

Bismarck  
Public Schools

Home Education  
Handbook

## **Foreword**

Home education has positioned itself as one of several means by which parents can fulfill their responsibility for educating their children. The ND legislature has enacted laws to ensure that the state's responsibilities and legitimate interests in this endeavor are also guaranteed and protected. Towards that end, the state has delegated certain responsibilities to local school districts to work with home educators to assure that all ND students are receiving a quality education.

The Bismarck Public School District has prepared this handbook to assist home educators. The handbook provides information, explains procedures, and answers some common questions home educators have regarding home education.

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### ***What is home education?***

**Home Education:** An educational program for a child supervised by the child’s parent. Participation in this program legally fulfills the compulsory instruction requirements of state law. (N.D. Century Code 15.1-23-01)

### ***Who can teach a homeschooled child?***

A parent is qualified to supervise a program of home education if the parent holds a high school diploma or general education diploma (GED).

A homeschool child must be taught by one of the child’s parents. State Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem’s opinion of February 1, 2007, states, “In conclusion, it is my opinion that only a parent, qualified under N.D.C.C. §§ 15.1-23-03 and 15.1-23-06, may provide home based instruction to that parent’s child. With respect to home based instruction, North Dakota law does not permit a parent to supervise the education of that parent’s child by any other individual.”

### ***What are the responsibilities for homeschool educators?***

1. File a statement of Intent annually with the Assistant Superintendent of Bismarck Public Schools, 806 N Washington St, Bismarck, ND 58501. This form must be sent in at least 14 days prior to the beginning of the program or within 14 days of establishing residence in the school district.

The Statement of Intent form may be downloaded from <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn16909.pdf>

The Statement of Intent must include:

- The name and address of child receiving home education.
- The name and address of the supervising parent.
- The date of birth and grade level of the child.
- The qualifications of the parent who will supervise the home education with supporting documentations.
- A list of courses or extracurricular activities in which the child intends to participate via Bismarck Public Schools.
- Proof of immunization record.
- Proof of identity (birth certificate) – or other identifying official document.

2. Supervise the courses required by statute (N.D. Century Code 15.1-21.0 and 15.1-21-02)

#### Elementary and Middle Schools (Grades 1-8) – Required Instruction.

In order to be approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, each public and nonpublic elementary and middle school shall provide to students instruction in the following: (*NOTE: Home education students are not approved by DPI.*)

- English language arts, including reading, composition, creative writing, English grammar, and spelling
- Mathematics
- Social studies, including:
  - The United States Constitution
  - United States History
  - Geography
  - Government
  - North Dakota studies, with an emphasis on the geography, history, and agriculture of this state, in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades
- Science, including agriculture
- Physical education
- Health, including physiology, hygiene, disease control, and the nature and effects of alcohol, tobacco, and narcotics

High Schools (Grades 9-12) Required units.

In order to be approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, each public and nonpublic high school shall make available to each student: (*NOTE: Home education students are not approved by DPI.*)

- Four units of English language arts
  - Four units of mathematics
  - Four units of science
  - Four units of social studies, including one of world history and one of United States history
  - One-half unit of health
  - One-half unit of physical education during each school year, provided that once every four years the unit must be a concept-based fitness class that includes instruction in the assessment, improvement, and maintenance of personal fitness
  - Two units of fine arts, at least one of which must be music
  - Two units of the same foreign language
  - Two units of career and technical education
3. Conduct classes for at least four hours per day for a minimum of 175 days per year.
  4. A parent is qualified to supervise a program of home education if the parent holds a high school diploma or general education diploma (GED)
  5. Maintain an annual record of courses taken by the child and the child's academic progress assessments, including any standardized achievement test results. A parent shall furnish these records to any school to which the child may transfer upon request of the administration of that public school district

***What are the testing responsibilities for homeschool educators?***

Standardized achievement tests must be given to each child receiving home education in grades four, six, eight, and ten (N.D. Century Code 15.1-23-09)

Towards meeting this requirement, the Bismarck Public Schools provides, at no cost, the Measures of Academic Progress Assessment. Specific testing instructions and dates will be mailed to home education families. Parents will be responsible to inform the Bismarck Public Schools if they are interested in having the school district administer the test.

If the parent wants to select a qualified individual to administer the test, the cost is the responsibility of the child's parent. The test needs to be a nationally-normed achievement test. Accepted alternatives include Iowa Tests of Basic Skills, SAT or ACT.

Results must be filed with the Assistant Superintendent of Bismarck Public Schools.

If the child's basic overall composite score on a standardized achievement test is less than the thirtieth (30) percentile nationally, a multidisciplinary assessment team shall assess the child for a potential learning problem under rules adopted by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

***What does a parent need to provide the Bismarck Public Schools if they want their child to enroll in a school after they have been home educated?***

The parent of any student seeking to transfer from home education to the Bismarck Public Schools will provide the district with all records concerning the courses taken by the child and the child's academic progress assessments that the parent has maintained according to law. These records, along with those of the standardized achievement tests that have been filed with the district, will be considered in placing the child in appropriate classes. Students who arrive without transcripts or other educational records which would indicate proper placement, will be given standardized tests in the basic skills areas to facilitate proper placement.

***Can homeschool students receive a high school diploma?***

Bismarck Public Schools grants diplomas only to those students who have completed all North Dakota and Bismarck Public School District requirements for a high school diploma. In addition, to be eligible for a Bismarck Public Schools diploma, the student must be enrolled in a minimum of five (5) credited classes or a minimum of 2.5 semester credits at a Bismarck Public Schools high school during their last semester prior to graduation.

Students working towards a Bismarck Public Schools diploma need to consult with a Bismarck Public Schools high school counselor to assure that they have included all the necessary course work in their course of study to entitle them to earn a Bismarck Public School diploma.

***What are the responsibilities of the School District?***

- Inform the parent about parental responsibility to maintain the student’s academic record for each home educated student.
- Explain resources and support for students who are experiencing learning difficulties and who may need special education and related services, if requested or if the child scores below the thirtieth percentile.
- Provide the local school district’s expectations for each student at the appropriate grade level in the subjects required by statute.
- Provide information regarding the standardized achievement test administered by the district and the parent’s options regarding the test.
- Provide a copy of the state law on home education.

***How do homeschool educators get curriculum materials?***

Parents are responsible for determining the curriculum for home education. Parents are also responsible for purchasing all materials. Some resources are available at the Library Media Office (LMO) at the Hughes Building at 806 N Washington St, Bismarck, ND 58501.

***What federally-funded educational opportunities are available for home educators and homeschooled children?***

Below is a description of the federal programs available:

Title I – Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides financial assistance to state and local educational agencies to meet the needs of educationally-deprived, at-risk children. The goal of Title I program is to provide instructional services and activities to meet the needs of disadvantaged children identified as failing or most at risk of failing the state’s challenging performance standards. Title I programs in the Bismarck Public Schools provide children with extra educational assistance beyond the regular classroom. Your child will be served if they meet objective criteria established by your school.

Title II A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruitment Fund

The Title II, Part A program is to increase academic achievement of all students through strategies such as improving teacher and principal quality, increasing the number of highly-qualified teachers in the classroom and highly qualified principals and assistant principals in schools, and reducing class size especially in the primary grades. Title II, Part A also helps hold school districts accountable for improvements in student academic achievement.

## Curriculum Resources

Parents are responsible for determining the curriculum and purchasing all materials.

### Alpha Omega Switched on Schoolhouse

Alpha Omega Publications  
300 N McKemy Ave  
Chandler, AZ 85226-9912  
1-800-622-3070

### A Beka School Services

Pensacola Christian College  
PO Box 19100  
Pensacola, FL 32523-9983  
1-877-223-5226  
[www.abeka.org](http://www.abeka.org)

### Accelerated Christian Education (ACE)

1-800-925-7777  
[www.aceministries.com](http://www.aceministries.com)

### Christian Book Distributors

140 Summit Street  
Peabody, MA 01960  
1-800-247-4784  
[www.christianbook.com/homeschool](http://www.christianbook.com/homeschool)

### Christian Light Publications (CLE)

A Bible-Based Curriculum for Grades 1-12  
PO Box 1212 – North  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801-1212  
1-877-226-8010  
[www.clp.org](http://www.clp.org)

### Complete Guide to Getting Started in Homeschooling – by Mary Pride

Home Life  
PO Box 1190  
Fenton, MO 63026  
1-636-529-0137  
[www.home-school.com](http://www.home-school.com)

### Home School Marketplace

1053 Eldridge Loop  
Crossville, TN 38571  
1-931-456-0667

### Math-U-See

A Manipulative Based K-12 Curriculum  
1-888-854-MATH  
[www.mathusee.com](http://www.mathusee.com)

### NATHHAN

(Special Needs Children)  
[www.NATHHAN.com](http://www.NATHHAN.com)

### National Home Education Research Institute

Dr. Brian Ray  
[www.nheri.org](http://www.nheri.org)

### ND Guide to Homeschool High School

1-701-662-6347  
[www.ndhsa.org](http://www.ndhsa.org)

### Plain Path Publishers

PO Box 830  
Columbus, NC 28722  
1-828-863-2736  
[www.plainpath.org](http://www.plainpath.org)

### Saxon Publishers

2450 John Saxon Blvd  
Norman, OK 73071  
1-800-284-7019  
[www.saxonpub.com](http://www.saxonpub.com)

### Shekinah Curriculum Cellar

1815 Whittington Road  
Kilgore, TX 75662  
[www.shekinahhomeschool.com](http://www.shekinahhomeschool.com)

### The Old Schoolhouse Magazine

[www.thehomeschoolmagazine.com](http://www.thehomeschoolmagazine.com)

### The Sycamore Tree

2179 Meyer Place  
Costa Mesa, CA  
1-800-779-6750  
[www.homeschool.com](http://www.homeschool.com)

### The Ultimate Guide to Homeschooling

– by Debra Bell  
[www.debrabell.com](http://www.debrabell.com)



## **Top Websites:**

[www.education.com](http://www.education.com)

[www.spellingcity.com](http://www.spellingcity.com)

[www.pbskids.org](http://www.pbskids.org)

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)

[www.readingeggs.com](http://www.readingeggs.com)

[www.sheppardsoftware.com](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com)

[www.donnayoung.org](http://www.donnayoung.org)

[www.khanacademy.com](http://www.khanacademy.com)

[www.time4learning.com](http://www.time4learning.com)

[www.homeschoolfreebie.wholesomechildhood.com](http://www.homeschoolfreebie.wholesomechildhood.com)

[www.softschools.com](http://www.softschools.com)

[www.dltk-kids.com](http://www.dltk-kids.com)

## **Test Publishers**

### **Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills**

CTB McGraw Hill

Del Mone Research Park

Monterey, CA 93940

(Also available via ND Division of Independent Study)

### **Iowa Test of Basic Skills**

Riverside Publishing Company

PO Box 1970

Iowa City, IA 52244

### **Metropolitan Achievement Tests**

The Psychological Corporation

757 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

New York, NY 10017

### **PASS**

Hewitt Research Foundation

PO Box 9

Washougal, WA 98671

### **SRA Achievement Series**

Science Research Association, Inc.

155 N Wacker Dr

Chicago, IL 60606

### **Stanford Achievement Tests**

The Psychological Corporation

757 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

New York, NY 10017

### **Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT)**

Scholastic Testing Service, Inc.

480 Meyer Road

Bensenville, IL 60106

### **Miscellaneous Testing Materials**

Bob Jones University

Greenville, SC 29614-0001

1-800-845-5731

## Additional Testing Information

**A Beka Testing Service** 1-888-722-0044 <http://www.abekatesting.org/>

ITBS 2005 norms/Stanford 10 207 norms, grades K-12, \$25-35; Stanford 10 online version for grades 3-12, \$25; registered parents may give the ITBS and online SAT10 to their own children; see rules for giving the SAT10 paper. However, in ND the test must be administered by a ND state certified teacher. Fall and Spring norming periods.

**Bayside Testing Service** 1-800-723-3057 <http://www.baysideschoolservices.com/ctbs.html>

CTB McGraw-Hill's TerraNova in Complete Battery or shorter Survey, and the Test of Cognitive Skills (TCS/2).

**BJU Press** 1-800-845-5731 <https://bjupress.com/testing/iowa.php>

Iowa Test of Basic Skills, Stanford 10, with comprehensive results sheet, about \$35-40; also learning abilities tests, and test prep materials. Tester must have a bachelor's degree to qualify as a tester, unless state certified to teach in a conventional school (in ND the test must be administered by a ND state certified teacher); Tester must also complete a one-time application/agreement with BJU. No phone orders. The SAT-10 must be administered by a BJU-qualified test giver (someone who has viewed their training video and is on BJU's list). Tester must send copy of 4-year degree/state certification to keep on file with BJU. Group rates, seasonal discounts available. *Note: The Stanford 10 may be given as a non-timed test. (IBS not available from BJU in Iowa or a few select areas.)*

**Family Learning Organization** 1-509-467-2552 [http://www.familylearning.org/tests\\_basi/php](http://www.familylearning.org/tests_basi/php)

BASI; \$30; covers math, reading, language (does not include science, social studies). Also available: CAT 5<sup>th</sup> Edition-Complete Battery; CAT/5 Survey; and Terra Nova Achievement Test. Testing services available to homeschooling parents only.

**Hewitt Homeschooling** 1-360-835-8708 <http://hewitthomeschooling.com/Testing/tMain.aspx>

Offers PASS test (Personalized Achievement Summary System), untimed standardized achievement test; covers reading language, math; \$36; normed to the Metropolitan Achievement Test (MAT); includes percentiles and improvement suggestions for each subject; available for grades 3-8.

**Pearson Assessments** <https://www.pearsonassessments.com>

The Peabody Individual Achievement Test-Revised-Normative Update (PIAT-R-NU) is a standardized, nationally norm-referenced K-12 achievement test and must be administered by a trained examiner. Examiner would also need to be a ND state certified teacher. Assessments in reading, math, spelling, science, social studies and humanities; subtests and composite scores calculated immediately; test is oral, untimed, and takes 60-90 minutes. Also provides the SAT 10 and the Metropolitan Achievement Test 8 (MAT8). The MAT8 Short Form tests only reading comprehension, math concepts and problem solving and Language. Full MAT8 includes testing in science and social studies.

**Seton Home Study** 1-540-636-1250 <http://www.setontesting.com/>

CAT short version, \$25; anyone who can read/follow directions may administer the tests. However, in ND the test must be administered by a ND state certified teacher. Seton also offers algebra placement tests and Spectrum test prep booklets.

**Summit Christian Academy 1-800-362-9180**

Iowa Test of Basic Skills for grades 3-12. Wide Range Achievement Test4 (WRAT4) ages 5-94; standardized and norm-referenced; tester must have four-year college degree and be a ND state certified teacher.

**Any test used to meet the requirements of the law in ND must be administered by a ND state certified teacher in the years in which testing is required.**

## Support Resources

### Bismarck Public Schools

**Dr. Fran Rodenburg**  
Assistant Superintendent  
806 N Washington St  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
701-323-4068

### Home Education Support Groups

**North Dakota Home School Association**  
Theresa Deckert  
PO Box 1066  
Devils Lake, ND 58301  
701-662-6347  
[office@ndhsa.org](mailto:office@ndhsa.org)  
Website: <http://www.ndhsa.org>

### ND Department of Public Instruction

**Home Education Program Director**  
ND Department of Public Instruction  
600 E Boulevard Ave  
Bismarck, ND 58505  
701-328-1718

### **Division of Independent Study**

Robert Stone, Jr., State Director  
1510 N 12<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Fargo, ND 58105  
701-231-6007

## **CHAPTER 15.1-23 HOME EDUCATION**

### **15.1-23-01. Home education - Definition.**

For purposes of this chapter, "home education" means a program of education supervised by a child's parent in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

### **15.1-23-02. Statement of intent to supervise home education.**

At least fourteen days before beginning home education or within fourteen days of establishing a child's residence in a school district, and once each year thereafter, a parent intending to supervise or supervising home education shall file a statement, reflecting that intent or fact, with the superintendent of the child's school district of residence or if no superintendent is employed, with the county superintendent of schools for the child's county of residence.

1. The statement must include:
  - a. The name and address of the child receiving home education;
  - b. The child's date of birth;
  - c. The child's grade level;
  - d. The name and address of the parent who will supervise the home education;
  - e. The qualifications of the parent who will supervise the home education;
  - f. Any public school courses in which the child intends to participate and the school district offering the courses; and
  - g. Any extracurricular activities in which the child intends to participate and the school district or approved nonpublic school offering the activities.
2. The statement must be accompanied by a copy of the child's immunization record and proof of the child's identity as required by section 12-60-26.
3. The superintendent of the child's school district of residence or if no superintendent is employed, the county superintendent of schools for the child's county of residence shall report the number of statements of intent that have been filed in accordance with this section to the superintendent of public instruction at the time and in the manner required by the superintendent of public instruction.

### **15.1-23-03. Home education - Parental qualifications.**

A parent may supervise home education if the parent:

1. Holds a high school diploma or a general educational development diploma; or
2. Meets the requirements of section 15.1-23-06.

### **15.1-23-04. Home education - Required subjects - Instructional time.**

A parent supervising home education shall include instruction in those subjects required by law to be taught to public school students. The instruction must have a duration of at least four hours each day for a minimum of one hundred seventy-five days each year.

### **15.1-23-05. Home education - Academic records.**

A parent supervising home education shall maintain an annual record of courses taken by the child and the child's academic progress assessments, including any standardized achievement test results. If the child transfers to a public school district, the parent shall furnish the record, upon request, to the school district superintendent or other administrator.

### **15.1-23-06. Home education - Required monitoring of progress.**

A parent who does not meet the qualifications provided in section 15.1-23-03 may supervise home education but must be monitored in accordance with section 15.1-23-07 for the first two years. If a child receiving home education obtains a basic composite standardized achievement test score below the fiftieth percentile nationally, the parent must be monitored for at least one additional school year and until the child receives a test score at or above the fiftieth percentile. If testing is not required by section 15.1-23-07 during the first two years of monitoring, the period

of monitoring may not be extended, except upon the mutual consent of the parent and the monitor. If a parent completes the monitoring requirements of this section for one child, the parent may not be monitored with respect to other children for whom the parent supervises home education.

**15.1-23-07. Home education - Required monitoring of progress - Reporting of progress - Compensation.**

1. If monitoring is required under section 15.1-23-06, the school district shall assign and compensate an individual to monitor a child receiving home education unless the parent notifies the school district that the parent shall select and compensate an individual to monitor the child.
2. The individual assigned by the school district or selected by the parent under subsection 1 must be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board.
3. Twice during each school year, the individual shall report the child's progress to the school district superintendent or to the county superintendent if the district does not employ a superintendent.
4. If one child receives home education, the individual shall spend an average of one hour per week in contact with the child and the child's parent. If two or more children receive home education, the individual shall spend one-half hour per month for each additional child receiving home education. If the child attends a public or an approved nonpublic school, the time may be proportionately reduced.

**15.1-23-08. Test administration.**

An individual who in accordance with this chapter administers a standardized achievement test to a child receiving home education shall notify the child's school district of residence.

**15.1-23-09. Home education - Standardized achievement test - Exemption.**

1. a. While in grades four, six, eight, and ten, each child receiving home education shall take:

- (1) A standardized achievement test used by the school district in which the child resides; or
- (2) A nationally normed standardized achievement test if requested by the child's parent.

b. The child shall take the test in the child's learning environment or, if requested by the child's parent, in a public school. An individual licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board shall administer the test.

2. a. The requirement of subsection 1 does not apply if the parent notifies the school district in which the child resides that the parent has a philosophical, moral, or religious objection to the use of standardized achievement tests and the parent:

- (1) Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board;
- (2) Holds a baccalaureate degree; or
- (3) Has met or exceeded the cutoff score of a national teacher examination given in this state or in any other state if this state does not offer such an examination.

b. The parent shall file the notification and necessary documentation required by this subsection with the school district at the same time that the parent files the statement of intent to supervise home education required by section 15.1-23-02.

**15.1-23-10. Home education - Standardized achievement test - Cost.**

1. If a child receiving home education takes the standardized achievement test used by the school district in which the child resides, the school district is responsible for the

cost of the test and for the cost of administering the test. The school district shall ensure that the test is administered by an individual who is employed by the district and who is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board.

2. a. If the child takes a nationally normed standardized achievement test not used by the school district in which the child resides, the child's parent is responsible for the cost of the test.

b. The cost of administering a test under this subsection is the responsibility of the child's parent if the test is administered by an individual who is selected by the parent. An individual selected by the child's parent to administer a test under this subsection must be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board.

c. The cost of administering a test under this subsection is the responsibility of the school district if, at the request of the child's parent, the school district administers the test. The school district shall ensure that the test is administered by an individual who is employed by the district and who is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board.

#### **15.1-23-11. Home education - Standardized achievement test - Results.**

1. A parent supervising home education shall file the results of the child's standardized achievement test with the superintendent of the district in which the child resides or with the county superintendent if the district does not employ a superintendent.

2. If the child's basic composite score on a standardized achievement test is less than the thirtieth percentile nationally, a multidisciplinary assessment team shall assess the child for a potential learning problem under rules adopted by the superintendent of public instruction.

3. If the multidisciplinary assessment team determines that the child is not disabled and the child's parent wishes to continue home education, the parent, with the advice and consent of an individual who is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board, shall prepare a remediation plan to address the child's academic deficiencies and file the plan with the superintendent of the school district or with the county superintendent if the district does not employ a superintendent. The parent is responsible for any costs associated with the development of the remediation plan. If the parent fails to file a remediation plan, the parent is deemed to be in violation of compulsory school attendance provisions and may no longer supervise the home education of the child.

#### **15.1-23-12. Home education - Remediation plan.**

The superintendent of the school district shall use the remediation plan required by section 15.1-23-11 as the basis for determining reasonable academic progress. The remediation plan must remain in effect until such time as the child achieves on a standardized achievement test a basic composite score at or above the thirtieth percentile or a score, which when compared to the previous year's test score, demonstrates one year of academic progress. At the option of the parent, the test may be one required by section 15.1-23-09 or one administered in a higher grade level. The child's parent, with the advice and consent of an individual who is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or who is approved to teach by the education standards and practices board, may amend the remediation plan from time to time in order to accommodate the child's academic needs. If after a remediation plan is no longer in effect the child fails to demonstrate reasonable academic progress on a subsequent test required by this section, a remediation plan must again be developed and implemented.

#### **15.1-23-13. Home education - Disabilities - Services plan.**

1. a. If a multidisciplinary assessment team, using eligibility criteria established by the

superintendent of public instruction, determines that the child is disabled, that the child requires specially designed instruction due to the disability, and that this instruction cannot be provided without special education and related services, the parent may continue to supervise home education, provided that:

- (1) The parent files with the school district superintendent a services plan that was developed privately or through the school district; and
- (2) The services plan demonstrates that the child's special needs are being addressed by persons qualified to provide special education or related services.

b. If the multidisciplinary team determines that the child has a developmental disability, the parent may continue to supervise home education under the provisions of sections 15.1-23-14 and 15.1-23-15.

2. Annually, the superintendent of the child's school district of residence shall determine reasonable academic progress based on the child's services plan.

3. If a parent fails to file a services plan as required by this section, the parent is deemed to be in violation of the compulsory school attendance provisions and may no longer supervise the home education of the child.

4. A child who was once evaluated by a multidisciplinary assessment team need not be reevaluated for a potential learning problem upon scoring below the thirtieth percentile on a subsequent standardized achievement test unless the reevaluation is performed pursuant to the child's services plan.

#### **15.1-23-14. Child with a developmental disability - Home education.**

A parent may supervise home education for a child with a developmental disability if:

1. The child has been determined to have a developmental disability by a licensed psychologist;
2. The child's parent is qualified to supervise home education under this chapter; and
3. The child's parent files with the superintendent of the child's school district of residence:
  - a. A notice that the child will receive home education;
  - b. A copy of the child's diagnosis of a developmental disability prepared and attested to by a licensed psychologist; and
  - c. A services plan developed and followed by the child's school district of residence and the child's parent; or, after providing written notice to the superintendent of the child's school district of residence, a substitute services plan, developed and followed, according to section 15.1-23-15, by a services plan team selected by and compensated by the child's parent.

#### **15.1-23-15. Child with a developmental disability - Home education - Progress reports.**

1. On or before November first, February first, and May first of each school year, a parent supervising home education for a child with a developmental disability under section 15.1-23-14 shall file with the superintendent of the child's school district of residence progress reports prepared by the services plan team selected under section 15.1-23-14. If at any time the services plan team agrees that the child is not benefiting from home education, the team shall notify the superintendent of the child's school district of residence and request that the child be evaluated by a multidisciplinary team appointed by the superintendent of the child's school district of residence.

2. The superintendent of the child's school district of residence shall forward copies of all documentation required by this section to the superintendent of public instruction.

#### **15.1-23-16. Home education - Participation in extracurricular activities.**

1. A child receiving home education may participate in extracurricular activities either:

- a. Under the auspices of the child's school district of residence; or
  - b. Under the auspices of an approved nonpublic school, if permitted by the administrator of the school.
2. For purposes of this section, a child participating under the auspices of the child's school district of residence is subject to the same standards for participation in extracurricular activities as those required of full-time students enrolled in the district.
  3. For purposes of this section, a child participating under the auspices of an approved nonpublic school is subject to the same standards for participation in extracurricular activities as those required of full-time students enrolled in the school.
  4. Once a child's parent has selected the public school district or the approved nonpublic school in which the child will participate for purposes of extracurricular activities and has provided notification of the selection through the statement required by section 15.1-23-02, the child is subject to the transfer rules as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the North Dakota high school activities association.

**15.1-23-17. Home education - High school diplomas.**

1. A child's school district of residence, an approved nonpublic high school, or the center for distance education may issue a high school diploma to a child who, through home education, has met the issuing entity's requirements for high school graduation provided the child's parent submits to the issuing entity a description of the course material covered in each high school subject, a description of the course objectives and how the objectives were met, and a transcript of the child's performance in grades nine through twelve.
2. In the alternative, a high school diploma may be issued by the child's school district of residence, an approved nonpublic high school, or the center for distance education provided the child, through home education, has completed at least twenty-two units of high school coursework from the minimum required curriculum offerings established by law for public and nonpublic schools and the child's parent or legal guardian submits to the issuing entity a description of the course material covered in each high school subject, a description of the course objectives and how the objectives were met, and a transcript of the child's performance in grades nine through twelve. The issuing entity may indicate on a diploma issued under this subsection that the child was provided with home education.
3. If for any reason the documentation required in subsection 1 or 2 is unavailable, the entity issuing the diploma may accept any other reasonable proof that the child has met the applicable requirements for high school graduation.

**15.1-23-18. Home education - Liability.**

No state agency, school district, or county superintendent may be held liable for accepting as correct the information on the statement of intent or for any damages resulting from a parent's failure to educate the child.

**15.1-23-19. Home education - State aid to school districts.**

For purposes of allocating state aid to school districts, a child receiving home education is included in a school district's determination of average daily membership only for those days or portions of days that the child attends a public school.



# State of North Dakota

## High School Diploma – Minimum Requirements

### **15.1-21-02.1. (Effective through July 31, 2013) High school diploma – Minimum units.**

Except as provided in section 15.1-21-02.3 or as otherwise agreed to in the compact on educational opportunity for military children, before a school district, a nonpublic high school, or the center for distance education issues a high school diploma to a student, the student must have successfully completed:

1. The twenty-two units of high school coursework set forth in section 15.1-21-25; and
2. Any additional units of high school coursework required by the issuing entity, two of which may be theological studies if taught in a nonpublic school by an approved theological studies instructor.

### **(Effective after July 31, 2013) High school diploma – Minimum units**

Except as provided in section 15.1-21-02.3, before a school district, a nonpublic high school, or the center for distance education issues a high school diploma to a student, the student must have successfully completed:

1. The twenty-two units of high school coursework set forth in section 15.1-21-25; and
2. Any additional units of high school coursework required by the issuing entity, two of which may be theological studies if taught in a nonpublic school by an approved theological studies instructor.

### **15.1-21-02.2. High school graduation – Minimum requirements.**

Except as provided in section 15.1-21-02.3, the following twenty-two units of high school coursework constitute the minimum requirement for high school graduation:

1. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature, composition, and speech;
2. Three units of mathematics;
3. Three units of science, including:
  - a. One unit of physical science;
  - b. One unit of biology; and
  - c. (1) One unit of any other science; or  
(2) Two one-half units of any other science
4. Three units of social studies, including:
  - a. One unit of United States history;
  - b. (1) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of economics; or  
(2) One unit of problems of democracy; and
  - c. One unit or two one-half units of any other social studies, which may include civics, civilization, geography and history, multicultural studies, North Dakota studies, psychology, sociology, and world history;
5. A. One unit of physical education;  
B. One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health
6. Three units of:
  - a. Foreign languages;
  - b. Native American languages;
  - c. Fine arts; or
  - d. Career and technical education courses; and
7. Any five additional units.