

When Must I Do What?

PA Homeschool Check List

ITEMS TO DO PRIOR TO STARTING YOUR HOMESCHOOL INSTRUCTION

When do I have to file documents with my school district?

*For a child that has never been in a school situation---Nothing needs to be filed until they are 8, the current legal school age in PA, AND ONLY IF they turn 8 before or during the first two weeks of the start of that school year in your district.

*For any aged child that has been in a school, (cyber school included), FIRST GRADE OR ABOVE---The documents must be filed prior to homeschooling.

*To continue homeschooling ages 8 and above, you must file your new documents each year by August 1st. You may start counting your school year anytime after you file.

WHO DO I FILE WITH?

*The superintendent or their designated representative of your local school district.

WHAT DOCUMENTS MUST I FILE?

*A completed affidavit that has been notarized, (suitable form in the packet).

*A list of your goals and objectives for each of the required subject areas for the level of instruction for each student. (If you have a child that has been labeled as handicapped by the school district, then a qualified person must substantiate the Individualized Education Plan).

*Documentation that the supervisor, (the mom or dad who will be doing the majority of the teaching), of the home education program has a high school diploma. HOWEVER, most affidavits, like the one attached, have the parent legally attest to having a diploma. Therefore, this is all that is necessary, and a diploma copy does not need to be attached.

*Evidence of the child's immunization and evidence that the child has ongoing health and dental care OR a notice of Health Examination Exemption. This is also attested to in the attached affidavit, therefore, you do not need to attach child health exam sheets. In this packet, you will find a document that you can use to claim a Health Examination Exemption. If you prefer, an alternative is to have your physician and dentist sign a prescription pad stating that your child's care is up-to-date, and attach this to your affidavit.

*****SECURE AN EVALUATOR THAT WILL BE WILLING TO DO YOUR CHILD'S EVALUATION AT THE END OF THE YEAR!*****

*Make sure that they are in agreement with your philosophy of home education.

WHAT YOU MUST DO DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

*Keep track of EITHER the number of hours spent schooling OR the number of days spent in schooling. This is your attendance record. (The law states 180 days or 900 hours of instruction for grades 1-6, 180 days or 990 hours of instruction for grades 7-12).

*Compile a portfolio of sample work accomplished by the student. Ask your evaluator what he/she wants to see at the evaluation so that he/she can state that progress has been made.

WHAT YOU MUST DO AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR BY JUNE 30TH

*Have a qualified evaluator of your choice give written substantiation that the student has made progress.

*Submit the following items to the superintendent of your school district by June 30th:

1. A copy of the evaluation which states that progress has been made.
2. A portfolio of samples of the student's work for the year, and your log of reading titles made "contemporaneously" with instruction.
3. Any required standardized test scores required by the home school law. (Children must take a test in 3rd, 5th and 8th grade). Please see page on testing in the packet for more information.
4. Attendance Record.

TIP***File your affidavit and objectives at the same time you turn in your portfolio to the school district.