

## Homeschooling Information

### **New Mexico Homeschool Laws:**

(found at <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/options-parents-families/home-schools/>)

The home school operator must:

- be the parent or the legal guardian
- have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- keep a calendar in their own files showing that they are teaching the child(ren) at least 180 days out of the school year
- keep a copy of their own diploma or degree in their own files
- meet minimum instructional hours as established in Section 22-2-8.1 NMSA 1978 and Section 22-12-2 NMSA 1978
- keep a copy of the child(ren)'s immunization records or objection to immunization waiver form in their own files
- send electronic or written notification to the Secretary of Education within thirty (30) days of the Home School's establishment
- must re-new the home school's establishment every year on or before August 1st

Notification and renewal can be done through the above link.

### **Curriculum:**

Homeschoolers in New Mexico are not required to follow any set curriculum, or in fact to use a curriculum at all. There are many styles of homeschooling, and many parents use a combination. A good description of various styles can be found at:

<http://www.homeschool.com/Approaches/default.asp>. The NM State Standards and Benchmarks (a guideline for what each grade level should be learning) can be found at <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/standards/>.

The Alamogordo Public Library does not provide curriculum sets for check-out, for the simple reason that so many sets would be needed. The Library does, however, have numerous resources such as unit studies, reproducible worksheets, etc., as well as learning kits, microscopes, and math manipulatives. Many of these items were donated by other homeschoolers as they stopped needing them – something to think about!

The Library contact person is Ami Jones, at 439-4140 ext 4157 or [ajones@ci.alamogordo.nm.us](mailto:ajones@ci.alamogordo.nm.us)

## **Other Resources:**

### **Local Homeschooling Groups:**

**OCHE** (Otero County Home Educators) On Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/530393760308664/>

**Otero County Homeschool Opportunities** on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/878502292262545/>

**Bethel Home School Coop** on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/501165226607709/>

**CAPE** (Christian Association of Parent Educators)

- Annual conference information at <http://www.cape-nm.org/cconvention/>
- Annual graduation ceremony available

Search Facebook for other local groups, as more seem to be forming every week!

### **Currently, in New Mexico:**

- Public school districts MAY, but are NOT REQUIRED TO provide special education services to homeschooled children. Your child may be able to receive similar services from a private contractor, through his or her health insurance.
- Homeschooled children ARE eligible to participate in three school district athletic activities at the public school in the attendance zone in which the student resides.
- School districts MAY, but ARE NOT REQUIRED TO provide textbooks or other curriculum aids to homeschooled children.
- Home schooled students may participate in the state's cyber academy – see <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/homeschools/>

### **Other helpful sites:**

- <http://homeschool.com>
- <http://hsllda.org>
- <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/standards/>
- <http://school.familyeducation.com/home-schooling/educational-philosophy/34545.html>
- <https://allinonehomeschool.com/>
- <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/instructional-materials/new-mexico-content-standards/>