



Start a School

AN EDUCATION FREEDOM FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

Kansas

Home School

Steps to Start a Home School

Starting a homeschool in Kansas involves several steps to ensure compliance with state regulations and to set up an effective educational environment. Here's a general guide:

- 1. Familiarize Yourself with Kansas Homeschool Laws:** Before starting your homeschool, familiarize yourself with the legal requirements set forth by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE). Kansas homeschooling laws are relatively lenient compared to some other states, but it's important to understand your rights and responsibilities. You can find information about Kansas homeschooling laws on the KSDE website or through homeschooling organizations in the state. Non-accredited private schools are required by law to register the name and address of the private elementary or secondary school (homeschool) with the State Board of Education using this link ([Registration Non-Accredited Private School](#)). There is no “approval” process or review by the State Board of Education for a NAPS and there is no cost associated with the registration. No confirmation of registration will be sent. Please make copies of your registration for your records and for the school from which your student is withdrawn. 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 [What You Need to Know About Homeschooling in Kansas](#)
 - Review [Kansas Statute Governing Homeschooling](#)
- 2. Choose a Homeschooling Method:** Decide on the educational approach you want to take for your homeschool. There are various methods such as traditional, Charlotte Mason, Montessori, unschooling, etc. Choose the one that aligns with your child's learning style and your teaching philosophy.
- 3. Notify the State:** In Kansas, homeschooling parents are required to notify the state of their intent to homeschool. You can do this by submitting a letter of intent to the local

school district. This letter typically includes basic information such as your name, your child's name and age, and your address. Once you've submitted the letter of intent, you're officially recognized as homeschooling in Kansas.

4. **Develop a Curriculum:** While Kansas does not require homeschooling parents to follow a specific curriculum, you'll need to develop a plan for what and how you'll teach your child. Consider your child's interests, learning style, and educational goals when designing your curriculum.
5. **Gather Resources:** Gather the necessary resources such as textbooks, workbooks, educational websites, and other materials to support your curriculum. You can also take advantage of local libraries, museums, and community resources for additional learning opportunities.
6. **Set Up a Learning Space:** Designate a specific area in your home as the learning space for homeschooling. Make sure it's free from distractions and stocked with all the necessary supplies.
7. **Establish a Schedule:** Create a daily or weekly schedule for homeschooling that works for you and your child. Be sure to include time for core subjects like math, language arts, science, and social studies, as well as breaks and extracurricular activities.
8. **Join a Homeschooling Support Group:** Consider joining a homeschooling support group or co-op in your area. These groups can provide valuable resources, support, and socialization opportunities for both you and your child.
9. **Keep Records:** While not required by law in Kansas, keeping detailed records of your homeschooling activities, including attendance, coursework, and assessments, can be helpful for tracking your child's progress and documenting their educational journey.
10. **Stay Informed:** Stay informed about any changes to homeschooling laws or regulations in Kansas, as well as educational resources and opportunities that may benefit your homeschooling journey.

By following these steps and staying organized and informed, you can start and run a successful homeschool in Kansas.

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.

Assessment and Diplomas

- As non-accredited private schools, home schools must have instruction that is planned and scheduled with periodic testing. When determining if a home school satisfies the compulsory attendance statute, courts will consider the planning, scheduling, and periodic testing that occurs. If a home school does not satisfy the compulsory attendance statute, children can be found to be in need of care and subject to the authority of the state. *In Re Sawyer* 234 Kan. 436, 672 P.2d 1093 (1983) and Kansas Attorney General Opinion No. 85-159 (1985).

Curriculum and Instruction

- In order to satisfy the compulsory attendance statute, a home school must have a "competent" instructor and instruction time must be "substantially equivalent" to the public school (465 hours per year for kindergarten, 1,116 hours per year for grades 1-11, and 1,086 hours per year for 12th-graders). [K.S.A. §§72-3115\(b\)](#) and [§72-3120\(a\)\(2\)](#).

Home Education Programs

- Kansas does not have a home school statute, but the Kansas legislature enacted the Parental Rights Act in 1996 stating, "It shall be the public policy of this state that parents shall retain the fundamental right to exercise primary control over the care and upbringing of their children in their charge." [K.S.A. §38-141\(b\)](#).

Initial and Renewal Application

- Home schooling falls within the general classification of non-accredited private schools and must comply with the provisions for non-accredited private schools. This requires the school to choose a name and register its name and address with the Kansas State Board of Education. [K.S.A. §72-4346](#).

Public School Access

- No state policy for public school access at this time.

Special Education

- Upon the request of a parent or guardian, every public school district must provide special education services for exceptional children who reside in the district and attend a private, non-profit elementary or secondary school. [K.S.A. §72-3462](#).

Resources

Information and Legislation

- [Kansas State Department of Education: Non-Accredited Private Schools \(Homeschooling\)](#)

- [Kansas State Department of Education: What You Need to Know About Homeschooling in Kansas \(PDF\)](#)
- [Kansas State Department of Education: Kansas Statute Governing Homeschooling \(PDF\)](#)
- [Kansas State Department of Education: Non-Accredited Private Schools Online Registration](#)
- [Kansas State Department of Education: Quality Performance Accreditation \(QPA\)](#)
- [Chapter 72 Education, 2023 Statute](#)