing from Home Study).
- If you are considering home study for the long term, it is recommended to submit your documentation (End of the Year Assessment, Enrollment Form and Minimum Course of Study and other forms if applicable) by August first at midnight. There is an MCOS exemption on the third year if families meet the requirements.

Hybrid Approach:

- Families can also opt for a hybrid approach and take classes at the local school and enroll in a home study program. Students will be considered a home study student if 3/5 core courses are at taught at home.
 - o Core: Reading/Writing, Math, History/Government/Civics, Natural Science and Literature (yes, different from reading and writing)
 - o Non-core: PE, Health and Fine Arts

Compulsory Education:

- The compulsory age for attending school is from 6-16.
- If your child is not 6 by the time you enroll in the Home Study Program, then you are not required to enroll them until the following Fall (for example: if the student turns 6 on December 1, the student does not need to enroll in a Home Study program until the following school year)
- Kindergarten in voluntary and is not required for students who enroll in a Home Study Program





Reach Out!

- Social Media (especially Facebook) has many Home Study Groups. Families are more than happy to answer questions about curriculum development and assessment information.
- Contact your local library as many have information on local home study groups
- Subscribe to our Membership List. While it's not a Listserv, the list provides the families with a wide variety of educational opportunities. Contact Alicia at alicia.hanrahan@vermont.gov to be put on the list.

If you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out. Contact us at aoe.homestudy@vermont.gov.

