Pinal County
School Office

Supporting Schools, Shaping Tomorrow

Dear Parents (or Legal Guardian),

In response of your desire to instruct your child at home, I ask that you study the enclosed information. If you have any questions, which are not answered, don't hesitate to contact the county school office. It is our desire to help you comply with the law.

The law which establishes the criteria for parents or legal guardians, who wish to educate their children in their own home, may be found in Arizona Revised Statutes 15-802 and 15-828.

Arizona law requires that any parent or legal guardian of a child instructed at home submit an affidavit to the county school superintendent. The affidavit must be filed within 30 days after home instruction begins. A certified copy of the original birth certificate must be submitted along with the affidavit. However, if the original birth certificate is not available, the following will be accepted as reliable proof of pupil's identity and age: pupil's baptismal certificate, the application for a Social Security number, or original school registration records along with an affidavit explaining the inability to provide an original birth certificate.

The original affidavit must be notarized. It will be stamped with the date that it is received; a copy will be made and given back to you for your records.

No eighth-grade diplomas are available through the public school system for home study students. Accreditation requirements for all public high schools (grades 9-12) prohibit the public school district from giving units of credit toward public high school graduation for school work done under present Arizona home study laws unless the child passes specified tests at the local school district for courses for which credit is desired. The number of such credits accepted toward high school graduation will depend on the high school/district policy. The policies of any public school district can and should be reviewed by the parent/legal guardian PRIOR to removing child from school.

Attached is a list of the most common questions we have been asked by parents wishing to home school their children.

Jill M. Broussard

Jill M. Broussard, M Ed
Pinal County School Superintendent

Jill Broussard, Pinal County Superintendent of Schools | jbroussard@pinalcso.org
Tonya Taylor, Chief Deputy | ttaylor@pinalcso.org
Ector Rodriguez, Associate Superintendent (Mary C. O'Brien) | erodriguez@pinalk12.org
Joel Villegas, Associate Superintendent (Education Services) | jvillegas@pinalesa.org
Peter Lin, Associate Superintendent (Technology) | plin@pinalk12.org

75 N. Bailey St. | P.O. Box 769 | Florence, AZ 85132 | p. 520-866-6565

Affidavit of Intent to Home School

Child's Last name First Middle

Date of Birth

Grade

Names of Persons Who Have Custody of the Child

Name of Private School Child Attends (if applicable)

Addresses of the Persons Who Have Custody of Child

Address of Private School (if applicable)

Mailing Addresses (if different from above)

Public School District of Residence

Daytime Telephone Numbers

I understand that an Affidavit of Intent Shall be filed within 30 days from the time the child begins to attend a private school or home school and is not required thereafter unless the private school or the home school instruction is terminated and then resumed. I understand a certified copy of the child's birth certificate or other reliable proof of the child's identity and age according to A.R.S. § 15-828 shall also be filed in the County School Superintendent's Office. The person who has custody of the child shall notify the County School Superintendent within 30 days of the termination that the child is no longer being instructed at a private school or a home school. If the private school or home school instruction is resumed, the person who has custody of the child shall file another Affidavit of Intent to Home School with the County School Superintendent within 30 days (A.R.S. § 15-802, subsection c)

I understand the child must be instructed in at least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies and science.

I understand that testing for children who are instructed in a home school program while they are receiving home school instruction is not required. I understand that if the child is instructed at home and resides within the attendance area of a school, participation in interscholastic athletic competition may be possible.

I understand that a child who enrolls in a kindergarten program or grades one through twelve after receiving instruction in a home school program shall be tested pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-745 in order to determine the appropriate grade level for the educational placement of the child.

PRIVACY NOTICE

The undersigned expressly prohibits the release of any and all information contained in this form including directory information as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (a) (5) (A), without prior written consent by the undersigned. See 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (a) (5) (B) and ARS § 15-141.

State of _____County of_____

Subscribed and Sworn Before Me This

_____Day of_____, _____

_____ (Seal)

My Commission Expires_____

Signature of Person Having Custody of Child

Date

After signing and notarizing, return the original copy to the County School Superintendent's Office at:

Pinal County School Superintendents Office
75 N. Bailey Street
P.O. Box 769
Florence, AZ 85232

PLEASE ENCLOSE THE CHILD'S ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE - NOT A PHOTOCOPY

AFFIDAVIT OF INTENT TO ATTEND PRIVATE SCHOOL

Student's Last Name First Middle

Date of Birth Grade

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s)

School District of Residence

Home Address

Name of Private School

Mailing Address (if different from home address)

Address of Private School

Telephone Number

Telephone Number

I understand that an Affidavit of Intent shall be filed within 30 days from the time the child begins to attend a private school and is not required thereafter unless the private school instruction is terminated and then resumed. I understand a certified copy of the original birth certificate or other reliable proof of the child's identity and age according to A.R.S. § 15-828 shall also be filed with the County School Superintendent's Office. The person who has custody of the child shall notify the County School Superintendent within 30 days that the child is no longer being instructed at a private school. If the private school instruction is resumed, the person who has custody of the child shall file another Affidavit of Intent to Attend Private School with the County School Superintendent within 30 days (A.R.S. § 15-802, Subsection C)

PRIVACY NOTICE

The undersigned expressly prohibits the release of any and all information contained in this form including directory information as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (a) (5) (A), without prior written consent by the undersigned. See 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (a) (5) (B) and ARS § 15-141.

State of _____ County of _____

Subscribed and Sworn Before Me This

_____ Day of _____, 20 —

Signature of Notary Public

My Commission Expires _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

After signing and notarizing, return original copy to the County School Superintendent's Office at:

Pinal County School Superintendent's Office
75 N. Bailey Street
P.O. Box 769
Florence, AZ 85132

PLEASE ENCLOSE THE CHILD'S ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE - NOT A PHOTOCOPY

Pinal County
School Office
Supporting Schools, Shaping Tomorrow

PINAL COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT
HOME SCHOOL WITHDRAWAL FORM

STUDENT INFORMATION:

_____ _____/_____/_____

STUDENT INFORMATION (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE NAME) **DATE OF BIRTH**

_____

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

_____

TELEPHONE

(**Date**)As of _____ my child is no longer enrolled in the above listed Home School for the following reasons:

Is enrolled in a public school ☐ a private school ☐ a charter school ☐ ESA ☐

graduated ☐ moved to another county or state ☐ Other: _____

ARIZONA STATE HOME SCHOOL LAWS FOR WITHDRAWING YOUR STUDENT AS PRESCRIBED BY THE ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES:
15-802 C: An affidavit of intent shall be filed within thirty days from the time the child begins to attend a private school or home school and is not required thereafter unless the private school or the home school instruction is terminated and then resumed. The person who has custody of the child shall notify the county school superintendent within thirty days of the termination that the child is no longer being instructed at a private school or a home school. If the private school or home school instruction is resumed, the person who has custody of the child shall file another affidavit of intent with the county school superintendent within thirty days.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

AUTHORIZATION:

_____
PARENT/GUARDIAN (PRINT NAME)

_____
PARENT/GUARDIAN (SIGNATURE)

Please email the form to Nicole O'Brien nobrien@pinalcso.org - mail it to P.O. Box 769|Florence, AZ|85132 - deliver to 75 N. Bailey St.|Florence, AZ|85132

For questions please call 520-866-6565

Pinal County
School Office
Supporting Schools, Shaping Tomorrow

HOMESCHOOL CHANGE OF INFORMATION FORM

_____ _____/_____/_____

STUDENT INFORMATION (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE NAME) **DATE OF BIRTH**

_____

OLD ADDRESS **CITY** **STATE** **ZIP**

_____ _____

TELEPHONE **EMAIL**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

_____

NEW ADDRESS **CITY** **STATE** **ZIP**

_____ _____

TELEPHONE **EMAIL**

PLEASE SIGN FORM: **DATE:** _____/_____/_____

_____ _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN (PRINT) **PARENT/GUARDIAN (SIGNATURE)**

Please email the form to Nicole O'Brien nobrien@pinalcso.org - mail it to P.O. Box 769|Florence, AZ|85132 - deliver to 75 N. Bailey St.|Florence, AZ|85132

For questions please call 520-866-6565

Revised 01/04/2024

HOME SCHOOL AZ STATUT ES

15-802. School instruction; exceptions; violations; classification; definitions

A. Every child between the ages of six and sixteen years shall attend a school and shall be provided instruction in at least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies and science. The person who has custody of the child shall choose a public, private or charter school or a homeschool as defined in this section to provide instruction or shall sign a contract to participate in an Arizona empowerment scholarship account pursuant to section 15-2402.

B. The parent or person who has custody shall do the following:

1. If the child will attend a public, private or charter school, enroll the child in and ensure that the child attends a public, private or charter school for the full time school is in session. In accordance with guidelines adopted by the department of education, school districts and charter schools shall require and maintain verifiable documentation of residency in this state for pupils who enroll in the school district or charter school. If a child attends a school that is operated on a year-round basis, the child shall regularly attend during school sessions that total not less than one hundred eighty school days or two hundred school days, as applicable, or the equivalent as approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

2. If the child will attend a private school or homeschool, file an affidavit of intent with the county school superintendent stating that the child is attending a regularly organized private school or is being provided with instruction in a homeschool. The affidavit of intent shall include:

(a) The child's name.

(b) The child's date of birth.

(c) The current address of the school the child is attending.

(d) The names, telephone numbers and addresses of the persons who currently have custody of the child.

3. If the child will attend homeschool, the child has not reached eight years of age by September 1 of the school year and the person who has custody of the child does not desire to begin home instruction until the child has reached eight years of age, file an affidavit of intent pursuant to paragraph 2 of this subsection stating that the person who has custody of the child does not desire to begin homeschool instruction.

C. An affidavit of intent shall be filed within thirty days from the time the child begins to attend a private school or homeschool and is not required thereafter unless the private school or the homeschool instruction is terminated and then resumed. The person who has custody of the child shall notify the county school superintendent within thirty days of the termination that the child is no longer being instructed at a private school or a homeschool. If the private school or homeschool instruction is resumed, the person who has custody of the child shall file another affidavit of intent with the county school superintendent within thirty days.

D. A person is excused from the duties prescribed by subsection A or B of this section if any of the following is shown to the satisfaction of the school principal or the school principal's designee:

1. The child is in such physical or mental condition that instruction is inexpedient or impracticable.

2. The child has completed the high school course of study necessary for completion of grade ten as prescribed by the state board of education.

3. The child has presented reasons for nonattendance at a public school that are satisfactory to the school principal or the school principal's designee. For the purposes of this paragraph, the principal's designee may be the school district governing board.

4. The child is over fourteen years of age and is employed, with the consent of the person who has custody of the child, at some lawful wage earning occupation.

5. The child is enrolled in a work training, career education, career and technical education, vocational education or manual training program that meets the educational standards established and approved by the department of education.

6. The child was either:

(a) Suspended and not directed to participate in an alternative education program.

(b) Expelled from a public school as provided in article 3 of this chapter.

7. The child is enrolled in an education program provided by a state educational or other institution.

E. Unless otherwise exempted in this section or section 15-803, a parent of a child between six and sixteen years of age or a person who has custody of a child, who does not provide instruction in a homeschool and who fails to enroll or fails to ensure that the child attends a public, private or charter school pursuant to this section or fails to sign a contract to participate in an empowerment scholarship account pursuant to section 15-2402 is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor. A parent who fails to comply with the duty to file an affidavit of intent to provide instruction in a homeschool is guilty of a petty offense.

F. If a child will be educated pursuant to an empowerment scholarship account pursuant to section 15-2402, the department of education shall provide a list of students participating in empowerment scholarship accounts to the school superintendent of the county where the pupil resides.

G. For the purposes of this section:

1. "Educated pursuant to an empowerment scholarship account" means a child whose parent has signed a contract pursuant to section 15-2402 to educate the child outside of any school district or charter school and in which the parent may but is not required to enroll the child in a private school or to educate the child through any of the methods specified in section 15-2402.

2. "Homeschool" means a nonpublic school conducted primarily by the parent, guardian or other person who has custody of the child or nonpublic instruction provided in the child's home.

3. "Private school" means a nonpublic institution, other than the child's home, where academic instruction is provided for at least the same number of days and hours each year as a public school.

15-802.01. Homeschooled children; eligibility to participate in interscholastic activities

A. Notwithstanding any other law, a child who resides within the attendance area of a public school and who is homeschooled shall be allowed to try out for interscholastic activities on behalf of the public school in the same manner as a pupil who is enrolled in that public school. Registration, age eligibility requirements, fees, insurance, transportation, physical condition, qualifications, responsibilities, event schedules, standards of behavior and performance policies for homeschooled students shall be consistent with those policies established for students enrolled in that public school. The individual providing the primary instruction of a child who is homeschooled shall submit written verification that provides:

1. Whether the student is receiving a passing grade in each course or subject being taught.

2. Whether the student is maintaining satisfactory progress towards advancement or promotion.

B. A child who is homeschooled and who was previously enrolled in a public, private or charter school shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic activities for the remainder of the school year during which the child was enrolled in a school.

C. A school district shall not contract with any private entity that supervises interscholastic activities if the private entity prohibits the participation of homeschooled children in interscholastic activities at public, private or charter schools.

15-828. Birth certificate; school records; exception

A. On enrollment of a pupil for the first time in a particular school district or private school offering instruction to pupils in any kindergarten programs or grades one through twelve, that school or school district shall notify the person enrolling the pupil in writing that within thirty days the person must provide one of the following:

1. A certified copy of the pupil's birth certificate.

2. Other reliable proof of the pupil's identity and age, including the pupil's baptismal certificate, an application for a social security number or original school registration records and an affidavit explaining the inability to provide a copy of the birth certificate.

3. A letter from the authorized representative of an agency having custody of the pupil pursuant to title 8, chapter 2 certifying that the pupil has been placed in the custody of the agency as prescribed by law.

B. If a child is instructed at home pursuant to section 15-802, the person who has custody of the child shall, within thirty days after the home instruction begins, provide to the county school superintendent of the county in which the child resides one of the following:

1. A certified copy of the child's birth certificate.

2. Other reliable proof of the child's identity and age, including the child's baptismal certificate, an application for a social security number or original school registration records and an affidavit explaining the inability to provide a copy of the birth certificate.

3. A letter from the authorized representative of an agency having custody of the pupil pursuant to title 8, chapter 2 certifying that the pupil has been placed in the custody of the agency as prescribed by law.

C. On presentation of a document pursuant to this section, a photocopy of the document shall be placed in the pupil's file and the document that is presented shall be returned.

D. A pupil shall be enrolled in the school or school district, or the county school superintendent shall record the pupil's name, using the name that is printed on the birth certificate, other reliable proof of the pupil's identity, or letter from an agency having custody of the pupil provided pursuant to this section. This subsection does not prohibit a school or school district from calling a pupil by any name the pupil's parent or guardian wishes the pupil to be called.

E. On the failure of a person enrolling a pupil or instructing a child at home to comply with subsection A or B of this section, the school, school district or county school superintendent shall notify that person in writing that, unless the person complies within ten days, the case shall be referred to the local law enforcement agency for investigation. If compliance is not obtained within the ten day period, the school, school district or county school superintendent shall refer the case to the local law enforcement agency.

F. The school, school district or county school superintendent shall immediately report to the local law enforcement agency any affidavit received pursuant to this section which appears inaccurate or suspicious in form or content.

G. Within five school days after enrolling a transfer pupil from a private school or another school district, a school shall request directly from the pupil's previous school a certified copy of the pupil's record. The requesting school shall exercise due diligence in obtaining the copy of the record requested. Notwithstanding any financial debt owed by the pupil, any school requested to forward a copy of a transferring pupil's record to the new school shall comply and forward the record within ten school days after receipt of the request unless the record has been flagged pursuant to section 15-829. If the record has been flagged, the requested school shall not forward the copy and shall notify the local law enforcement agency of the request. School districts shall include in the educational records required by

this subsection data collected pursuant to sections 15-741 and 15-766, as prescribed by the state board of education.

H. Any disclosure of educational records by the school district or charter school shall comply with the family educational rights and privacy act of 1974 (20 United States Code section 1232g).

I. The provisions of this section do not apply to homeless pupils as defined in section 15-824, subsection C.

Pinal County
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Supporting Schools, Shaping Tomorrow

THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED AS A GUIDELINE FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Article 3. Curriculum requirements and special programs

R7-2-301. Minimum course of study and competency goals for students in the common schools

A. Students shall demonstrate competency as defined by the state board-adopted essential skills, at the grade levels specified, in the following required subject areas. District instructional programs shall include an ongoing assessment of student progress toward meeting the competency requirements.

1. Language Arts
2. Literature
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. Social Studies
6. Music
7. Visual Arts
8. Heath/Physical Education
9. Foreign or Native American Language (includes modern and classical)

B. Additional subjects may be offered by the local governing board as options and may include, but not limited to:

1. Performing Arts
2. Practical Arts

C. Prior to the issuance of a standard certificate of promotion from the eighth grade, each student shall demonstrate competency, a defined by the local governing board, of the state board-adopted essential skills for grade eight in the areas listed in subsection (a).

Jill Broussard, Pinal County Superintendent of Schools | jbroussard@pinalcso.org
Tonya Taylor, Chief Deputy | ttaylor@pinalcso.org
Martin Bassett, Associate Superintendent (Mary C. O'Brien) | mbassett@pinalk12.org
Joel Villegas, Associate Superintendent (Education Services) | jvillegas@pinalesa.org
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MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING HOME SCHOOLING

Q: When will you or will you be testing?
A: Currently the state legislation has eliminated the testing requirement for home taught children.

Q: Do we provide the curriculum?
A: No

Q: Where do I get the curriculum to teach my child(ren)?
A: Check with local school districts or public library. You might also try new or used book stores. You can refer to the references listed in this packet as well.

Q: At what age am I required to file an affidavit for my children?
A: State law mandates that children between the ages of 6 and 16 be enrolled in some sort of educational environment. Parents are not necessarily required to file an affidavit for 6 and 7-year olds, but they do have to submit a letter indicating that they don't wish to send their children to school. However, at the age of 8, if a child is not enrolled in a public school, or an approved private or charter school, a home-schooling affidavit must be filed with the county school office.

Q: At what age am I no longer required to provide an education?
A: State law mandated that children between the ages of 6 and 16 be enrolled in some sort of educational environment. After the age of 16 an affidavit is no longer required. NOTE: A diploma is not available under the home-schooling Statutes. If a parent wants their child to receive a high school diploma, then communication should be developed between the parent and the local school district early in the child's educational career.

Q: What about a GED?
A: A student beyond the age of 16 may study for, and take the GED. Contact your local community college for testing dates. A study guide can usually be obtained from a college book store. You can begin your college classes with a GED and/or high school.

Q: Is "Home-Schooling" the same as "Home Bound"?
A: No. Home bound is a certain situation when a child has as illness or an accident and cannot get to school for a length of time. The school of enrollment is then required to provide the work and books and come to the home once or twice a week and teach, test, etc.

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Q: What happens when I want to put my children back in school?
A: If you desire to put your child back into public school after having home taught, contact the school district of residence to notify them your child will be enrolling. There will be an evaluation of your child, which is subject to school policy and precedence. The school district may give your child a placement test to determine your child's appropriate grade level. If you desire to return your child to public school at grade 9 or above, a diploma may be difficult to obtain. Contact your local school district for more information.

Q: Can my child participate in sports at school?
A: Current Arizona revised statutes 15.802.01 reads: ".•. A child who resides within the at tendance area of a school and who is instructed at home shall be allowed to participate in interscholastic athletic competition on behalf of the public school in the same manner as a pupil who is enrolled in that public school…". Contact your local school district for more information and site AZ statute 15.802.01.

Q: What about non-athletic extracurricular activities?
A: Presently, the AZ statute does not require a school to permit home-school students to actively participate in non-athletic extracurricular activities.

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DISTANCE LEARNING CHARTER SCHOOLS/ONLINE SCHOOLS

AZ VIRTUAL ACADEMY/INSIGHT ACADEMY OF ARIZONA
99 E. VIRGINIA AVE. SUITE 200
PHOENIX, AZ 85004
WEBSITE: WWW.AZVA.K12.COM
1-866-339-4946
EMAIL: AZVAINFO@AZVA.ORG
GRADES K-12

AZ CONNECTIONS ACADEMY
335 E. GERMANN RD. SUITE 140
GILBERT, AZ 85297
WEBSITE: WWW.CONNECTIONSACADEMY.COM
520-782-5842
GRADES K-12

LEMAN ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE – LEMAN VIRTUAL ACADEMY
6188 E. PIMA ST.
TUCSON, AZ 85712
WEBSITE: https://lemanacademy.com/schools/arizona/leman-virtual-academy-k-8/
520-462-0832
GRADES K-12

SEQUOIA CHOICE SCHOOL
2331 N. HORNE
MESA, AZ 85203
WEBSITE: WWW.SEQUOIACHOICE.ORG
480-461-3222
GRADES K-12

PINNACLE ONLINE SCHOOL
2224 W. SOUTHERN AVE. SUITE 1
TEMPE, AZ 85282
WEBSITE: WWW.PINNACLEEDUCATION.COM
480-755-8222
GRADES 9-12

PRIMAVERA ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL
2471 N. ARIZONA AVE. BUILDING 1
CHANDLER, AZ 85225
WEBSITE: WWW.PRIMAVERAON;INE-HIGH+SCHOOL.COM
480-456-6678
1-800-877-4628
GRADES 9-12

HOPE HIGH SCHOOL ONLINE
7620 W. LOWER BUCKEYE SUITE 104
PHOENIX, AZ 85043
WEBSITE: WWW.HOPEHIGHSCHOOL.ORG
623-772-8013
GRADES 9-12

MESA DISTANCE LEARNING THROUGH MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1313 W. MEDINA AVE.
MESA, AZ 85202
WEBSITE: WWW.MDLP.ORG
480-308-6015
480-308-6016
480-308-6003
GRADES 4-12

HUMANITIES & SCIENCES HIGH SCHOOL ONLINE CAMPUS
INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE HIGH SCHOOL
1855 S. COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE SUITE 107
MESA, AZ 85210
WEBSITE: WWW.HUMSCI.ORG
480-317-5900
1-800-762-0010
EMAIL: QUESTIONS@HUMSCI.ORG
GRGADES 9-12

FLORENCE VIRTUAL ACADEMY
225 S. ORLANDO ST.
FLORENCE, AZ 85132
WEBSITE: WWW.FVA.FUSDAZ.ORG

ONLINE SCHOOL OF ARIZONA
WEBSITE: WWW.ONLINESCHOOLOFARIZONA.COM
5800 W. PEORIA AVE. #109
GLENDALE, AZ 85302
623-688-3276
EMAIL: INFO@OSAZ.ORG
GRADES 9-12

ASU PREP DIGITAL
1130 E. UNIVERSITY DR. SUITE 230
TEMPE, AZ 85281
WEBSITE: WWW.ASUPRPEDIGITAL.ORG
844-692-3372
GRADES K-12

Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA)

Website: https://hslda.org/

Phone: 540-338-5600

Fax: 540-338-2733

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 300
Purceville, VA 20134

ARTICLE

Compulsory School Age in Arizona

When you start homeschooling (and when you get to stop)

Children must attend school or comply with the homeschool laws starting in the school year in which they turn 6 before September 1. They must remain in school until they turn 16 or complete the 10th grade. However, any child who has not reached 8 years of age by September 1 of the school year can be exempted from the compulsory attendance law if his or her parent files an affidavit with the county superintendent of schools stating that the child will not begin home instruction before turning 8.

HSLDA believes that a parent-issued diploma and transcript should be sufficient to demonstrate that a child has completed a secondary education. However, even if your child is beyond compulsory school attendance age, there may be situations where you would want to continue to follow the requirements of a home education option recognized under Arizona law until your child graduates from high school (filing a home education notice, keeping attendance and other records, etc.).

These records may be requested in some situations, such as obtaining a driver's license if your child is a minor, enlisting in the military, applying to colleges, or demonstrating eligibility for Social Security benefits. If you are a member of HSLDA and would like additional details, please contact us.

Please note: The information on this page has been reviewed by an attorney, but it should not be taken as legal advice specific to your individual situation.

Arizona Families for HOME EDUCATION

Mailing Address:

AFHE
P.O. Box 2035
Chandler, AZ 85244-2035

Voicemail:

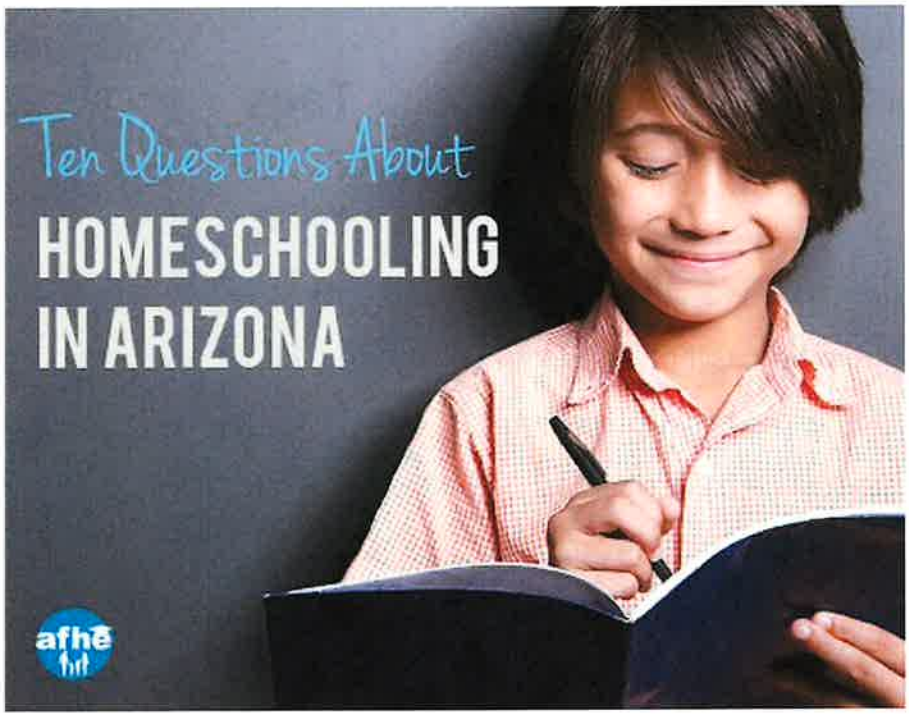
(602) 235-2673
1-800-929-3927 (Statewide)

Website:

www.afhe.org

TEN QUESTIONS ABOUT HOMESCHOOLING IN ARIZONA

February 4th, 2022
by Joshua Sugata



#1 – What is homeschooling?

Arizona state law defines a homeschool

Arizona Revised Statutes §15-802 G 2

"Homeschool means a nonpublic school conducted primarily

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Homeschoolin...
June 30th, 2022

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March 16th, 2022

10 Things You ...
March 12th, 2022

Homeschool T...
March 12th, 2022

Archive

2022
- January
- February
- March
- April

by the parent, guardian, or other person who has custody of the child or nonpublic instruction provided in the child's home."

Homeschoolers are parents or guardians who assume full responsibility for educating their children at home and must provide instruction in at least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, science, and social studies pursuant to ARS §15-802.

Student Classifications

There are six general classifications of student in Arizona: Public School, Charter School, Virtual Charter School, Private School, Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA contract student), and Homeschool.

Especially for at-home education options, there can often be confusion about whether a student is a homeschooler. While the schoolwork may take place at home, neither virtual charter school students nor ESA contract students are classified as homeschoolers according to Arizona Revised Statutes. Homeschooling is a legally defined option that is distinct from all other education options in Arizona.

Arizona_Education_Options_May2019.pdf

Arizona Revised Statutes §15-802 (a) states: "Every child between the ages of six and sixteen years shall attend a school and shall be provided instruction in at least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies and science.

The person who has custody of the child shall choose a public, private or charter school or a homeschool as defined in this section to provide instruction or shall sign a contract to participate in an Arizona empowerment scholarship account pursuant to section 15-2402."

In the infographic to the left, we give a brief overview of each of the Arizona Education Options and the student classifications available in our state.

Learn more at AFHE.ORG/AZ-LAW

#2 – What are the advantages of homeschooling?

Homeschooling has many benefits including the following:

- Parents are able to tailor a course of study to their child's individual abilities, learning style, needs, interests, and future goals.
- The flexibility to customize the pace at which the child moves through material is beneficial for concept mastery.
- The one-on-one tutorial style of learning is highly effective.
- Parents are able to choose the worldview through which their children are educated.
- Learning together provides an even greater opportunity for building strong family relationships.
- Parents have the opportunity to address character issues consistently.
- Students often have more time to pursue areas of interest.
- Class sizes are MUCH smaller.

- High school students can get a jumpstart on college education or career preparation.

Homeschooling is more than an education option. It is a lifestyle of learning and discovery!

#3 – What's required to homeschool in Arizona?

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGE

Ages 6 to 16. Parents may elect to delay formal education until their child is 8 years old by noting so on the affidavit (must still file the affidavit at age 6).

ATTENDANCE

No minimum days required. Attendance tracking not required.

SUBJECTS REQUIRED

At least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, science, and social studies. Parents select and purchase the curriculum and resources of your choice. Homeschooling allows you to move through material at a pace that works best for your child, and to customize the topics taught within each subject area.

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

None

NOTIFICATION

Submit a notarized Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool with proof of birth to the County School Superintendent's office within 30 days of starting to homeschool (or within 30 days of

your child's 6th birthday if you started homeschooling earlier). The affidavit is filed once, not annually.

RECORD KEEPING / REPORTING

None required. Parents are responsible for creating their child's high school transcript and should keep records for 9th-12th grades to calculate GPA and complete the transcript.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

None required. There are a number of private testing services that homeschool families can utilize, if desired. Read more in our testing FAQ.

Five Steps to Filing the Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool

1. Download and fill out the affidavit
2. Get it notarized
3. Submit proof of birth with the affidavit
4. Mail or hand deliver the affidavit and proof of birth to the County School Superintendent
5. Get started!

Enjoy the learning adventure with your kids.

DOWNLOAD THE AFFIDAVIT HERE

#4 – How do we get started?

Homeschooling is as unique as each family that embarks upon this journey. Your homeschool is going to look different than other families'. It may take some trial and error to get into a

routine that works well for you and your children.

Here are some things that you can do to help you have success as you get started.

- Read books about homeschooling.
- Familiarize yourself with Arizona homeschool law.
- Find a homeschool support group in your area.
- Talk to experienced homeschooling parents.
- File an Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool.
- Select and purchase your curriculum and resources.
- Set goals for the year.
- Get organized. Organize your home, your supplies, and your schedule.
- Be willing to adapt as needed. Expect there to be a learning curve for you and your kids.
- Attend the AFHE Homeschool Convention in July.

If you're transitioning from public school to homeschool, you'll find some very practical encouragement about what to expect in this helpful article by Laura Gadbery.

Ten Things You Might Experience Transitioning from School to Homeschool

#5 – What does it cost?

The cost of homeschooling is as varied as the individual families who teach their children at home. It depends on a number of factors including:

- The curriculum and resources you choose
- How many and what types of extracurricular activities your child participates in
- Field trips and enrichment activities you choose to do
- If you decide to have your child take a standardized test

Homeschooling does not have to be expensive, and it is a

Homeschooling does not have to be expensive, and it is a worthwhile investment in your child.

We are often asked if there are tax credits or funding for homeschooling. We have answered that question in this article: Do Homeschoolers Get a Tax Credit?

#6 – Where do I find curriculum?

There is an abundance of curriculum and resources available to homeschooling today. Attending AFHE's annual Homeschool Convention is a great way to view and shop for a wide variety of curriculum and resources in person all in one place.

You can research on the internet, talk to other homeschooling parents and support group leaders, and read reviews and books on this topic. A couple of recommendations:

Cathy Duffy Reviews, cathyduffyreviews.com

The Big WHAT NOW Book of Learning Styles by Carol Barnier (available through Amazon)

In addition, Arizona is blessed to have a local resource center in Phoenix that has a bookstore with new and used curriculum. Their knowledgeable staff can answer questions and provide direction on choosing curriculum.

Covenant Home School Resource Center, chsrc.org

IDENTIFY YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING STYLE

Identifying your child's learning style can help you choose curriculum that works best for him or her. There are a number of books on the market that can give you insight in this area. Two examples are:

Demystifying Learning Styles: What Every Parent Needs to Know by Tyler Hogan, Bright Ideas Press

Know by Tyler Hogan, Bright Ideas Press

The Way They Learn by Cynthia Ulrich Tobias (available on Amazon)

#7 – What about graduation?

The homeschooling parent is responsible for creating and maintaining their child's high school transcript and issuing a diploma. Students who are homeschooled through high school are able to successfully go on to college, the workplace, and the military.

AFHE Graduation Ceremony

Each spring (usually the end of May), AFHE hosts a beautiful cap-and-gown graduation ceremony for Arizona homeschool students graduating from high school at home.
It is a special celebration of an important milestone and includes a commencement speaker, musical performances, senior class address, diploma presentation, photos of each graduate, and more. The registration window is mid-November through the end of February.

LEARN MORE

#8 – What about sports?

Arizona Revised Statutes §15-802.01 states that a homeschooled child who resides within the attendance area of a public school shall be allowed to try out for interscholastic activities (such as sports) on behalf of the public school in the

same manner as a pupil who is enrolled in that school. Parents who choose this avenue should familiarize themselves with the policies of the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA).

There are a variety of opportunities available to homeschooled students within the homeschool community and in the private sector as well, including competitive athletics programs run by homeschoolers for homeschoolers, club ball organizations, programs offered through city parks and recreation departments, and more. One example of a competitive sports opportunity for Arizona homeschoolers is EVAC Sports.

#9 – What if my child is struggling or gifted?

Homeschooling can work really well for children who are gifted learners or who have special learning needs or unique learning challenges of all types. Parents can offer their children individualized education, flexibility, encouragement, and support. AFHE is building a SPECIAL LEARNERS RESOURCES page on our website and we also hold special learners events for parents periodically.

Additional resources:

- spedhomeschool.com
- hslda.org/strugglinglearner

#10 – What about socialization?

Socialization is defined as "to make fit for companionship with others; make sociable." Many homeschooling families have discovered that healthy socialization takes place when children

are exposed to people of all ages in various settings, rather than being limited to a group of peers all about the same age. Children can learn to socialize in everyday activities such as a trip to the grocery store or library, visits with grandparents, play dates with friends, support group activities, park days, and so on. More importantly, children often receive their most valuable socialization in the nurturing environment of home and family.

Arizona has a vibrant, active homeschool community with many opportunities for socialization. One of the biggest challenges families encounter is dealing with the abundance of activities available. Parents should look for activities that enhance the homeschool experience without leading to the frenzied distraction of too many outside endeavors. Learning to say "no" to the good and the better helps a family leave room for the best.

We're here to help!

If you have questions about homeschooling in Arizona, don't hesitate to contact us. We are homeschooling parents ourselves and we are here to help.

homeschool@afhe.org | 602-235-2673

Posted in Blog, Community, Getting Started

parent, guardian or other person who has custody of the child or nonpublic instruction provided in the child's home.

Homeschoolers are parents or legal guardians who choose to educate their own children at home in at least the required subjects of reading, grammar, math, science, and social studies pursuant to A.R.S. §15-802. Read more on the AZ LAW page.

How Do I Get Started?

HOW DO I REGISTER MY CHILD?

Complete an Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool. Have it notarized. Make a photocopy for your records. Mail the original signed and notarized Affidavit to your County School Superintendent's office along with proof of birth. The County will mail the original birth certificate (or other proof of birth) back to you once they have made a photocopy. Or you may hand deliver the affidavit and birth certificate to the County School Superintendent's office, where they will receive and file your affidavit and make a photocopy of the birth certificate, returning the original to you.

WHERE DO I GET AN AFFIDAVIT OF INTENT TO HOMESCHOOL?

You can print an Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool in pdf format from the **AZ LAW** page.

WHEN DO I NEED TO FILE THE AFFIDAVIT OF INTENT TO HOMESCHOOL?

The Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool must be filed within 30 days of starting homeschooling for children ages 6-16. You may delay the start of formal education of your child until age 8 by noting so on the affidavit. If you decide to delay formal education until age 8, you would still file the affidavit with the County when your child turns 6.

WHAT IF I AM REMOVING MY CHILD FROM A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOL?

There is no formal process or specific form that must be completed, but we recommend

removing your child to educate them at home.

DO I NEED TO JOIN A HOMESCHOOL ORGANIZATION?

You are not required to join any organization in order to homeschool. However, there are several that may be beneficial to you.

1. **AFHE** (Arizona Families for Home Education) – By joining the state homeschool organization, you will be kept abreast of legislative issues that may affect homeschoolers in Arizona as well as other helpful information in the quarterly magazine Homeschool Arizona and periodic email updates sent to AFHE members who subscribe to our email list. Your AFHE membership supports an organization that serves Arizona homeschoolers all year long and is actively watching legislation that may affect homeschool freedom in our great state.
2. **HSLDA** (Home School Legal Defense Association) – Members of HSLDA receive professional legal representation to protect the right to homeschool. HSLDA also acts as a voice for homeschooling families nationwide and monitors all state legislation that could reduce our homeschooling freedoms. AFHE members receive a discount on their HSLDA membership.
3. Local Support Group membership is a great way to connect with other homeschooling families in your area, to share ideas, to encourage, edify and equip one another in the incredible homeschooling journey. AFHE maintains a list of homeschool support groups statewide as a reference. Please visit the **SUPPORT GROUPS** page to see what groups are available in your area.

HOW DO I FIND CURRICULUM?

There is an abundance of curricular resources available. You can search the Internet, talk to other homeschoolers, and attend the annual home education convention hosted by AFHE. At the convention you can browse the exhibit hall and attend vendor workshops to learn more about their products.

your child to identify the way they learn best (auditory, visual, hands-on, etc.). There are many books on the market that can help you do this. ***The Way They Learn*** by Cynthia Ulrich Tobias is a good example. Identifying your child's learning style can help you choose the best curricula for your child.

TALK TO OTHER HOMESCHOOLERS – Talk to parents who have been homeschooling awhile. Talk to parents who have children similar to yours. Ask them what works well for them and why. Ask them what they have tried that they didn't like and why.

BE WILLING TO TRY DIFFERENT THINGS – It is important to understand that there may be some "trial and error" involved in choosing curriculum that will work well for your individual children and your family. This flexibility and ability to customize your student's program are great advantages of homeschooling!

READ HOMESCHOOL GUIDES – Read books that describe various curricula and resources such as Mary Pride's ***Complete Guide to Homeschooling*** series, Cathy Duffy's ***102 Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum: Choosing the Right Curriculum for Your Child,*** and Carol Barnier's ***The Big WHAT NOW Book of Learning***.

WHAT SUBJECTS DO I HAVE TO TEACH?

In Arizona, we are required by law to provide instruction in at least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, science, and social studies. What you specifically teach for each subject, when you teach it, and at what pace you move through the material is up to you as your child's teacher.

WHAT ABOUT STANDARDIZED TESTING?

In Arizona, there is no standardized testing requirement for homeschooled students (including the AzMERIT test). It is up to the individual parent/family whether or not to do standardized testing. One benefit to doing periodic standardized testing is that it gives

measure of your child's performance as compared with other students their age throughout the nation .Other means of evaluation include curriculum-specific tests and daily observation. One-on-one interaction between parent and child shows a parent how well their child is learning a specific body of knowledge and skills. If you wish to have your child take a standardized test, check with your local homeschool support group to see if they offer testing. If they do not, there are several vendors offering testing materials that you can purchase. Additional information on testing can be found on the Homeschooling FAQ page under **TESTING**.

HOW LONG SHOULD WE SPEND DOING SCHOOL EACH DAY?

It takes less time than you may think, especially in the elementary years. In the one-on-one tutorial setting of a homeschool, seatwork can be completed in a relatively short amount of time. This leaves plenty of room in the day for creative play, experiments, projects, exploration, reading, music, time with friends, and much more. Remember, homeschooling is more than an educational option, it is a way of life. Learning doesn't take place only when your child is doing a workbook. True learning can take place all day, everyday, and in every activity.

WHAT ABOUT SOCIALIZATION?

This is often the first question homeschoolers are asked. If you look in the dictionary, one definition of socialize is "to make fit for companionship with others; make sociable." Many homeschoolers have discovered healthy socialization takes place when children are exposed to people of all ages in various settings, not limited to the confines of a classroom and a group of students all about the same age. Children can learn to socialize in everyday activities such as a trip to the grocery store or library, play dates with friends, visits with grandparents, support group activities, park days, etc. Most importantly, children often receive their most valuable socialization in the nurturing environment of home and family.

Arizona has a very vibrant, active homeschool community. A challenge many

us. One job we have as homeschooling parents is to look for activities that enhance our homeschool journey without leading to the frenzied distraction of too many outside activities. Learning to say "no" to the "good" and the "better" things, we leave room in our schedules for the "best."

Testing

This section answers questions about standardized testing, college entrance examinations, and the GED.

Standardized Testing FAQs

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF STANDARDIZED TESTING?

Periodic testing gives your students practice taking norm-referenced "fill-in-the-bubble" tests. It can provide a reliable measure of your child's performance as compared with other students their age throughout the nation.

IS MY HOMESCHOOL CHILD REQUIRED TO TAKE STANDARDIZED TESTS?

No. In Arizona, there is no standardized testing requirement for homeschooled students including the AzMERIT test (formerly the AIMS test). It is up to the individual parent/family whether or not to do standardized testing through a private source. If you wish to have your child take a standardized test, check with your local homeschool support group to see if they offer testing. If they do not, there are several vendors offering testing materials that you can purchase.

ARE THERE OTHER WAYS TO EVALUATE MY CHILD'S PROGRESS?

Daily observation as well as tests found in your child's curriculum are two excellent means of monitoring and evaluating your student's progress. Through the one-on-one interaction between parent and child, a parent observes how well their child is learning a specific body of knowledge and skills.

IF I DECIDE TO HAVE MY CHILD TAKE A STANDARDIZED TEST, WHERE DO I GO?

Standardized tests are available for purchase by homeschooling families through independent suppliers.

A number of local homeschool support groups across Arizona do offer testing in the spring for their member families. If you wish to have your child take a standardized test, check with your local homeschool support group to see if they offer testing. Covenant Home School Resource Center in Phoenix also offers testing in the spring.

There are several resources offering testing materials. A few of them include:

Bayside School Services

Bob Jones University Press

Catforms Testing Service

Family Learning Organization

Hewitt Homeschool Resources – PASS Test

Piedmont Education Services

Seton Testing Service

Triangle Education Assessments

CAN MY CHILD TAKE A STANDARDIZED TEST THROUGH THE LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT?

AFHE does not recommend that homeschooled students take the AzMERIT test (formerly the AIMS test). There is no benefit for a homeschooled student to take this exam

UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY OF HOMESCHOOL STUDENTS AND STANDARDIZED TESTING IN ARIZONA

January 25, 2007: AFHE Response to Maricopa County Superintendent's Offer of AIMS Testing

On January 22, 2007 The Arizona Republic reported that a letter had been sent to all parents of students for whom their office has registered an Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool in Maricopa County. This letter invited parents to bring their children voluntarily to their Central Avenue office for AIMS testing in late February extending through April 2007.

AFHE discourages parents from accepting this offer for the following reasons:

1) A.R.S. 15-745(a) states: "Nothing in this article shall be construed to require the testing of children who are instructed in a homeschool program while they are receiving homeschool instruction." You are not required by law to take the AIMS test. Many home educators do privately test their children to help them plan their curriculum goals. Our website has links to private testing resources. We encourage parents to use these tests for their evaluation purposes.

2) Maricopa County School Superintendent's office has no accommodation so that parents may pay for the cost of this testing directly. Therefore, using this service is at a cost to the taxpayers. Entangling private home education with taxpayer money will inevitably lead to loss of freedom to home school. No assurance that the testing results will be the sole property of the parents is made with this offer. Whether another governmental agency may obtain access to the information is not clear. Any service has attendant costs and this test is no different such as costs of creation, printing, administration, proctoring and grading.

3) In the 1990's, AFHE successfully shepherded legislation that resulted in A.R.S. 15-745. We won the right to be free from mandatory testing as home educators and placed the decision regarding testing in the control of parents. We believe that if parents voluntarily submit to this offer of "free" testing it will reopen the debate over mandatory testing once again. We ask that those secured rights be valued and protected by all who enjoy the freedom to homeschool in our state.

4) The assertion that colleges are requiring the AIMS test is inaccurate. AFHE works with all three state universities and they accept homeschooled students based upon an SAT or ACT score and a carefully prepared transcript that details the high school course of study. As far as out-of-state colleges, the AIMS test is an Arizona instrument only.

AFHE has always had an excellent relationship with our Maricopa County School Superintendent, Dr. Sandra Dowling and her dedicated staff. We understand their belief that they must offer this service. However, we must agree to disagree on the wisdom of homeschooling parents availing themselves of this offer, citing our concerns listed above.

—AFHE Board of Directors

SAT FAQs

WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD TAKE THE SAT?

Most often the SAT is taken during the spring of the Junior year. However, it can be taken earlier as practice if desired.

WHERE DOES MY HOMESCHOOLED CHILD TAKE THE SAT?

dates and locations can be found at collegeboard.com.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY STUDENT TO TAKE THE SAT?

Go to collegeboard.com for registration information.

WHAT IS THE HOMESCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL CODE FOR THE SAT?

970000

WHICH TEST SHOULD MY STUDENT TAKE - the SAT or ACT?

Check with the colleges your student is interested in attending to find out which test that institution prefers. The ACT covers Science, Math, Reading, and Language with an optional essay portion. The SAT has three parts: Reading, Math, and Writing & Language.

GED FAQs

Taking the GED can be a controversial issue in the homeschool community. A diploma earned by taking the GED tends to carry the stigma of indicating a "high school dropout." It is not necessary for a homeschooled student to get an accredited diploma and it isn't generally recommended to get the GED.

In Arizona, one must be age 18 or older to take the GED test. For homeschooled students between the ages of 16 and 18, verification that they have withdrawn their Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool must be provided. Rules for taking the GED in Arizona can be found on the Arizona Department of Education website.

PSAT FAQs

WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD TAKE THE PSAT?

WHERE DOES MY HOMESCHOOLED STUDENT TAKE THE PSAT?

The PSAT is taken through a local public or private high school that offers this test. Testing dates and locations can be found at collegeboard.org.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY STUDENT TO TAKE THE PSAT?

Go to collegeboard.com for registration information.

WHAT IS THE ARIZONA STATE HOME SCHOOL CODE FOR THE PSAT?

990 399

Test Preparation FAQs

WHEN SHOULD MY STUDENT TAKE THE ACT?

Most often the ACT is taken during the spring of the Junior year. However, it can be taken earlier as practice if desired.

WHERE DOES MY STUDENT TAKE THE ACT?

The ACT is taken through a local public or private high school that offers this test. Testing dates and locations can be found at actstudent.org.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY STUDENT TO TAKE THE ACT?

Go to actstudent.org for registration information.

WHAT IS THE HOMESCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL CODE FOR THE ACT?

969-999

WHICH TEST SHOULD MY STUDENT TAKE - the SAT or ACT?

Check with the colleges your student is interested in attending to find out which test

optional essay portion. The SAT has three parts: Reading, Math and Writing & Language.

WHAT SHOULD MY STUDENT DO TO PREPARE FOR THE SAT OR ACT?

Purchase study books and take practice tests from collegeboard.org or actstudent.org. Local bookstores and online bookstores also carry study books and practice tests for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, and GED.

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHICH TEST MY STUDENT SHOULD PREPARE FOR?

Contact the college admissions office to find out their entrance requirements.

WHAT ABOUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS?

Each community college has a testing center where they administer their own entrance exam. Contact the community college directly for admissions requirements and testing information.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TESTING?

Visit the HSLDA website for additional information about testing: hslda.org/highschool/testing.asp.

Graduation & Diplomas

This FAQ answers questions about diplomas and graduate recognition ceremonies.

HOW DOES MY HOMESCHOOLED CHILD RECEIVE A DIPLOMA?

The parent of a homeschooled child is responsible for setting the graduation requirements, creating and maintaining their child's transcript, and issuing the diploma. AFHE does not issue diplomas or validate your homeschool diploma.

No, it is not. The homeschooling parent accepts responsibility for issuing a diploma and certifying the student's status as a graduate. Thorough documentation of a student's academic record on a transcript supports the diploma.

WHERE CAN I PURCHASE A DIPLOMA?

There are a number of vendors that carry diplomas and graduation supplies for homeschooled students. A couple of them include HSLDA and Homeschool Diploma. HSLDA offers a beautiful form in a leatherette case with an attractive gold seal at an economical price. Homeschool Diploma has personalized diplomas and diploma covers, other graduation supplies, and ideas to help you make this a special time for your graduate. The parent signs the diploma.

IS THERE A GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR HOMESCHOOLED GRADUATES?

AFHE sponsors an annual statewide Graduate Recognition Ceremony for homeschooled seniors each year. The AFHE Senior High Graduate Recognition Ceremony is a very reverent, formal cap and gown ceremony that commemorates the achievement of the students and their parents. Visit the Graduation Page for more information about this ceremony.

In addition, a number of homeschool support groups across Arizona hold a graduation ceremony for their member families.

DOES AFHE VALIDATE A HOMESCHOOLED STUDENT'S DIPLOMA?

No. AFHE does not validate or certify that a homeschooled student has completed their high school coursework.

DOES AFHE OFFER A GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS?

At this time AFHE does not offer a junior high graduation ceremony.

SHOULD MY CHILD TAKE THE GED?

stigma attached to the GED because of its association with high school dropouts. However, it is a fairly easy process and there are a number of post secondary education programs, such as trade schools, that require a homeschooled student to have an accredited diploma or GED rather than accepting the student's homeschool high school transcript. See GED section above in the Testing FAQ for more information.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOMESCHOOLING THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL?

HSLDA offers a wealth of information to encourage parents as they teach their children all the way through high school. Visit their website at hslda.org/highschool. At AFHE's annual statewide convention you can attend numerous workshops dedicated to equipping and helping you in this worthwhile and exciting work. Recordings of previous workshops can be purchased for download from **Resounding Voice**. Search their store for AFHE to find our workshops.

How to Continue Your IEP, Even if You Start Homeschooling - National School Choice Week

Arizona:

Arizona homeschool or private school students may be eligible for special education services provided by their school district for free. The state considers homeschooled students as privately schooled students for purposes of determining access to special education services.

Alternatively, parents of homeschooled children can apply for Empowerment Scholarship Accounts (ESAs), which allow parents to access 90% of the funding their district would have received for their child. Parents who receive ESAs cannot access special education services from their local districts, but can have educational expenses for their child reimbursed from the ESA. Families of students wishing to access special education services through their district should contact their local district. Parents of students wishing to use the ESA option can find more information and apply at the Arizona Department of Education.

Read more about the rules at Arizona Special Education Standards.

Welcome to the Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) Program | Arizona Department of Education (azed.gov)

Eligibility Requirements & Application | Arizona Department of Education (azed.gov)

HOMESCHOOLING FAMILIES OF MARICOPA – HFM

TYPE OF GROUP
Independent Support Group
AREA
Maricopa
EMPHASIS
Christian
FORMAT
Monthly events, Park Day, Tween Night, Teen Night, Mom's Night Out, and organized group field trips.
CONTACT
HFMaricopa@gmail.com

Special Needs General Resources

BOOKS
Homeschooling Your Struggling Learner – Kathy Kuhl
Simply Classical: A Beautiful Education for Any Child – Cheryl Swope
Managing the Homeschool Teaching Day with a Struggling Learner – Pam Gates
Homeschooling and Loving It! Create Your Best Homeschooling Year Ever – Rebecca Kochenderfer
An Insider's Guide to Successful Science Fair Projects – Felice Gerwitz
Teaching A Child with Special Needs at Home and At School: Strategies and Tools that Really Work – Judith B. Munday
Home Schooling Children with Special Needs – Sharon C. Hensley
The Ultimate Guide to Homeschooling – Debra Bell
A Special Kind of Love: For Those Who Love Children with Special Needs – Susan Titus Osborn, Janet Lynn Mitchell
Brain Gym: Simple Activities for Whole Brain Learning – Paul E. Dennison, Gail E. Dennison
Brain Gym: Teacher's Edition – Paul E. Dennison, Gail E. Dennison
Smart Moves: Why Learning is Not All in Your Head – Carla Hannaford
Disconnected Kids: The Groundbreaking Brain Balance Program for Children with Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia and other Neurological Disorders – Robert Melillo
Developing Students' Multiple Intelligences – Kristen Nicholson-Nelson – published by Scholastic
Multiple Intelligences in the Classroom – Thomas Armstrong
You're Smarter Than You Think: A Kid's Guide to Multiple Intelligences – Thomas Armstrong
In Their Way: Discovering and Encouraging your Child's Multiple Intelligences –

Thomas Armstrong

WEBSITES

HSLDA Struggling Learners hslda.org/strugglinglearner
Dianne Craft Learning System diannecraft.org
National Association for Child Development nacd.org
Learn Differently learndifferently.com

WEBSITES

http://www.mpsaz.org/main2

http://www.HomeEdDirectory.com

http://www.1bookconnection.com

http://www.home-school.com

http://www.homeschooldiscount.com

htt.Q:// www.homeschoolcentral.com

http://www.homeschooltoday .com

http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide

www.i-home-school.com

http://www.homeschoolingsupply.com

http://www.discover.com

http://www.gsn.org/GSH/index.html

http://www.mpsaz.org/edtech

http://homeschooling.about.com

https://www.azed.gov/esa/

Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) Program

48,518 Arizona Students benefit from an Empowerment Scholarship Account (as of 02/27/23)

IMPORTANT ESA UPDATES

Click on the button below to view the important video message

View Important ESA updates from Supt. Horne and ESA Director Accurso

The team is working as quickly as possible to process all pending orders (this includes reimbursements,

ClassWallet Marketplace orders, and Pay Vendor transactions).

We appreciate your patience.

Universal Quarter 1 Eligibility:

To receive Quarter 1 funding, you must do all three of the following:

1. **Apply by 10/15**. Click ***here*** to apply.
2. If applicable, resolve any application deficiencies within 30 days of the initial incomplete notice by ADE
3. ***Sign your contract within 30 days of receiving the link from ADE***

For those applicants who meet the criteria specified above, Quarter 1 funding will be applied retroactively. Please note that retroactive Quarter 1 funding may take several

months to complete because of the large number of applications.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you DO NOT want to receive Q1 funding AND you've signed a contract, you will need to close and reapply.

Funding & Next Steps: Once a signed ESA contract is received by the Department, ESA staff will work with both the Treasurer's Office and ClassWallet to open and fund the account, this process can take at least 3 weeks, however, due to the volume, it may take longer. Account holders will receive an email from ClassWallet when funds are available.

Other ESA Eligibility Categories: There is no retroactivity clause for any applicants other than Universal ESA applicants.

(Date updated: 12/14/22)

Apply Now for the 2022-2023 School Year

Contacting ESA

The best way to get your ESA questions answered is to submit a **HelpDesk ticket** *(this link is available only for non-ADE users).* ***There is a one-time registration process.*** Once registered, you can quickly and easily submit your requests. **View our step-by-step guide *here***. You can either ask a ***question or file a complaint***.

If you have issues with HelpDesk registration or are receiving an error message, please email us at ***esacallcenter@azed.gov*** with the following information, so that we can pass it on to our I.T. team for resolution.

- Your phone number
- Application ID (if applicable)
- Email Address that you registered with
- Specific error message you received. If you are able to, please include a screenshot of the error message.
- For Zoho errors - Whether you have previously received a Zoho email

Are you new to the program? In addition to our **ESA Parent Handbook**, the **ESA Parent Guide** is a great place to start!

To request a debit card, please contact ClassWallet at **help@classwallet.com** or 1-877-969-5536.

Read the updated FAQ related to H.B. 2853 *here*

https://www.azed.gov/esa/

Upcoming events!

More events coming soon!

- Video of the **ClassWallet webinar** is available on ***August 16th ClassWallet***
- Video of the **ESA 101 webinar** is available on ***August 9th ESA 101***
- Video of **ESA Parent Handbook Town Hall** is available on ***May 12th ESA Parent Handbook***

What is an ESA?

- Expands educational opportunities for eligible students outside of the public school system
- Provides public funding that can be used for a wide variety of educational expenses
- Pays for private school tuition, educational therapies, tutoring, and more

https://www.azed.gov/esa/

Eligibility Requirements & Application

NOTE: We anticipate that the application for the 2023-2024 school year will be available in May 2023. Please do not use the current application to apply for an upcoming school year. Watch the website for the latest information.

ESA applications are currently being accepted for the 2022-2023 school year and complete applications will be processed within 30 days of submission. **Click on an eligibility category below to see what documentation is needed to apply.**

Do you have any questions about the ESA Eligibilities or Application? We are here to help! You can call the ESA Support Line at 602-364-1969 or submit a ***HelpDesk ticket*** *(ADE internal users click here).*

Click here to apply under "Universal" (K-12 Students WITH or WITHOUT a Disability)

To apply under the "Universal" category, you will need to provide the following:

1. Student's Birth Certificate

- The applicant (the person applying) must be listed on the birth certificate (or other legal documentation).
    - If the applicant's legal name at the time of application does not match what is on the birth certificate, documentation of legal name change must be included with the birth certificate.
- As a reminder, students must be 5 years of age by January 1st of the 2022-2023 school year to be eligible for the program. However, preschool students with a disability are eligible, see additional information under "Preschool Student with a Disability".

2. Proof of Residency Document in the Applicant's Name (parent/guardian applying)
You only need to provide **ONE** of the following documents listing your physical address, ***we are unable to accept PO Boxes***. **This is not an exhaustive list.**

- Valid Arizona driver's license, Arizona identification card
- Valid Arizona motor vehicle registration

- Valid Arizona Address Confidentiality Program authorization card
- Property Deed / Warranty Deed
- Mortgage documents
- HOA documents
- Property tax bill
- Rental agreement or lease (including Section 8 agreement or off-base military housing)
- Utility bill (water, electric, gas, cable, phone)
- Bank or credit card statement
- W-2 wage statement
- Payroll stub
- Certificate of tribal enrollment (506 Form) or other identification issued by a recognized Indian tribe located in Arizona
- Other documentation from a state, tribal, or federal agency (Social Security Administration, Veterans' Administration, Arizona Department of Economic Security, etc.)
- For Reservation addresses: Physical address verification letter from a fire department, police department, tribal agency, or Chapter House
- Temporary on-base billeting facility (for military families)
- A notarized Affidavit of Shared Residence if you don't have a proof of residence in your name.

Preschool Student with a Disability

Applicant = The legal parent or guardian

Student = The student receiving the ESA award

Eligibility Requirements

- The Student has a current **MET/Evaluation Report**, Individualized Education Program (**IEP**), or 504 Plan from an Arizona public school.
- The Applicant (the person applying) must be the legal parent or guardian.
- The Student and Applicant must be residents of Arizona.
- This eligibility type does **not** need to meet the 45-day full-time enrollment requirement.
- The student must be at least three years of age but who has not reached the age required for kindergarten.
    - Students are also eligible if they are within ninety days of their third birthday, pursuant to A.R.S § 15-771(G).

Document Requirements

1. Student's Birth Certificate

- The applicant (the person applying) must be listed on the birth certificate (or other legal documentation).
    - If the applicant's legal name at the time of application does not match what is on the birth certificate, documentation of legal name change must be included with the birth certificate.

2. Proof of Residency Document in the Applicant's Name (parent/guardian applying)

You only need to provide **ONE** of the following documents listing your physical address, ***we are unable to accept PO Boxes***. **This is not an exhaustive list.**

- Valid Arizona driver's license, Arizona identification card
- Valid Arizona motor vehicle registration
- Valid Arizona Address Confidentiality Program authorization card
- Property Deed / Warranty Deed
- Mortgage documents
- HOA documents
- Property tax bill
- Rental agreement or lease (including Section 8 agreement or off-base military housing)
- Utility bill (water, electric, gas, cable, phone)
- Bank or credit card statement
- W-2 wage statement
- Payroll stub

- Certificate of tribal enrollment (506 Form) or other identification issued by a recognized Indian tribe located in Arizona
- Other documentation from a state, tribal, or federal agency (Social Security Administration, Veterans' Administration, Arizona Department of Economic Security, etc.)
- For Reservation addresses: Physical address verification letter from a fire department, police department, tribal agency, or Chapter House
- Temporary on-base billeting facility (for military families)
- A notarized Affidavit of Shared Residence if you don't have a proof of residence in your name.

3. The Student's MET/Evaluation Report, Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan

- Must be from an Arizona public school.
- The student's **primary category of eligibility** must be provided.
- Must be current at the time of the application. This means it cannot have expired before the application date.
    - IEPs must be within the 'anticipated duration dates' as indicated on the documentation.
    - METs evaluations and 504 Plans must be current as indicated by the reevaluation date on the documentation, if listed.
- ISPs (individual service plans) from private schools will not be accepted.
- Evaluations from the private school will not be accepted.
- Medical or psychiatric/psychological evaluations cannot be accepted.
- *MET/Evaluation Reports and IEPs are provided by either the district of residence or the district of attendance at the request of the Parent.

https://www.azed.gov/esa/

K-12 Student with a Disability

Applicant = The legal parent or guardian

Student = The student receiving the ESA award

Eligibility Requirements

- The Student must be at least five years of age as of January 1st of the application year to be eligible as an entering Kindergarten student.
- The Student and Applicant must be residents of Arizona.
- If the student is eligible to attend 1-12 grade, the student must meet the 45 day requirement.
    - This means the student must have been enrolled in an Arizona public school for 45 days of the school year (as a full-time student) prior to the application (for the current or previous school year).
    - This requirement can also be met with online hours.
    - The student may be exempt from this requirement if:
        - the student has not previously attended a governmental primary (K-12) school but is currently eligible to enroll in a kindergarten program (must be five years old on or before January 1st of the application year)
        - the student has not previously attended a governmental primary (K-12) school but is currently eligible to enroll in a 1st grade program (must be six years old on or before September 1st of the application year)
    - Please note: Pursuant to A.R.S. 15-2401(7)(b)(iii) if a student received a tax credit scholarship from an STO under the Disabled/Displaced tuition tax credit program, the public school attendance requirement is 90 days in the prior fiscal year.
- The Student has a current **MET/Evaluation Report** or Individualized Education Program (**IEP**) or **504 Plan** from an Arizona public school.
- The Applicant (the person applying) must be the legal parent or guardian.

Document Requirements

1. Student's Birth Certificate

- The applicant (the person applying) must be listed on the birth certificate (or other legal documentation).
    - If the applicant's legal name at the time of application does not match what is on the birth certificate, documentation of legal name change must be included with the birth certificate.

2. Proof of Residency Document in the Applicant's Name (parent/guardian

You only need to provide **ONE** of the following documents listing your physical address, ***we are unable to accept PO Boxes***. **This is not an exhaustive list.**

- Valid Arizona driver's license, Arizona identification card
- Valid Arizona motor vehicle registration
- Valid Arizona Address Confidentiality Program authorization card
- Property Deed / Warranty Deed
- Mortgage documents
- HOA documents
- Property tax bill
- Rental agreement or lease (including Section 8 agreement or off-base military housing)
- Utility bill (water, electric, gas, cable, phone)
- Bank or credit card statement
- W-2 wage statement
- Payroll stub
- Certificate of tribal enrollment (506 Form) or other identification issued by a recognized Indian tribe located in Arizona
- Other documentation from a state, tribal, or federal agency (Social Security Administration, Veterans' Administration, Arizona Department of Economic Security, etc.)
- For Reservation addresses: Physical address verification letter from a fire department, police department, tribal agency, or Chapter House
- Temporary on-base billeting facility (for military families)
- A notarized Affidavit of Shared Residence if you don't have a proof of residence in your name.

3. The Student's MET/Evaluation Report or Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan

- Must be from an Arizona public school.
- The student's **primary category of eligibility** must be provided. Must also state the student's **school-age eligibility**.
- Must be current at the time of the application. This means it cannot have expired before the application date.
    - IEPs must be within the 'anticipated duration dates' as indicated on the documentation.
    - METs evaluations and 504 Plans must be current as indicated by the reevaluation date on the documentation, if listed.
- ISPs (individual service plans) from private schools will not be accepted.
- Evaluations from the private school will not be accepted.
- Medical or psychiatric/psychological evaluations cannot be accepted.

PHOENIX AND SURROUNDING AREA RESOURCES

Home School Support Groups

Arizona Families for Home Education (AFHE) Edit Remove
P.O. Box 2035, Chandler, AZ 85244-2035
Phone: (602) 235-2673
Email: homeschool@afhe.org
http://www.afhe.org
A statewide organization that exists to protect the rights of Arizona parents to teach their children at home. Membership with AFHE is open to all homeschooling parents in Arizona. AFHE is a non-profit educational corporation directed by a Christian Board.

Arizona Christian Homeschoolers Edit Remove
18874 N. 71st Lane, Glendale, AZ 85308
Contact: Anne Stone
Phone: (623) 561-8535
Email: arizonachristianhomeschoolers@cox.net
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ArizonaChristianHomeschoolers/
We are a Christian, non-denominational support group serving the Northwest valley (Glendale, Peoria, Surprise, and nearby cities). Currently, we provide information regarding homeschooling issues, advice, and information on what is going on in our community.

Arizona Homeschool Adventures Edit Remove
16026 N. Cave Creek Rd Suite #7
Contact: Mandy Taylor or 480-628-9257
Phone: 480-628-9257
Email: msmandytaylor@gmail.com
https://www.meetup.com/arizonahomeschooladventures/
Calling all Parents! It's time to take your children on an Arizona adventure. Let's get outside (Or inside) and learn something new alongside your child. We'll meet once a week with a hands on activity. Ever wonder what it takes to care for a horse? Want to learn how to make a leather dog collar? How about a trip to a local refinery where you will actually see gold being poured into a mold? These are just a few of the things you will learn AND do alongside your child, spouse, or grandparent.

Arizona Homeschool Chapter Edit Remove
Arizona
Contact: Sharla
Email: pieseas2010@hotmail.com
http://www.facebook.com/groups/311460192366429/
We are a homeschooling Facebook community for the state of Arizona for families who are doing either “traditional”, “unschooling”, or “virtual public school” at home. We welcome everyone in Arizona regardless of religion, race, or age. We encourage friendships among families and will have many opportunities to get our children together in person. We run many local events here in the Yavapi area such as monthly "Behind the Scenes" Field Trips, Park Day, Game Time, and Zoo Educational Classes. Search us on Facebook: Arizona Homeschool Chapter Read more...

Branches Homeschool Community Edit Remove
Renovation Church, 5604 N 24th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85016
Contact: Christine Stauffer
Email: christine@brancheshomeschool.org
http://www.brancheshomeschool.org
A Christian homeschool co-op community that offers academic and enrichment classes, sports activities and clubs weekly on Thursdays to families in the metro Phoenix area. Fees include $50 annually and a variable fee per semester to cover costs of supplies. Read more...

Christian Home Educators of Tucson - Northwest (CHET-NW) Edit Remove
Serving Northwest, West, Central Tucson; Marana and Catalina areas
Email: chet_nw@yahoo.com
http://www.homeschool-life.com/az/chetnw
A Christian group offering fellowship, support and activities for the parent-directed homeschool family.

Christian Home Educators of Tucson - Southeast Edit Remove
Serving Northeast and Southeast Tucson
Email: chetseprez@gmail.com
http://www.homeschool-life.com/az/chetse/
A non-denominational, Christian group existing to support families in their endeavors to home school. We offer P.E, field trips, Youth Group, Mom's Night Out, and more.

Christian Homeschoolers of Fountain Hills Edit Remove
PO Box 17782 Fountain Hills, AZ 85269
Contact: Adrianne Matthews
Phone: (360) 421-5079
Email: rna.matthews@gmail.com
http://www.christianhomeschoolersoffountainhills.org
The purpose of CHFH is to support and encourage Christian families who choose to educate their children at home. CHFH provides support, fellowship, social activities, field trips, and educational and cultural activities for member families. It is a nonprofit group. Read more...

Covenant Home School Resource Center (CHSRC) Edit Remove
1117 E. Devonshire Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85014
Contact: Karen Borg
Phone/Fax: (602) 277-3497
Email: info@chsrc.org
http://www.chsrc.org
Offering a new and used curriculum bookstore, classes (math, science lab, art, foreign language), testing, support services, meetings and workshops. Free monthly e-letter and website information. Read more...

Crossroads Edit Remove
Serving Graham County, AZ
Contact: Jody Mezzell
Phone: (928) 348-9045
Email: mezzellfamily@hotmail.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/crossroads_home_educators
Crossroads is a Christian homeschool group. We offer encouragement for homeschooling families, information for those interested in homeschooling including how to get started, weekly park days, field trips, an annual spelling bee, science fair and a used curriculum sale.

Desert Hills Christian Homeschoolers Edit Remove
Serving the Far North Valley / Desert Foothills
Contact: Rich & Teri Olsen
Email: dhch@dhch.org
http://www.dhch.org
Established in 1986, DHCH is one of the oldest homeschool support groups in Arizona. Members come from New River, Desert Hills, Cave Creek, Black Canyon City, Anthem, Tramonto, and surrounding areas. Benefits include a homeschool lending library, resource packets, e-mail group, newsletter and event calendar.

East Valley Christian Home Educators Edit Remove
P.O. Box 3463, Gilbert, AZ 85299-3463
Contact: Peter or Allison Gentala
Email: pres@evche.org
http://www.evche.org
EVCHE is a Christian homeschool support group / co-op in the East Valley of Phoenix, AZ. Read more...

East Valley Homeschool Families Edit Remove
Mesa, Gilbert, Chandler, Tempe, Queen Creek
Contact: Maggie Christin
Phone: 337 313 0139
http://www.meetup.com/East-Valley-Homeschool-Families/
Many events each week! Inclusive, all are welcome! Come hang!

Eastside Explorers Edit Remove
Based in Scottsdale, AZ
Contact: Kimberlee Herman
Phone: 480-720-7765
Email: kimberlee.herman@gmail.com
http://www.eastsideexplorers.org
For over 20 years, Eastside Explorers has supported homeschooling families in the northeast region of the Phoenix, AZ metro area (check our website to make sure you live within our boundaries). Co-op membership brings opportunities for networking with other home schooling parents, activities for moms and children, and educational opportunities for all within a Christian framework. Events include park days, spelling bee, art fair, field trips, science fair, mom's nights and more! Professionally-published yearbook. $35 annual fee includes insurance at all events. Additional fees required for art

classes, yearbook, and some field trips. We look forward to meeting you!

Estrella Mountain Homeschoolers Edit Remove
Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Buckeye, Avondale, and Rainbow Valley
Contact: Kirstin Conlon
Phone: (623) 322-9779
Email: kirstininarizona@yahoo.com
http://estrellahomeschool.wix.com/emhomeschoolers
A casual homeschool group sharing ideas, information, encouragement, and experiences. We have many activities including park days, holiday parties, talent shows, Christmas programs, grade promotion ceremonies, and field trips planned by anyone with an interest.

Please note: Open registration is from August- May. We have a yearly membership fee of $25/family due August 1st of each new school year. For new members, we have a 60-day money back guarantee. Try us out for 60 days to see if we're a good fit for you and your family. If we are... great! If not, a full refund will be issued, no questions asked. Yahoo groups site: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/EstrellaMtnHomeschoolers/

EVAC - East Valley Athletes for Christ Edit Remove
Phoenix, Chandler, Gilbert, Scottsdale and Mesa
Email: admin@evacsports.org
https://www.facebook.com/pages/EVAC-Eagles/154029461289388
EVAC competes in the Canyon Athletic Association, a competitive league for charter Junior High and High Schools (and two homeschool organizations – EVAC in the east valley and AZ Heat in the west valley). We have had students on the Junior High teams as young as sixth grade. The student must be homeschooled with at least 51% of their education directed by a parent. Read more...

Fountain Hills Christian Home Educators Edit Remove
Fountain Hills, AZ
Contact: Melissa Atwood
Email: melissa_atwood@hotmail.com
http://www.fhche.com
FHCHE is a homeschool support group which has been actively supporting homeschooling families since 1992. We have a $25 annual membership enrollment fee. Read more...

Grace Homeschool Cooperative Edit Remove
300 South 4th Avenue, Yuma, AZ 85364
Contact: Gerald Andre
Phone: (928) 783-0133
Email: info@gracebiblehomeschool.com
It is the purpose of the cooperative to assist homeschool parents in meeting their God-given responsibilities of training by giving them an environment in which their children can achieve their highest potential, spiritually, mentally, academically, emotionally, and physically.

Happy Hearts Homeschoolers Support Group of the East Valley Edit Remove
Chandler, Ahwatukee, Mesa, Tempe, surrounding areas
Email: happyheartshomeschoolers@mail.com
http://www.meetup.com/Happy-Hearts-Homeschoolers-of-the-East-Valley/
A parent-led, open-minded homeschool support group erving families in the East Valley. We offer opportunities for socializing, group outings, field trips, and extracurricular enrichment activities that will add fun and friendship to you and your children's lives. We welcome all types of homeschooling families. Read more...

Havasu Christian Home Educators Edit Remove
Lake Havasu City and surrounding area
Contact: Pat Zeman
Phone: (928) 208-6297
Email: Form / Contact Page
http://www.hchegroup.com/
We offer support in the forms of information, encouragement, guidelines, resources and most importantly, prayer and Christian fellowship. We hold a meeting monthly and have numerous field trips and activities throughout the year. We also offer many opportunities for homeschool families including P.E. Classes and graduation ceremonies for 6th and 8th grades, and highschool.

Homeschoolers 4 Him Edit Remove
West Phoenix Metro area cities of Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Surprise, Tonopah, El Mirage, and anywhere else you are willing to drive from.
Email: Form / Contact Page
http://homeschoolers4him.com
Christian homeschooling full support community group with weekly park days in the Goodyear/Litchfield Park area. We also organize field trips, family events, resource support, co-op classes, and more.

Hualapai Hills Home Schoolers Edit Remove
4868 Steinke Drive, Kingman, AZ 86409
Contact: Mary Brown
Phone: (928) 692-6249
Email: clarkdbrown@hotmail.com
http://www.hualapaihillshomeschoolers.weebly.com
A Christian-based group in Mohave County. We provide educational resources, monthly meetings, field trips, workshops, service projects, educational group activities, a lending library, and a website. Members participate by holding an office or planning an activity (i.e. literary club, chess club, Lego league, service club, field trips, sports club, spelling bee, geography bee, science fair, playgroup, science workshops) Read more...

Indigo Home Learners Edit Remove
Serving Phoenix, Glendale, Peoria and surrounding cities
Email: indigohomelearners2014@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/groups/IndigoHomeLearners
A homeschool support group united by the desire to provide a positive and open-minded homeschooling community for our children.

Knowledge House Scholars Edit Remove
Serving the Far North Valley / Desert Foothills
Contact: Teri Olsen
Email: info@knowledgehouse.info
http://www.knowledgehouse.info/KHS-ED.html
Epsilon Delta Chapter of Eta Sigma Alpha National Home School Honor Society. Open to students in grades 6-12 who score 90% or above on a nationally referenced standardized test. Meeting every second Friday of the month in New River, AZ. Members participate in: Community Service and Volunteer Projects; College & Career Preparation; Civic Participation; Public Speaking; Leadership; President's Volunteer Service Award; National Society of High School Scholars.

L.I.F.E. Adventures Edit Remove
Scottsdale/Phoenix-Arcadia
Contact: Katie Petersen
Phone: (480) 277-2177
Email: lifeadventuresaz@gmail.com
L.I.F.E. Adventures {learning in a family environment} is a homeschool support group that seeks to promote Christian home education by sharing resources, information, and ideas, as well as providing opportunities for fellowship through educational and social experiences such as park days, field trips, and moms' nights out. Everyone is welcome to join, regardless of religious affiliation. Annual dues are $10.

Maricopa Christian Homeschool Support Group Edit Remove
Maricopa, Arizona
Contact: Brandy Taylor
Phone: 530-409-5862
Email: tobymac1998@yahoo.com
http://www.homeschool-life.com/az/maricopa
MCHSG is a Christian homeschool support groups for families in accordance with A.R.S. 15-802.
We offer monthly field trips, park days, member leds classes, and mom's night out. We have an annual fee of $10. We desire to encourage and support parents in their descion to homeschool their children while also raising them in their Christian faith.

MoezArt Productions, Inc. Edit Remove
18411 N. 16th Way, Phoenix, AZ 85022
Contact: Steve Rodriguez or Sharon Rodriguez
Phone: (480) 201-4637 or (480) 272-0705
Fax: (602) 606-2891
Email: moezartpr@hotmail.com
http://www.moezartproductions.org
We are a Christian, nondenominational, nonprofit educational theatre arts company that offers many classes in theatre. We hold middle and high school classes in Phoenix, Glendale, Surprise, Scottsdale and Chandler. Each of these classes perform shows at the end of the semesters. We also offer grade school classes and community theatre in select areas. Read more...

Northeastern Arizona Homeschoolers Edit Remove
PO Box 160 Show Low, AZ 85902
Contact: Lisa Horne
Phone: (480) 382-4225
Fax: (855) 495-3081
Email: nazhomeschoolers@hotmail.com
http://www.nazhomeschoolers.org
Northeastern Arizona Homeschoolers are families working together to bring support, resources and opportunity to home

education in the White Mountains and surrounding areas including Show Low, Pinetop, Lakeside, Snowflake, St. Johns, Eager, and Springerville. We offer free membership, are Christian based, and activities include: chess and checkers club; park days; bowling; field trips; holiday parties; spelling bee; and science & engineering fair.

Northern Arizona Homeschoolers Edit Remove
Flagstaff
Contact: Lorien or lorienvanness@gmail.com
Email: lorienvanness@gmail.com
http://www.facebook.com/groups/370029379732634/
This is a group for home schoolers in Northern AZ. Home schoolers of any and all ages, genders, and religious affiliations (or not) are welcome to be members of the group and post home school events on our FB page. Read more...

Northwest Tucson Homeschoolers (NTH) Edit Remove
Northwest Tucson, Oro Valley, Marana
Contact: Michele Dial
Phone: (520) 260-3043
Email: michele@northwesttucsonhomeschoolers.com
http://northwesttucsonhomeschoolers.com
NTH is an independent, inclusive support group. We serve to foster community among home educators and their children in Tucson. Activities include a year-round, weekly park day; field trips; and cooperative learning opportunities. Read more...

Odyssey of the Mind - Homeschool Edit Remove
Mesa Chandler Scottsdale Tempe
Contact: Brian Calaway or Lorna Calaway
Phone: (602) 488-0879 or (480) 218-9251
Email: ootmafterschool@gmail.com
http://www.odysseyofthemindafterschool.org
Odyssey of the Mind is the quintessential STEAM program where teams of students solve long-term challenges that require the use of science, engineering, technology and math. Those teams present their solutions in the form of an 8 minute play to the judges at a regional tournament. The entire solution should be as creative as possible to "wow!" the judges. It teaches 21st Century Work Skills, and it follows the Common Core Curriculum Standards. Read more...

Prescott Homeschool Group Edit Remove
730 W. Hoover St. Prescott, AZ 86303
Contact: Heather Lowrance
Phone: (970) 270-2552
Email: prescotthomeschoolgroup@yahoo.com
We are the premiere homeschool group for parents and children in the Prescott and Prescott Valley areas of Arizona. We offer a wide variety of activities and support for homeschool families with children of all ages. Read more...

Rainbow Explorers Edit Remove
7549 W. Cactus Road #104-340, Peoria, AZ 85381
Contact: Courtney Walton
Phone: (623) 205-9883
Email: scwalton@cox.net
http://rainbowexplorers.tripod.com
A Christian homeschool support group serving African-American families in the greater Phoenix area.

Sacred Heart Home Educators Edit Remove
Valleywide Phoenix, AZ
Contact: Dionne McCartney
Email: president@shhe.org
http://www.shhe.org
Valleywide Catholic group with field trips, Opening Mass and Potluck, All Saints Day Party, picnics, PE, activities, Park Day, and more. 150+ families; $25 membership fee.

Shoot Right Edit Remove
PHX, AZ
Contact: Rob Potter
Phone: (602) 288-5324
Email: info@shootrightaz.org
http://www.shootrightaz.org/16.html
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization educating children 8-18 and adults with regard to teaching safety techniques that focus on gun safety, basic rifle airgun, youth airgun shooting leagues, shooting tournaments, and shooting summer camps.

Southeast Tucson Catholic Home Schoolers Edit Remove
East Tucson
Contact: Terry Segapeli
Phone: 520-488-5708
Email: tsegapeli@gmail.com
https://sites.google.com/site/setucsoncatholichomeschoolers/
We are a small Catholic homeschooling group that meet every Wednesday on the East side of Tucson. We meet at a Park in the afternoon. The older kids organize games and sports and the mom's talk. We have a faith sharing group, field trips, volunteer opportunities, and a ballet folklorico group that is led by the older girls. We also have a mass for homeschoolers once a month at Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church. We are constantly adding new opportunities for our group. There is a $10 annual fee to maintain our website.

Southwest Tucson Homeschoolers Edit Remove
Geographic area included, but not limited to, South Tucson, Valencia West, Sahuarita, Three Points
Contact: Sarah Turner or Heather Stoppelbein
Phone: 602-751-5077 or 520-561-6272
Email: swtucsonhomeschoolers@yahoo.com
https://www.facebook.com/groups/swtucsonhomeschoolers/
The goal of SWTH is to encourage, support, and be a resource for all parents who have taken on this amazing, challenging, gratifying, and sometimes overwhelming journey called homeschooling! We host weekly park days during cooler months, monthly field trips, and monthly support meetings discussing a variety of relevant topics. Our group is eclectic, diverse, and growing!

Surprise Basketball Academy Edit Remove
16066 N Parkview Pl, Surprise, AZ 85374
Email: info@surprsiebb.com
http://www.surprisebb.com
Surprise Basketball Academy is a club located in surprise, Arizonan. We offer classes as well during the evening in the surprise, area.

Valley of the Sun Homeschool Cooperative Edit Remove
Phoenix, Tempe, Mesa, Glendale, Scottsdale
Contact: Julie Mallinger
Phone: (602) 595-9870
Email: valleyhomeschoolcoop@gmail.com
http://www.valleyofthesunhomeschool.com
The Valley of the Sun Homeschool Cooperative is a secular, inclusive group of homeschooling families who come together for the purpose of enriching our children’s educations. Our parent-teachers lead classes that are based on their skills, interests, and backgrounds, providing our children with unique opportunities for learning and growth. Fundamental to our beliefs is the notion that our homeschooling community benefits from, and is enriched by, the diversity of our membership, and we seek to create a welcoming atmosphere for all who wish to attend.

West Side Home Educators Edit Remove
8622 W. Purdue Ave, Peoria, AZ 85345
Email: wshe-owner@yahoogroups.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wshe/
Supporting families in Peoria, Glendale, North Phoenix, Surprise, and other West Valley communities.

West Valley Christian Home Educators Edit Remove
Serving the Southwest Valley cities of Avondale, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Buckeye, and Tonopah.
Email: wvchristianhomeschoolers@gmail.com
http://westvalleychristianhomeschoolers.com
We are a group of homeschooling families who meet together weekly to support each other in all areas of homeschooling. Our membership consists of a wide range of homeschooling experience, from veteran homeschoolers who have successfully homeschooled, to college, to families who are just beginning the homeschool process