

## Guidelines for Home School and Private Schools

Information in these guidelines is intended to help in understanding educational requirements for home and private schools according to Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) §15-745,801,802 and 828. Updated March 2001.

For further information call Cathleen Garrison (928) 679-8070 or 1-800-559-9289 (ask for schools).

**e-mail**

### COMPULSORY EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

ARS §15-802.A Instruction in at least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies and science must be provided for every child between the ages of six and sixteen. The parent of a child is required to choose public, private, charter or home school to provide instruction.

### AFFIDAVIT OF INTENT FORMS

A **Home School Affidavit of Intent** or **Private School Affidavit of Intent** form must be registered with the county school superintendent in the county in which you live. Parents who choose the home or private school option must complete and file an *Affidavit of Intent* for each child between the age of 6 and 16.

Your student's Affidavit of Intent will remain on file for the *period of time* your student is home schooled or enrolled in a private school. **You are required** by law to notify the county school superintendent within thirty days if your child is no longer home schooled. A **Home School Pupil Withdrawal/Change of Address** or **Private School Withdrawal Notification form**. An affidavit must be recorded again if the home or private school instruction is terminated and then resumed.

### CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE

A copy of each child's proof of birth must be on file with the county school superintendent within thirty days of beginning home school. A *hospital birth record IS NOT* a certified birth certificate. A certified birth certificate is issued by the state in which the child was born and can be obtained from the Department of Vital Records or Department of Health. You may find Vital Records information from any state or country on the following website:

<http://www.vitalrec.com>. An Arizona certified birth certificate may be obtained at the Arizona State Department of Vital Records, 1818 W. Adams, Phoenix, Arizona. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Phone number is (602) 364-1300.

If you cannot obtain a birth certificate, ARS §15-828.B.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.

### INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

Home schooling students must be allowed to try out for interscholastic sports and activities on behalf of a public school in the same manner as a pupil who is enrolled in that public school according to ARS §15-802.01. Home schooled student's courses, grades and progress towards promotion can be reported by providing a written verification to the school. Contact the administrative office of your local public school for eligibility requirements, registration, fees and other information. For further details consult ARS 15 §15-802.01.1,2, B and C.

### TESTING

Parents who choose to home school are not required to test or qualify with the state. Achievement testing is not required for children receiving instruction in a home school.

The county school superintendent *does not* provide achievement testing. A child who enrolls in school after receiving instruction in a home school program is tested pursuant to ARS §15-745.B to determine the appropriate grade level and classes. *Contact your local school or school district office for public school enrollment policy.*

The State Board of Education allows home schooled students to take the AIMS test, a criterion-referenced test, at no charge, but does not require them to do so. Since testing of home schoolers is not required, parents who would like to use a nationally standardized test to check their child's progress may choose any testing facility. All costs associated with the testing will be the responsibility of the parents. You may contact your local home school resource groups for further information.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

According to ARS §15-763, the school district or charter school shall provide services to both home schooled pupils and private schooled pupils in the same manner as a child enrolled in the public school with disabilities. Contact your local school district official or the Director of Special Education in your school district office or charter school to arrange screenings and evaluations.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Arizona Board of Regents has established policies to provide "fair and equitable access" to students from public, private, charter and home schools for any merit-based scholarships issued by the Board and the universities under the Board's jurisdiction. Arizona universities award scholarships based on merit. Please be sure to specify you are a home school graduate. For further information on scholarship opportunities, please contact the Arizona Board of Regents, 602-229-2500

## **GED**

Students who have been home-schooled may be eligible to take a GED - General Educational Development - test once they reach the age of sixteen (16) years and once they have withdrawn from the home-school educational program. GED policy does not allow individuals enrolled in a school, home school, or private school to be tested. A high school equivalency diploma is offered to students who pass the GED test. For further information, go to <http://www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed> and click on GED Testing or call (602) 258-2410.

## **HOME SCHOOL RESOURCES**

### **NATIONAL COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST**

SAT and ACT Test and Tips booklets, registration packets and schedules may be obtained from your local high school or by contacting the following:

College Board SAT Program  
P.O. Box 6200  
Princeton, NJ 08541-6200  
1-800-728-7267

ACT Registration Department  
P.O. Box 414  
Iowa City, IA 52243-0414  
1-319-337-1270  
1-916-361-0656

**Arizona Home School Registration Code: 990399**  
**[Collegeboard.Org](http://Collegeboard.Org)**