



Start·a·School

AN EDUCATION FREEDOM FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

Connecticut

Home School

Parents who wish to homeschool their child/ren should contact their local public school's district office for information on local requirements.

Under [Connecticut State Statute 10-184](#), a parent may remove a child from public school for purposes of homeschooling if "the parent or person having control of such child is able to show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the public schools." These subjects include reading, writing, spelling, English grammar, geography, arithmetic and United States history and in citizenship, including a study of the town, state and federal governments.

For parents who may wish to return a child to public high school, consideration should be given to ensuring that homeschool course work aligns with Connecticut State Graduation Requirements. Parents may choose to provide instruction, hire someone else to do so, or choose an online option. It should be noted that the Connecticut State Department of Education does not accredit any of the online/virtual schools.

Steps to Start a Home School

Starting a homeschool in Connecticut involves a few key steps, but overall, the process is quite manageable. Here's a general guide:

1. **Review State Laws:** Familiarize yourself with homeschooling laws in Connecticut. The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) oversees homeschooling regulations. Ensure you understand the legal requirements, such as notification, assessment, and record-keeping. You can find detailed information on your state's Department of Education website or through homeschooling advocacy groups such as [Home School Legal Defense Association \(HSLDA\)](#).
 - Review [Connecticut Core Standards](#)
 - Review [Materials for Teachers](#)
 - Review [CT Learning Hub](#)
 - Review [Sample Intent to Homeschool form](#)

- Review [Connecticut Statutes related to School Attendance](#)
2. **Understand Requirements:** Connecticut requires parents or guardians to submit a Notice of Intent to homeschool to their local superintendent. This notice typically includes basic information about the student(s) and the educational program you plan to provide. Additionally, you may need to provide evidence of your qualifications to homeschool.
 3. **Choose a Curriculum:** Decide on the curriculum you'll use. There are many options available, from pre-packaged curriculums to designing your own based on state standards. Consider your child's learning style, interests, and your teaching preferences when selecting materials.
 4. **Notify the Local School District:** Complete the [Intent to Homeschool](#) form for each child annually and submit it to the Superintendent's office for signature. A signed copy should be retained in each child's homeschool folder. This typically includes information such as your child's name, age, and address, as well as a brief outline of your educational plans. Check with your local district for any specific forms or requirements they have for homeschooling notification.
 5. **Maintain Records:** Keep detailed records of your homeschooling activities, including attendance, subjects covered, samples of your child's work, and any assessments or evaluations. These records may be required for compliance with state regulations or helpful for documenting your child's progress.
 6. **Connect with Homeschooling Communities:** Join local homeschooling groups or networks to connect with other homeschooling families in your area. These communities can provide support, resources, and social opportunities for both you and your child.
 7. **Assessment and Evaluation:** Connecticut requires annual assessments of homeschooled students. This can be achieved through standardized testing or alternative assessments, such as portfolio reviews by qualified individuals. Ensure you understand the assessment options and deadlines specified by state law.
 8. **Stay Informed and Flexible:** Stay informed about any changes to homeschooling laws or regulations in Connecticut. Be flexible in your approach to homeschooling, adapting your methods and curriculum as needed to meet your child's evolving needs and interests.

Remember that while there are guidelines and requirements to follow, homeschooling also offers flexibility and the opportunity to tailor your child's education to their individual needs and interests.

Home School Statutes

The Education Freedom Foundation has relied on the [U.S. Department of Education's State Regulation of Private and Home Schools Map](#) for relevant statutes. Over time, the state pages on this map have been updated since their initial creation. In some cases, states have changed their laws without these updates being reflected on the map. Given the various methods each state uses to publicize changes to its laws, the most recent information for the Start-A-School project was often obtained directly from the U.S. Department of Education website. Users are encouraged to verify any information before making decisions based on it.

- "The State Board of Education acknowledges the right of parents to instruct their children at home as an alternative to public school attendance, and advises local and regional boards of education where such child would otherwise be attending public school to acknowledge home instruction when the parent or person having control of a child between the ages of seven and 16 is able to show that the child is receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the public schools." [Connecticut State Department of Education: Information Concerning Educating Children at Home Memo, July 1994.](#)

Assessment and Diplomas

- The parents and local school officials will annually review a portfolio of the child's work to determine if the instruction of courses has been adequate. [Connecticut State Department of Education: Information Concerning Educating Children at Home Memo, July 1994.](#)

Curriculum and Instruction

- Parents are to instruct their children in reading, writing, spelling, grammar, geography, arithmetic, United States history, including the study of the town, state, and federal governments, and citizenship. [Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-184.](#)
- In making the decision as to whether or not the child is receiving equivalent instruction, it is recommended that the local board of education adopt board policies that require the following procedures: The parent should file notice of intent to home school form and an annual portfolio review will be held with parents and school officials to determine if instruction in the required courses has been given. [Connecticut State Department of Education: Information Concerning Educating Children at Home Memo, July 1994.](#)

Home Education Programs

- Connecticut places the duty to instruct a child or cause him to be instructed on the parents. [Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-184.](#)

Initial and Renewal Applications

- Parent must file a notice of intent form (including the name of the teacher, subjects to be taught, days of instruction, and the teacher's methods of assessment) for the child to the local superintendent of schools. [Connecticut State Department of Education: Information Concerning Educating Children at Home Memo, July 1994.](#)

Public School Access

- No state policy currently exists.

Special Education

- No board of education is required to provide special education programs or services to a child educated at home. [Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-184a.](#)

Resources

Additional Information for Parents

- Download sample [Intent to Homeschool](#) form
- [Connecticut General Statutes](#)
- [Connecticut Statutes related to School Attendance - English](#)
- [Connecticut Statutes related to School Attendance - Spanish](#)
- [CSDE GED Information](#)