

Frequently Asked Questions about Homeschooling in Nevada

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1. What are the Nevada laws regarding homeschooling?

The following Nevada Revised Statutes apply to compulsory attendance in public school, exemption from compulsory attendance, a definition of homeschooling and requirements of the local school district.

[NRS 392.040](#) Attendance required for child between 7 and 18 years of age; minimum age required for kindergarten and first grade; waiver from attendance available for child 6 years of age; developmental screening test required to determine placement of certain children.

1. Except as otherwise provided by law, each parent, custodial parent, guardian or other person in the State of Nevada having control or charge of any child between the ages of 7 and 18 years shall send the child to a public school during all the time the public school is in session in the school district in which the child resides unless the child has graduated from high school.

[NRS 392.070](#) Attendance excused for children in private school or homeschool; participation of private school children and homeschooled children in classes and extracurricular activities.

1. Attendance of a child required by the provisions of [NRS 392.040](#) must be excused when:
 - (a) The child is enrolled in a private school pursuant to [chapter 394](#) of NRS; or
 - (b) A parent of the child chooses to provide education to the child and files a [notice of intent to homeschool](#) the child with the superintendent of schools of the school district in which the child resides in accordance with [NRS 392.700](#).
2. The board of trustees of each school district shall provide programs of special education and related services for homeschooled children. The programs of special education and related services required by this section must be made available:
 - (a) Only if a child would otherwise be eligible for participation in programs of special education and related services pursuant to [NRS 388.440](#) to [388.520](#), inclusive;
 - (b) In the same manner that the board of trustees provides, as required by [20 U.S.C. § 1412](#), for the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians; and
 - (c) In accordance with the same requirements set forth in [20 U.S.C. § 1412](#) which relate to the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians.
3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 for programs of special education and related services, upon the request of a parent or legal guardian of a child who is enrolled in a private school or a parent or legal guardian of a homeschooled child, the board of trustees of the school district in which the child resides shall authorize the child to participate in any classes and extracurricular activities, excluding sports, at a public school within the school district if:
 - (a) Space for the child in the class or extracurricular activity is available;
 - (b) The parent or legal guardian demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board of trustees that the child is qualified to participate in the class or extracurricular activity; and
 - (c) If the child is a homeschooled child, a [notice of intent of a homeschooled child to participate](#) in programs and activities is filed for the child with the school district for the current school year pursuant to [NRS 392.705](#).

➔ If the board of trustees of a school district authorizes a child to participate in a class or extracurricular activity, excluding sports, pursuant to this subsection, the board of trustees is not required to provide transportation for the child to attend the class or activity. A homeschooled child must be allowed to participate in interscholastic activities and events governed by the [Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association](#) pursuant to [NRS 386.420](#) to [386.470](#), inclusive, and interscholastic activities and events, including sports, pursuant to subsection 5.
4. The board of trustees of a school district may revoke its approval for a pupil to participate in a class or extracurricular activity at a public school pursuant to subsection 3 if the board of trustees or the public school determines that the pupil has failed to comply with applicable statutes, or applicable rules and regulations of the board of trustees. If the board of trustees revokes its approval, neither the board of trustees nor the public school is liable for any damages relating to the denial of services to the pupil.
5. In addition to those interscholastic activities and events governed by the [Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association](#) pursuant to [NRS 386.420](#) to [386.470](#), inclusive, a homeschooled child must be allowed to participate in interscholastic activities and events, including sports, if a [notice of intent of a homeschooled child to](#)

[participate](#) in programs and activities is filed for the child with the school district for the current school year pursuant to [NRS 392.705](#). A homeschooled child who participates in interscholastic activities and events at a public school pursuant to this subsection must participate within the school district of the child's residence through the public school which the child is otherwise zoned to attend. Any rules or regulations that apply to pupils enrolled in public schools who participate in interscholastic activities and events, including sports, apply in the same manner to homeschooled children who participate in interscholastic activities and events, including, without limitation, provisions governing:

- (a) Eligibility and qualifications for participation;
 - (b) Fees for participation;
 - (c) Insurance;
 - (d) Transportation;
 - (e) Requirements of physical examination;
 - (f) Responsibilities of participants;
 - (g) Schedules of events;
 - (h) Safety and welfare of participants;
 - (i) Eligibility for awards, trophies and medals;
 - (j) Conduct of behavior and performance of participants; and
 - (k) Disciplinary procedures.
6. If a homeschooled child participates in interscholastic activities and events pursuant to subsection 5:
 - (a) No challenge may be brought by the Association, a school district, a public school or a private school, a parent or guardian of a pupil enrolled in a public school or a private school, a pupil enrolled in a public school or a private school, or any other entity or person claiming that an interscholastic activity or event is invalid because the homeschooled child is allowed to participate.
 - (b) Neither the school district nor a public school may prescribe any regulations, rules, policies, procedures or requirements governing the eligibility or participation of the homeschooled child that are more restrictive than the provisions governing the eligibility and participation of pupils enrolled in public schools.
 7. The programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2 may be offered at a public school or another location that is appropriate.
 8. The board of trustees of a school district:
 - (a) May, before providing programs of special education and related services to a homeschooled child pursuant to subsection 2, require proof of the identity of the child, including, without limitation, the birth certificate of the child or other documentation sufficient to establish the identity of the child.
 - (b) May, before authorizing a homeschooled child to participate in a class or extracurricular activity, excluding sports, pursuant to subsection 3, require proof of the identity of the child, including, without limitation, the birth certificate of the child or other documentation sufficient to establish the identity of the child.
 - (c) Shall, before allowing a homeschooled child to participate in interscholastic activities and events governed by the [Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association](#) pursuant to [NRS 386.420](#) to [386.470](#), inclusive, and interscholastic activities and events pursuant to subsection 5, require proof of the identity of the child, including, without limitation, the birth certificate of the child or other documentation sufficient to establish the identity of the child.
 9. The Department shall adopt such [regulations](#) as are necessary for the boards of trustees of school districts to provide the programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2.
 10. As used in this section, "related services" has the meaning ascribed to it in [20 U.S.C. § 1401](#).

[NRS 392.700](#) Notice of intent to homeschool; release of child's records; participation in examinations; educational plan; discrimination prohibited.

1. If the parent of a child who is subject to compulsory attendance wishes to homeschool the child, the parent must file with the superintendent of schools of the school district in which the child resides a written [notice of intent to homeschool](#) the child. The Department shall develop a standard form for the notice of intent to homeschool. The form must not require any information or assurances that are not otherwise required by this section or other specific statute. The board of trustees of each school district shall, in a timely manner, make only the form developed by the Department available to parents who wish to homeschool their child.
2. The notice of intent to homeschool must be filed before beginning to homeschool the child or:
 - (a) Not later than 10 days after the child has been formally withdrawn from enrollment in public school; or

- (b) Not later than 30 days after establishing residency in this State.
- 3. The purpose of the notice of intent to homeschool is to inform the school district in which the child resides that the child is exempt from the requirement of compulsory attendance.
- 4. If the name or address of the parent or child as indicated on a notice of intent to homeschool changes, the parent must, not later than 30 days after the change, file a new notice of intent to homeschool with the superintendent of schools of the school district in which the child resides.
- 5. A notice of intent to homeschool must include only the following:
 - (a) The full name, age and gender of the child;
 - (b) The name and address of each parent filing the notice of intent to homeschool;
 - (c) A statement signed and dated by each such parent declaring that the parent has control or charge of the child and the legal right to direct the education of the child, and assumes full responsibility for the education of the child while the child is being homeschooled;
 - (d) An educational plan for the child that is prepared pursuant to subsection 12;
 - (e) If applicable, the name of the public school in this State which the child most recently attended; and
 - (f) An optional statement that the parent may sign which provides:

I expressly prohibit the release of any information contained in this document, including, without limitation, directory information as defined in [20 U.S.C. § 1232g\(a\)\(5\)\(A\)](#), without my prior written consent.

- 6. Each superintendent of schools of a school district shall accept notice of intent to homeschool that is filed with him pursuant to this section and meets the requirements of subsection 5, and shall not require or request any additional information or assurances from the parent who filed the notice.
- 7. The school district shall provide to a parent who files a notice a written acknowledgment which clearly indicates that the parent has provided notification required by law and that the child is being homeschooled. The written acknowledgment shall be deemed proof of compliance with Nevada's compulsory school attendance law. The school district shall retain a copy of the written acknowledgment for not less than 15 years. The written acknowledgment may be retained in electronic format.
- 8. The superintendent of schools of a school district shall process a written request for a copy of the records of the school district, or any information contained therein, relating to a child who is being or has been homeschooled not later than 5 days after receiving the request. The superintendent of schools may only release such records or information:
 - (a) To a person or entity specified by the parent of the child, or by the child if he is at least 18 years of age, upon suitable proof of identity of the parent or child; or
 - (b) If required by specific statute.
- 9. If a child who is or was homeschooled seeks admittance or entrance to any school in this State, the school may use only commonly used practices in determining the academic ability, placement or eligibility of the child. A homeschooled child seeking admittance to public high school must comply with [NRS 392.033](#).
- 10. A school or organization shall not discriminate in any manner against a child who is or was homeschooled.
- 11. Each school district shall allow homeschooled children to participate in the [high school proficiency examination](#) administered pursuant to [NRS 389.015](#) and all college entrance examinations offered in this State, including, without limitation, the [Scholastic Aptitude Test](#), the [American College Test](#), the [Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test](#) and the [National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test](#). Each school district shall ensure that the homeschooled children who reside in the school district have adequate notice of the availability of information concerning such examinations on the Internet website of the school district maintained pursuant to [NRS 389.004](#).
- 12. The parent of a child who is being homeschooled shall prepare an educational plan of instruction for the child in the subject areas of English, including reading, composition and writing, mathematics, science and social studies, including history, geography, economics and government, as appropriate for the age and level of skill of the child as determined by the parent. The educational plan must be included in the notice of intent to homeschool filed pursuant to this section. If the educational plan contains the requirements of this section, the educational plan must not be used in any manner as a basis for denial of a notice of intent to homeschool that is otherwise complete. The parent must be prepared to present the educational plan of instruction and proof of the identity of the child to a court of law if required by the court. This subsection does not require a parent to ensure that each subject area is taught each year that the child is homeschooled.
- 13. No regulation or policy of the State Board, any school district or any other governmental entity may infringe upon the right of a parent to educate his child based on religious preference unless it is:

- (a) Essential to further a compelling governmental interest; and
 - (b) The least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest.
14. As used in this section, "parent" means the parent, custodial parent, legal guardian or other person in this State who has control or charge of a child and the legal right to direct the education of the child.

NRS 392.705 Form for participation in programs and activities at public school or through Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association.

1. The Department shall develop a standard form for the notice of intent of a homeschooled child to participate in programs and activities. The board of trustees of each school district shall, in a timely manner, make only the form developed by the Department available to parents of homeschooled children.
2. The notice developed pursuant to subsection 1 must include the information required in the notice of intent to homeschool pursuant to [NRS 392.700](#), excluding the educational plan for the homeschooled child.
3. If a homeschooled child wishes to participate in classes, activities, programs, sports or interscholastic activities and events at a public school or through a school district, or through the [Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association](#), the parent of the child must file a current [notice of intent to participate](#) with the school district in which the child resides.

NRS 385.007 Definitions.

3. "Homeschooled child" means a child who receives instruction at home and who is exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to [NRS 392.070](#).

2. Are there any Nevada Administrative Codes adopted by the State Board of Education that regulate homeschooling?

No. After the successful passage of [Senate Bill 404](#) during the 2007 Legislative Session homeschooling no longer falls under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education and former regulation numbers NAC 392.011-392.065 were declared void. Homeschools now operate solely under the Nevada Revised Statutes as a separate educational alternative to compulsory attendance in a public school.

Senate Bill 404

Sec. 9. *The regulations adopted by the State Board of Education which are codified as NAC 392.011 to 392.065, inclusive, are hereby declared void. In preparing the supplements to the Nevada Administrative Code on or after July 1, 2007, the Legislative Counsel shall remove those regulations.*

3. At what age and how often must I file a Notice of Intent to Homeschool?

Upon the commencement of homeschooling for each child a Notice of Intent to Homeschool must be filed. The notification is submitted either when he/she [turns seven years of age](#) or within 10 days of discontinuing another educational option. You do not have to file again unless the child or parent's last name or address changes in which case you must file within 30 days of the change. If you are a new resident in Nevada you must file within thirty days of establishing residence. There is no longer a requirement to file annually when you homeschool your child in subsequent consecutive years.

4. What information should a parent of a homeschooled child submit to the superintendent of schools of county in which the child resides?

Nevada law ([NRS 392.070](#)) provides for a waiver of the compulsory attendance laws if the parent submits a Notice of Intent to Homeschool. The notice must be prepared in accordance with the requirements set forth in [NRS 392.700](#). The “Notice of Intent to Homeschool” [form developed by NHN](#) or the [Nevada Department of Education form](#) distributed by your school district, meet these requirements when completed and submitted. Written documentation other than one of these forms that meets the requirements set forth in [NRS 392.700](#) may be submitted to the district.

Information in a Notice of Intent to Homeschool must include:

- The full name, age, and gender of the child,
- The name and address of the parent filing the notice,
- A signed statement of responsibility,
- An educational plan for the age and skill level of the child,
- The name of the public school most recently attended by the child, if applicable, and
- A privacy statement, if desired.

5. When, where, and how do I turn in my intent form?

By law, you may mail or hand-deliver your intent form to the local superintendent of schools district office. The local superintendent may have [designated another office or location](#) within the district for filing of the Notice of Intent to Homeschool which you may comply with if you choose, however, you are not obligated to do so. Many times the former “homeschool offices” were located somewhere other than the district office making it difficult for the parent to file their intent forms expediently. That is why the “superintendent of schools” is stipulated in the new law.

If you mail the intent form to your school district we recommend you do so by certified mail with a return receipt request. The district will mail you a written acknowledgment as proof of compliance with Nevada’s compulsory attendance laws. If you hand-deliver your intent form the district is required to provide a written acknowledgment upon receipt of your completed form.

If you are removing your child from the public school or a private school mid-year you must submit the intent form to the superintendent of schools district office within 10 days of withdrawing your child from public or private school. Following this procedure will ensure that your child will not run the risk of being truant ([NRS 392.130 to NRS 392.160](#)).

You may withdraw your child anytime, any day of the year, and follow the appropriate guidelines for Notifying as listed above. Some districts have policies in place about not withdrawing during the last 3 weeks of school and then re-enrolling elsewhere, but this is not applicable when filing to homeschool.

6. What is the responsibility of the local school district regarding exemption from compulsory attendance of homeschooled children?

- The compulsory attendance law is enforced by the local school district.
- However, if the superintendent of schools of a local school district receives a Notice of Intent to Homeschool from the “parent having control or charge of any child between the [ages of 7 and 18](#)”, the superintendent of schools must excuse the child from compulsory attendance in the public school.
- There is no approval process on the part of the local superintendent. If the notification contains the information required by law the superintendent must accept the notification and may not require or request any additional information or assurances from the parent.
- Upon receiving a Notice of Intent to Homeschool the school district must provide a “written acknowledgment which clearly indicates that the parent has provided the notification required by law and that the child is being homeschooled”.
- The written acknowledgment shall be “deemed proof of compliance with Nevada’s compulsory school attendance law”. The district shall retain a physical or electronic copy of the acknowledgment for not less than 15 years.

7. Does the local superintendent of schools have to “approve” the educational plan for a homeschooled child?

No. As stated above, the law does not require or authorize the local superintendent to approve the educational plan for a homeschooled child (see [NRS 392.700 #6 and #12](#)). When a parent “assumes full responsibility for the education of the child while the child is being homeschooled” ([NRS 392.700 #5c](#)) the parent is responsible for the academic progress of the child. The superintendent of schools for the local school district is not authorized to monitor the academic plan for the child. Furthermore, the purpose of the Notice of Intent to Homeschool is to inform the school district that the child is exempt from compulsory attendance in public school ([NRS 392.700 #3](#)). If a Notice of Intent to Homeschool does not contain information required by law then the school district may contact the parent for the missing information. Any educational plan that includes the basic subjects required in law (as appropriate for the age and skill level of the child as determined by the parent) **MUST** be accepted.

After filing the Notice of Intent to Homeschool with the school district, a parent must be prepared to provide an educational plan and proof of identity **only when required by a court of law** ([NRS 392.700 #12](#)). This educational plan must include the subjects required by law as appropriate for the age and skill level of the child, as determined by the parent, at the time of the court request. However, the law does not require that every subject listed in law be taught every year the child is homeschooled. The requirement for the parent to “prepare an educational plan of instruction” does not necessarily mean written preparation each year, as explained to homeschool leaders by the Legislative Counsel Bureau when the homeschool law was passed. To “prepare” means to “make ready”, to “get ready”, to “equip”.

8. Should the local school district establish a file for the homeschooled child?

No, a local school district is not required to keep a file on a homeschooled child. However, if the superintendent of schools receives a Notice of Intent to Homeschool, the school district must maintain a copy of the written acknowledgement, which is given to the parent upon receipt of the notification, for a minimum of 15 years. The parent, or child (when he/she turns 18 years of age), or a person specified by the parent (all requiring suitable identification), or the courts, may request a copy of the written acknowledgement or any other records pertaining to the child, and the district must process that request within 5 days. ([NRS 392.700 #7 and #8](#))

9. What information is the local school district required to make available to a homeschooling parent?

The local district is required to make available the Nevada Department of Education Notice of Intent to Homeschool Form. In addition, they are required to provide information on their website, in a timely manner, regarding the High School Proficiency Exam and all college entrance exams such as the S.A.T, the A.C.T. and the PSAT/NMSQT, including registration dates and examination dates. ([NRS 392.700 #1 and #11](#)) The [Nevada Dept. of Ed](#) website has a listing of each district's website.

10. Does the School District have any other responsibilities?

Yes. They are required by [federal law to conduct Child Find](#) - identifying children with special needs. As explained below in #s 20 & 21, whether or not you, as the homeschooling parent, allows an evaluation, or services to be provided, is strictly up to you.

11. What subjects are parents required to teach in their homeschool?

[NRS 392.700 #12](#) requires the basic subjects of English, including reading, composition and writing, mathematics, science and social studies, including history, geography, economics and government. These subjects may be taught as the parent determines is appropriate for the age and skill level of the child and do not need to comply with Nevada state standards for public schools. For assistance in writing an educational plan or choosing instructional materials parents may find the local library or the Internet helpful. Enter the words "homeschooling in Nevada" in the search engine for a listing of local, regional, or state homeschool organizations with resources available to homeschoolers in your area. These websites usually offer free services as a support to the homeschooling community.

12. Is there a specified amount of time a homeschooled child is required to receive instruction?

No. Homeschooled children are exempt from the number of days a child is required to attend public school. They are also exempt from a “minutes per day of instruction” requirement required of public school students.

It is recognized that in a tutorial education program such as homeschooling a student can generally accomplish more in a shorter period of time than in a group setting. By law, the public school year runs from July 1 to June 30. Most homeschool parents use a traditional academic schedule as a starting point and then tailor the amount of instructional time as needed for each child. Some children may need more time to master a skill, others less. That is what makes homeschooling unique and such a success. You may follow a traditional nine month calendar or follow your own year round schedule within that twelve month period.

13. May the parent of a homeschooled child request information regarding public school curriculum from the local school board/district?

Yes. Parents may seek information about the school curriculum from the local school board/district. If the parent requests such information, the board/district must provide it since a district’s curriculum is a matter of public record ([NRS 390](#), [NAC 390](#)). The district, however, is not obligated to provide books and materials to a homeschooled student.

14. Are parents required to work with a consultant during their homeschooling?

No, there is no law requiring a parent to work with a consultant or certified teacher in the State of Nevada. The information required by law in the Notice of Intent to Homeschool is basic and designed to be easily completed by the parent without the assistance of an “expert”.

The homeschooling parent may choose to use correspondence programs, computer programs, textbooks, the internet, library resources, licensed teachers, co-ops, tutors, specialty instructors, or any other resources the parent deems appropriate to meet the educational needs of their child, but it is the parent who directs the education of the child. There are many local, regional and statewide homeschool organizations available to assist a new homeschooling parent. Many of these groups have websites or are listed in the telephone directory. Talking with someone else who is a veteran homeschooler will give you an opportunity to find out how to get started and learn about the many valuable resources available to you according to the educational style you choose to use in your homeschool. The [NHN website](#) is listed at the beginning of this document for more assistance should you need it, and it contains sample educational plans that you may use when developing a plan for your child.

15. Is the parent required to have a teaching license or any special training?

No. The parent is not required to have a teaching license or any special training. You do need to be the parent or legal guardian (See [NRS 392.700 #14](#)). You have a constitutional and legal right to direct the education of your child.

Many times parents new to homeschooling are faced with a barrage of information on how to homeschool their children and are easily overwhelmed by all the choices. NHN believes that the best resource for new homeschoolers is OTHER homeschoolers who are already educating their own children. Local homeschool support groups and co-ops are a wonderful resource for new homeschoolers. NHN maintains a list of current groups on our website Support Group page conveniently divided by Nevada Counties.

With the advent of the internet there is a plethora of resources available to homeschoolers. Often times well-intentioned retired teachers/bureaucrats peddle educational programs or tutoring services to unsuspecting homeschool parents. However, we'd like to say, "Buyer beware". Over the years we have noticed two things about these educational programs or services that concern us,

- 1) The perception amongst bureaucrats that homeschoolers lack "professional" programs or services, a void that only they can fill, and
- 2) Parents new to homeschooling may have feelings of guilt for withdrawing or keeping their children out of the government school system and unnecessarily think they should avail themselves of these "professional" programs/services.

NHN encourages you to contact other homeschoolers before purchasing any program and/or using "professional" services. Ask what others have done to meet the educational needs of their children: homeschool moms love to give advice and make recommendations based on what worked or didn't work for their own children.

16. Can someone else homeschool my child?

One cannot "have" their child homeschooled by someone else. [NRS 385.007 #3](#) and [NRS 392.070 #1b](#) define homeschooling, and when combined: "Homeschooled child means a child who receives instruction at home... (when) A parent of the child chooses to provide education to the child..." The parent assumes full responsibility for the education of their child by signing the Notice of Intent to Homeschool, and must provide the education. Providing the education means the parent can do their own teaching, or use others (such as a tutor), or have the child take classes (such as at a homeschool co-op, a private or public school, a civic or community group, a private organization, etc), or use a correspondence or on-line course, or do whatever else the parent deems necessary. The parent, not another person, organization, or school, is the one who has direct managerial control of the child's education.

[NRS 394.103](#) "Private schools" defined. "Private schools" means private elementary and secondary educational institutions. The term does not include a home in which instruction is provided to a child who is excused from compulsory attendance pursuant to subsection 1 of [NRS 392.070](#).

[NRS 394.351](#) Unlawful acts. It is unlawful for any person, alone or in concert with others, to: 3. Instruct or educate, or offer to instruct or educate (including advertising or soliciting for such purpose), enroll or offer to enroll, or contract with any person for such purpose, or award any educational credential, or contract with any institution or party to perform any such act in this state, whether the person is located within or outside this state, unless such person complies with the minimum standards set forth in [NRS 394.241](#) and the regulations adopted by the Board.

[NRS 385.007 \(#3\)](#) "Homeschooled child" means a child who receives instruction at home and who is exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to [NRS 392.070](#)."

[NRS 392.070](#) (Attendance at public school must be excused when) (**#1b**) "A parent of the child chooses to provide education to the child and files a Notice of Intent to Homeschool the child..."

[NRS 392.700 #5\(c\)](#) by signing he/she "...assumes full responsibility for the education of the child while the child is being homeschooled."

17. Are there any testing requirements of homeschooled children in Nevada?

No, the parent is assuming full responsibility for the education of the child and therefore is best suited to determine the educational needs of the child, not the state. However, many parents choose to periodically administer standardized tests or some other form of evaluation to determine the progress of their child and use in future planning. Many homeschooled children are in different grade levels for different subjects, thereby limiting the usefulness of standardized tests. Some homeschool support groups offer annual testing using nationally standardized tests such as the [Stanford Achievement Test](#). Other types of exams or academic evaluations may be used, such as those available from www.familylearning.org (800) 405-8378.

Though not required, a homeschooler may take the [Nevada High School Proficiency Exam](#) (NHSPE), as well as college entrance exams offered in this state such as the [Scholastic Aptitude Test](#), the [American College Test](#), the [Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test](#) and the [National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test](#). (A homeschool student seeking the Nevada Millennium Scholarship must take and achieve minimum scores on the NHSPE and the SAT or ACT, see question 19). The district is required by SB404 to post all testing dates and locations on their website for all children in the district, including those available to homeschooled children. Contact your district for information on signups and test dates for the High School Proficiency Exam as well as college entrance exam test dates ([NRS 392.700 #11](#)) . You can find your school district's website on the NV Dept. of Ed website: <http://www.doe.nv.gov/schools.html>

All homeschooled students, especially those who are academically gifted, who are entering their junior year of high school, should consider taking the PSAT/NMSQT

(National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) at the local high school. National Merit Scholars are highly sought by the most prestigious universities. The local district is required to make information available on their district website to homeschoolers in a timely manner regarding signups for the PSAT/NMSQT ([NRS 392.700 #11](#)).

18. Does a homeschooled child receive a high school diploma from a local school district?

No. A homeschooled child will not receive a public school high school diploma. A diploma is a certificate that says the student has completed a certain course of study. Homeschooled children have completed a course of study in compliance with NRS 392.070, and are therefore eligible to receive a diploma from the parents or from an institution employed by the parents such as a correspondence course. For more information on this topic, you may visit these websites: www.homeschooldiplomas.com and www.learninfreedom.org or www.hslda.org . You may also contact a local, regional, or statewide homeschool organization for assistance in homeschooling a high school student.

19. May a homeschooled student apply for the Millennium Scholarship?

Yes, a homeschooled student is eligible to apply for the Nevada Millennium Scholarship. To qualify a homeschooled student must provide:

1. A “certificate of completion” from the homeschool program, this may be a “home produced” certificate or diploma or a GED if applicable. Also refer to Question 18 regarding the high school diploma.
2. A copy of the school district’s written acknowledgment of exemption from compulsory attendance.
3. A copy of the results of the Nevada High School Proficiency Exam (homeschool students are not required to take the HSPE unless applying for the Millennium Scholarship). Contact your local school district (or any public school district in the state) to sign up for the HSPE. The exam is given during certain "windows" of time so be sure to plan ahead so that your student has the exam results prior to applying for the scholarship.
4. A copy of the results of either the ACT (minimum score of 21) or the SAT (minimum score of 990). You may register online to take either the ACT or SAT at <http://www.act.org/aap/> or <http://www.collegeboard.com/testing/>.
5. A copy of official public/private high school transcripts if the homeschooled student was ever enrolled in a public or private high school or took any classes there under the dual enrollment clause. The student must meet the GPA requirement, i.e. a 3.0 if graduating 2004 or earlier, 3.1 in 2005 or 06, and 3.25 graduating 2007 or later for all classes taken a public or licensed private high school. If a homeschool student took any classes at a public/private high school

or was enrolled full time in a public/private high school for any part of their high school career their cumulative GPA for those classes must be equal to or greater than the GPA requirement for public/private high school graduates applying for the scholarship depending upon the year they graduate from their homeschool high school program.

6. When all the necessary documents have been collected download and print an application from the Nevada State Treasurer's website <https://nevadatreasurer.gov/documents/millennium/Form-NoDiploma.pdf>. Fill out the application and return it, along with the above required documents, as applicable to your student, directly to the Millennium Scholarship office via fax or US mail service. Homeschool students do not apply through the local high school for the scholarship. The Scholarship office will notify the student when the scholarship status has been determined. If the student qualifies then when he/she registers for classes through the WEB-REG system (online) at a community college in Nevada, Nevada State College, UNR (E-PAWs), or UNLV (Online Registration) the student will have the opportunity to click on a Millennium Scholarship button to activate payment of credits (up to 12 per semester to total amount granted) through the MS Program.
7. The Governor's Millennium Scholarship office is VERY friendly to homeschoolers and will answer all your questions if you contact them.

For the latest information, go to the Millennium Scholarship website at www.nevadatreasurer.gov. Go to "Documents & Forms" and download the "Students without Diploma" application, the "Fact Sheet", and other updated information.

20. May a homeschooled child participate in programs of special education and related services through the public school?

In cases of special education, Nevada law ([NRS392.070 #2](#)) equates a homeschooled child to a private school child for purposes of Nevada and Federal special education laws and regulations. Under these laws, a homeschooled child is not *entitled* to any or all of the services that would be provided by a FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education) of the local public school. Some districts do supplement the Federal special education funding so that private and homeschooled children do receive all necessary services, but they are not required to.

Instead, after a homeschooled child has been "identified" via the [Child Find](#) provisions of [IDEA](#) (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), the local public school district consults with homeschool and private school representatives to determine how the Federal funding allocated to home and private school students will be distributed. The greater the number of homeschooled children who have been identified, the greater the proportionate amount of Federal funding that will be provided to the homeschooled segment. Unlike a public schooled child, not every homeschooled child is *entitled* to receive services. For those homeschooled children who do receive services, with final determination by the local district, the district will develop either a services plan or an IEP (Individualized Educational Program), and services are provided. A services plan as defined in

Federal Regulations is not to be confused with an Individualized Family Service Plan for children under three years of age.

For more information, support, and Child Find phone numbers, please refer to NHN's [Special Needs Homeschooling](#) webpage.

Following is the Nevada law [NRS 392.070](#) with regards to programs of special education and related services for homeschooled children:

[NRS 392.070](#)

2. The board of trustees of each school district shall provide programs of special education and related services for homeschooled children. The programs of special education and related services required by this section must be made available:
 - (a) Only if a child would otherwise be eligible for participation in programs of special education and related services pursuant to [NRS 388.440](#) to [388.520](#), inclusive;
 - (b) In the same manner that the board of trustees provides, as required by [20 U.S.C. § 1412](#), for the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians; and
 - (c) In accordance with the same requirements set forth in [20 U.S.C. § 1412](#) which relate to the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians.
7. The programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2 may be offered at a public school or another location that is appropriate.
8. The board of trustees of a school district:
 - (a) May, before providing programs of special education and related services to a homeschooled child pursuant to subsection 2, require proof of the identity of the child, including, without limitation, the birth certificate of the child or other documentation sufficient to establish the identity of the child.
 - (b) May, before authorizing a homeschooled child to participate in a class or extracurricular activity, excluding sports, pursuant to subsection 3, require proof of the identity of the child, including, without limitation, the birth certificate of the child or other documentation sufficient to establish the identity of the child.
 - (c) Shall, before allowing a homeschooled child to participate in interscholastic activities and events governed by the [Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association](#) pursuant to [NRS 386.420](#) to [386.470](#), inclusive, and interscholastic activities and events pursuant to subsection 5, require proof of the identity of the child, including, without limitation, the birth certificate of the child or other documentation sufficient to establish the identity of the child.
9. The Department shall adopt such [regulations](#) as are necessary for the boards of trustees of school districts to provide the programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2.
10. As used in this section, “related services” has the meaning ascribed to it in [20 U.S.C. § 1401](#).

21. The local school district is sending me letters and forms to fill out for special needs children. Am I required to fill out and return these?

No. If you do not wish to receive any services, you do not have to return any of these, whether the district is aware of a special needs child in your home or not. If you wish to ask for special education services from the local public school district, you must fill these out and return them.

The district is required by Federal law to comply with the Child Find process, but you are not required to respond or have your child “identified” as having special needs in any way if you do not wish. If you should decide to have your child identified as a special needs child, you still are not

required to receive services from the district and may refuse them if they are offered. The advantage to having your special needs child identified, and then not partaking of any services that might be offered, is that more funding will now be made available for other homeschooled special needs children. However, you are under no obligation to participate for this reason. Once your child has been identified you do not need to have your child re-identified for 3 years. Even for public schooled children, Nevada law specifies that a district may not require a child to take advantage of special education programs under certain circumstances ([NRS 388.460](#)).

22. Is there Gifted testing and what services are available for my homeschooled child?

The public school districts are not responsible for, nor will they, test a non-enrolled child for Gifted abilities. However, our homeschooled (or private schooled) children can be evaluated outside of the public school, at the parent's expense.

While there are many places within the community that offer this type of testing, many people choose to use their local University Psychology Dept testing as it is usually the most affordable. UNLV and UNR both offer this. Once an outside evaluation is done, the services MAY be provided. The parent meets with the principal of the school to determine if space is available.

Sadly, all the schools can usually offer their gifted students is in the form of a pull out class, grades 3, 4 and 5. Once a child hits middle school there is no GATE program, they just take more advanced classes. Listed below are some resources in this area:

Nevada Association for the Gifted <http://www.nevadagt.org/>

The Davidson Academy, a public school for profoundly gifted middle and high school students: <http://www.davidsonacademy.unr.edu/>

New Horizons Academy, Las Vegas, Elementary, Private school: <http://www.nhalv.org/>

Sage Ridge School-Reno, 6-12 grade college prep: <http://www.sageridge.org/>

Nevada Advocates for Highly Gifted Children (NAHGC), Las Vegas:
nvhighlygifted@yahoo.com, (702) 460-1860

The GT Parent Connection: Parents in Washoe County; gtparentconnection@charter.net

THINK Summer Institute - Davidson Institute for Talent Development
http://www.ditdservices.org/Articles.aspx?ArticleID=114&NavID=5_0

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) - Summer Advanced Gifted Education (SAGE) <http://edoutreach.unlv.edu/sage/index.html>

NAC 388.435 Eligibility of pupil who is gifted and talented. ([NRS 385.080](#), [388.470](#), [388.520](#))

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a pupil who is gifted and talented is eligible for special services and programs of instruction if a team, comprised of persons selected by the public agency, concludes that the pupil has:

- (a) General intellectual ability or academic aptitude in a specific area that is demonstrated by a score at or above the 98th percentile:
 - (1) On a test of cognitive ability that is individually administered;
 - (2) In a major content area on a nationally standardized achievement test that is individually administered in kindergarten through eighth grade; or
 - (3) In a major content area on a nationally standardized achievement test, the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT), the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT) that is administered to a group of students for grades 9 through 12, inclusive; or
- (b) An area of talent, including, but not limited to, creative thinking, productive thinking, leadership, ability in the visual arts or ability in the performing arts, as determined by the local public agency of the pupil.

2. In determining the eligibility of a pupil for the special services and programs of instruction referred to in this section, the team may use alternative assessment procedures for a pupil from another culture, a pupil who is environmentally or economically deprived or a pupil who has a disability.

3. A pupil under the age of 6 years is not ineligible, because of the pupil's age, for the special services and programs referred to in this section.

4. The conclusions of the team concerning the eligibility of the pupil for the special services and programs of instruction referred to in this section must be based upon an assessment of the talent, cognitive abilities or academic achievement of the pupil.

5. Unless the pupil's individualized educational program otherwise provides, a pupil who is gifted and talented must participate in not less than 150 minutes of differentiated educational activities each week during the school year.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Education, eff. 7-14-88; A 9-13-91; 11-23-93; R085-99, 2-16-2000)

23. May a homeschooled child participate in classes, extra-curricular activities, and/or sports at the public school or charter school?

Yes. Nevada Revised Statute [392.070 #3-6](#) (for public schools) and [NRS 386.580 #5-6](#) (for public charter schools), allow participation in classes and extracurricular activities. Districts and charter schools are reimbursed by the Nevada State Department of Education for each class taken by a homeschooled child in accordance with the provisions of [NRS 387.1233 #8](#).

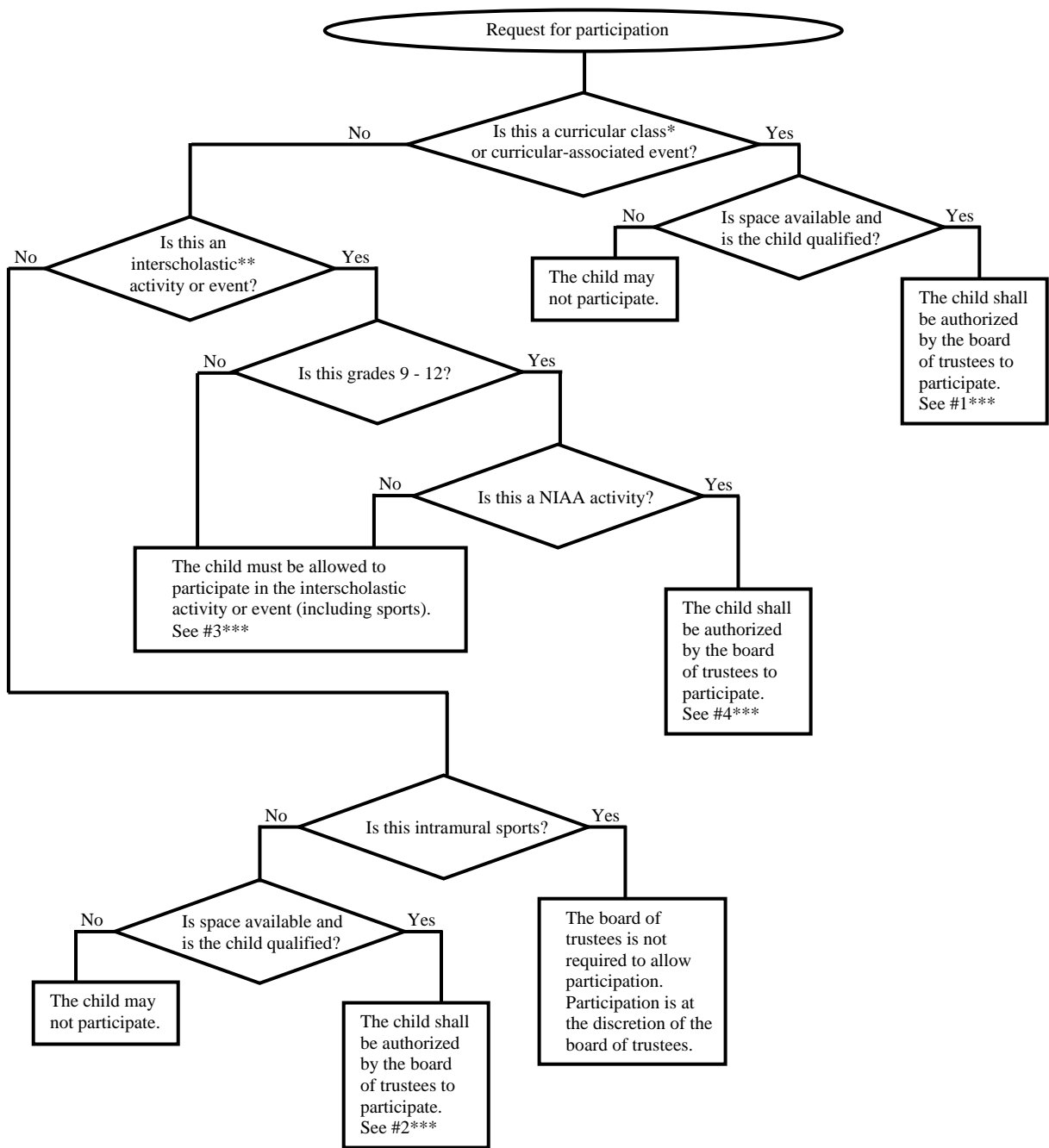
Sports are a special type of extracurricular activity and are handled separately in the NRS. [NRS 392.070 #3-6](#) and [386.420 to 386.470](#) apply to interscholastic activities and events which includes sports. Interscholastic is defined as existing or conducted between or among schools.

The flow chart on the next page is useful to determine a homeschooled child's eligibility to participate. The chart refers the reader to further reading, which is imperative for understanding what the law allows. To access this information, go to:

<http://www.nevadahomeschoolnetwork.com/memo.php> This is the most current Memo that State Superintendent Rheault has sent to all school districts in the State. NHN has a similar Memo that includes the DoE facts plus additional information; download it from: http://www.nevadahomeschoolnetwork.com/NHN_Homeschool_Memo_6_21_07.pdf.

FLOW CHART

for a request by a homeschooled student to participate in classes, sports, extracurricular or interscholastic activities and events



* A class offered as part of the core or elective curriculum.
 ** Interscholastic - existing or conducted between or among schools.
 *** See the NHN Memo or Dept of Education Memo available from <http://www.nevadahomeschoolnetwork.com/memo.php> for detailed information.

24. Since homeschoolers are allowed by law to take classes at a charter school if space is available, can classes be taken from one of Nevada's "virtual" charter schools?

No. Referring to a homeschooled child, the law says in [NRS 386.580 #5c](#), "A charter school shall not authorize such a child to participate in a class or activity through a program of distance education provided by the charter school pursuant to [NRS 388.820](#) to 388.874, inclusive." In [NRS 388.850 #3](#) the law says that a child who is being homeschooled is not eligible to enroll in or attend a program of distance education, and [NRS 388.826](#) defines distance education as "instruction which is delivered by means of video, computer, television, or the Internet or other electronic means of communication, or any combination thereof, in such a manner that the person supervising or providing the instruction and the pupil receiving the instruction are separated geographically for a majority of the time during which instruction is delivered."

25. May a homeschooled child take distance education classes?

It depends on who is sponsoring the Distance Education. [NRS 388.850 #3](#) and [NRS 386.580 #4](#) specifically exclude a homeschooled child from a distance education program that is sponsored by the local Nevada school district or a Nevada charter school as defined in [NRS 388.829](#). A homeschooler may use a Distance Education program offered by any other entity, in state or out of state, because the distance education courses in NRS 388 that homeschoolers are excluded from apply only to Nevada's System of Public Instruction.

26. A charter or other public school is offering "education at home" where I educate my child at home and they provide the supplies, correspondence program and/or computer program with a licensed teacher to help periodically. Is this homeschooling?

No. These schools are governed by Nevada Revised Statutes other than NRS 392.070 and 392.700 which are specific to homeschoolers. Under Nevada law a parent of a homeschooled child assumes full responsibility for the education of their child while homeschooling. Charter and public schools operate under other Nevada laws and regulations and have other requirements. Some charter and public schools offer Independent Study programs and Distance Education programs where children who are enrolled in those schools receive education at home, but the education is directed by the public or charter school, not the parent.

27. May a homeschooled child enroll in a private or public school after being homeschooled for a time?

Yes, a homeschool student may enroll in a private or public school after homeschooling for a time. However, there are many things a parent should know:

Private Schools K-12

Private schools develop their own enrollment policies. Please contact the private school you are considering when choosing not to homeschool any longer.

Public Schools K-12

Public schools are required to accept any child that is enrolled in the public school system. Laws and regulations have been enacted to give the local district some guidelines on the placement of a child who is new to the school. Local districts, in turn, develop policies to implement those laws and regulations.

Below is a flow chart to help determine which laws and regulations apply. Laws (NRS - Nevada Revised Statute) take precedent over regulations (NAC - Nevada Administrative Code). Since the laws and regulations both change over time, it is highly recommended that you or a legal professional check them if a particular situation requires definitive answers.

NRS references are available at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/>

NAC references are available at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/CHAPTERS.HTML>

When NACs (regulations) are changed, a process for proposed and adopted regulations is followed that includes posting on the State's legislative website before being codified into their final form on the above website. You can view them at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Register/>.

Begin Public High School (9th grade)
HIGH SCHOOL

1. The State Board shall adopt regulations which prescribe the courses of study required for promotion to high school, including, without limitation, English, mathematics, science and social studies. The regulations may include the credits to be earned in each course.
2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the board of trustees of a school district shall not promote a pupil to high school if the pupil does not complete the course of study or credits required for promotion. The board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled may provide programs of remedial study to complete the courses of study required for promotion to high school.
3. The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a procedure for evaluating the course of study or credits completed by a pupil who transfers to a junior high or middle school from a junior high or middle school in this State or from a school outside of this State.
4. The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a policy that allows a pupil who has not completed the courses of study or credits required for promotion to high school to be placed on academic probation and to enroll in high school. A pupil who is on academic probation pursuant to this subsection shall complete appropriate remediation in the subject areas that he failed to pass. The policy must include the criteria for eligibility of a pupil to be placed on academic probation. A parent or guardian may elect not to place his child on academic probation but to remain in grade 8.
5. A homeschooled child who enrolls in a public high school shall, upon initial enrollment:
 - (a) Provide documentation sufficient to prove that the child has successfully completed the courses of study required for promotion to high school through an accredited program of homeschool study recognized by the board of trustees of the school district;
 - (b) Demonstrate proficiency in the courses of study required for promotion to high school through an examination prescribed by the board of trustees of the school district; or
 - (c) Provide other proof satisfactory to the board of trustees of the school district demonstrating competency in the courses of study required for promotion to high school. (NRS 392.033)

1. If a pupil enrolls in the 9th grade during or after the 1999-2000 school year:
 - (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the pupil must earn a minimum of:
 - (1) Five units of credit to be promoted to the 10th grade.
 - (2) Eleven units of credit to be promoted to the 11th grade.
 - (3) Seventeen units of credit to be promoted to the 12th grade.
 - (b) A school district shall evaluate the transcripts of the pupil if he transferred to a high school within the school district from another high school located outside the school district, whether located inside or outside this State, to determine the grade level for which the pupil qualifies pursuant to paragraph (a).
 - (c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the pupil shall be deemed deficient in credit if, after completing a year of high school, he failed to earn at least the number of units of credit required pursuant to paragraph (a) to be promoted to the next higher grade level.
2. The superintendent of a local school district may waive the requirement set forth in:
 - (a) Subparagraph (1) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 if:
 - (1) The local school district is a school district in which the 9th grade is taught in a junior high or middle school; and
 - (2) He determines that extenuating circumstances exist; and
 - (b) Subparagraph (3) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 if he determines that extenuating circumstances exist. (NAC 389.659)

1. A pupil who transfers to a Nevada high school from another school, whether located inside or outside this State, shall abide by the requirements for graduation of the receiving school district unless he is in the 12th grade and the requirements of that district would not allow him to graduate by the end of the 12th grade.
2. Each school district shall develop a policy and procedure to make an allowance for a pupil in the latter circumstances so that he may graduate from:
 - (a) The receiving school under its requirements or the minimum requirements of the State Board of Education; or
 - (b) His school of origin if that school is willing to issue the diploma. (NAC 389.682)

©NHN, November 2009 (NAC 389.682)

Public High School Graduation

For purposes of paragraph (a) of subsection 5 of NRS 392.033, the board of trustees of a school district may consider recognition of the programs of homeschool study accredited by the following national or regional accrediting associations:

- (a) [Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools](#);
- (b) [New England Association of Schools and Colleges](#);
- (c) [North Central Association of Colleges and Schools](#);
- (d) [Northwest Association of Accredited Schools](#);
- (e) [Southern Association of Colleges and Schools](#);
- (f) [Western Association of Schools and Colleges](#);
- (g) [Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation](#); or
- (h) Any other national or regional accrediting association recognized by the board of trustees of the school district. (NAC 389.445 #7)

A pupil may be granted credit for a specific course of study in a secondary school without having attended the regularly scheduled classes in the course if he demonstrates his competence to meet the objectives of the course through his performance on examinations. (NAC 389.670)

A school district may, under suitable criteria, allow credit toward graduation from high school for a pupil's experiences outside the high school campus if those experiences are equivalent in kind and amount to the educational experiences being offered in the high school. (NAC 389.674)

1. A school district may, in accordance with policies developed by the board of trustees of the school district, grant a pupil credit toward graduation from high school for his successful completion of a correspondence course if:
 - (a) The course is provided by a secondary educational institution which is approved by the State Board of Education; and
 - (b) The course is equivalent to a course offered in a regular program in the school district.
2. A school district shall, in accordance with policies developed by the board of trustees of the school district, grant a pupil credit toward graduation from high school for his successful completion of a correspondence course if:
 - (a) The course is provided and credit was issued by a secondary educational institution which is accredited by:
 - (1) [Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools](#);
 - (2) [New England Association of Schools and Colleges](#);
 - (3) [North Central Association of Colleges and Schools](#);
 - (4) [Northwest Association of Accredited Schools](#);
 - (5) [Southern Association of Colleges and Schools](#);
 - (6) [Western Association of Schools and Colleges](#);
 - (7) [Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation](#); and
 - (b) The course is equivalent to a course offered in a regular program in the school district. (NAC 389.680)

If a child who is or was homeschooled seeks admittance or entrance to any school in this State, the school may use only commonly used practices in determining the academic ability, placement or eligibility of the child. A homeschooled child seeking admittance to public high school must comply with NRS 392.033. (NRS 392.700 #9)

A school or organization shall not discriminate in any manner against a child who is or was homeschooled. (NRS 392.700 #10)

28. May a child skip a grade after being homeschooled upon enrollment in a public school if the parent can prove the child is academically capable?

The policies of each school district vary, and it is within the discretion of the local district, within the applicable laws and regulations, to determine the grade level where a child is placed.

29. Will the military accept men and women with a Homeschool Diploma?

Yes. Currently, homeschoolers fall under a great 4 year pilot program. This program allows for your child, who scores 50 or above on the Armed Forces Qualification Test, to be automatically placed in Tier 1. Students scoring lower may still enlist, but only as Tier 2 recruits.

There are "guidelines for homeschooled students" for nearly every branch of the military, available online. These guidelines discuss the specifics of what the particular branch is looking for, but the common theme is that "home schooled students compete against the same standards as students coming from a traditional school setting" (Air Force Academy website).

Air Force Academy Guidelines for Homeschool Students

<http://www.academyadmissions.com/admissions/howtoapply/homeschool.php>

United States Naval Academy:

<http://www.usna.edu/Admissions/sthome.htm>

We do suggest you bring copies of these policies/Memos with you when visiting with recruiters. In this case it would be the Memo from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense.

http://www.nevadahomeschoolnetwork.com/public_html/Home_School_Memo_military.pdf

Some links of interest:

<http://www.hslda.org/docs/news/hslda/200601/200602010.asp>

<http://nche.hslda.org/docs/news/hslda/200707030.asp>

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*Please note that this **Homeschooling Frequently Asked Questions** document has been provided by the **Nevada Homeschool Network** and is intended to promote general guidance for parents and school administrators, and does not constitute legal advice. A parent may wish to consult with an attorney regarding specific situations or questions.*

Because State and Federal laws and regulations are subject to change, and because new questions are always being posed, it is imperative that you use the latest edition of these FAQs. Please visit our website at nevadahomeschoolnetwork.com to view the latest edition.