



Homeschool Overview

Welcome to homeschooling in the Anoka-Hennepin School District. The following information is important for homeschool administrators to know in order to meet all state and district requirements.

Please contact the Anoka-Hennepin Homeschool Office if you have any questions. You may also refer to the Anoka-Hennepin homeschool website, www.ahschools.us/homeschool. For more information about getting started, compliance, and resources for homeschool administrators, we strongly recommend you refer to the Questions and Answers document published by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) by visiting: <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/fam/nphs/home/>

Enrollment

- **Age of compulsory instruction:** Students receiving instruction at home that are between the ages of 7 and 17, as of October 1 of the relevant school year, must be enrolled in a homeschool registered through the public school district in which the students reside. Additionally, students under age 7 that have been enrolled previously in kindergarten or a higher grade in public school must be enrolled in homeschool.
- **If this is your first year homeschooling in Anoka-Hennepin**, or if there has been a break in homeschooling in Anoka-Hennepin for a full school year, you will need to submit an *Initial Registration Form* to our office **within 15 days of withdrawing from the previous school**.
- **If you were registered for homeschool in Anoka-Hennepin the previous school year**, you will need to submit a *Letter of Intent to Continue Form* to our office **by October 1 each year** indicating your intent to continue homeschooling and if any changes have been made. (Graduated students, change in test selection, updated immunization records, change of address, etc.)
- **Enrollment confirmation:** Confirmation will automatically be sent for forms submitted electronically. We will also send you an email to confirm that we have received your homeschool enrollment form if you request it. Please note with your enrollment paperwork that you desire confirmation and an email address.

Requirements

- **Annual reporting:** It is required to submit an enrollment form each year you are planning to homeschool by the October 1 deadline. If you no longer plan to homeschool in Anoka-Hennepin, it is required that you inform our office by the same deadline.
- **Testing:** Minnesota state statute requires nonpublic/homeschool students to take a standardized, nationally normed achievement test each year. The name of that test must be included with new registrations and annual re-enrollment. Note: test scores are not shared with our office or school district, but your records need to include documentation of this testing and should be available on demand if required.
- **Educational requirements:** As a homeschool, you are required to teach basic communication, mathematics, science, social studies, health, and physical education. For more information on state education standards, please view the K-12 Academic Standards page on the MDE website (see above link). Home and nonpublic schools develop their own curriculum and learning plans.
- **Record keeping:** Homeschool administrators are responsible to keep all records, transcripts, curriculum information, test scores, and report cards for homeschooled student(s). These records are not shared with the Homeschool office but may be requested by school districts if you seek to re-enroll in public education or if you are seeking to enroll your student/graduate in college.
- **Diploma preparation:** Students graduating from homeschool will receive a diploma prepared by the homeschool.

Services and Supports

- **Special Education:** Special Education students who are being homeschooled can access Special Education services offered at their local public school. We encourage you to contact the Special Education Lead at your local public school to request these services.
- **Shared Time:** Homeschool students may access individual classes in the public school through "Shared Time" if the school is able to accommodate. Contact the administration office at the public school to discuss arrangements.
- **Request for aid:** Some supports are available to homeschool families including services for health, guidance, and textbook aid. For the latter, funds are available to reimburse a set amount per year for valid textbooks, tests, and other qualifying purchases. **The Student Report for Aids to Nonpublic Students form, available on our website, is due to our office by October 1 each year you plan to use the aid.** Aid cannot be claimed for the year if the report is not submitted by this date.