



FLVS HOME EDUCATION GUIDE

CONTENTS	Pages
FL. HOME EDUCATION LAWS & RESPONSIBILITIES	2
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	3-5
MIDDLE SCHOOL	6-8
HIGH SCHOOL	9-13
HOMESCHOOL COMPLETION AFFIDAVIT	14
DISCLAIMER	15



HOME EDUCATION LAWS

Home education is one of five legal ways to satisfy Florida's compulsory attendance law. Statute 1003.01 (13) gives parents the choice of achieving regular school attendance through one of these provisions:

- Public school
- Parochial, religious or denominational school
- Nontraditional private school
- Home-education program
- Private tutoring program.

Home-Education Program—Florida Statute 1002.41

Under this statute, parents who teach and direct the education of their own children at home must notify their district school superintendent and meet the other requirements of this law. The child must show educational progress each year. These students are legally considered "home education students." By definition, a home-education program is "sequentially progressive instruction of a student directed by his or her parent or guardian in order to satisfy the requirements of Statute 1003.21 and 1002.41."

Rights and Responsibilities

The parent or guardian is not required to be a certified teacher or have any educational qualifications. As the parent or guardian, you are the primary instructor for, and supervisor of your child's education. Supplementary instruction through other curriculum sources is permissible and encouraged

Parental Responsibilities

There are six stipulations that must be established and followed to comply with Florida law as a home educator:

1. Send a notice of intent to your district school superintendent.
2. Maintain a portfolio of records.
3. Make your portfolio available for inspection by the superintendent upon a 15 day written notice.
4. Submit an annual evaluation for each child to the superintendent.
5. Preserve each child's portfolio for two years.
6. Submit a letter of termination upon completion of your home-education program, upon enrollment in a public or private school, or upon moving from the county.

**Adapted from The Guide to Homeschooling in Florida, Eighth Edition, Published by the Florida Parent-Educators Association (www.FPEA.com).

Where can I get information on my homeschooling legal responsibilities?

Please visit <http://www.hslda.org/>

Please visit <http://www.fpea.com/>

Where do I begin?

Florida Department of Education:

http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/information/home_education/

Frequently Asked Questions

Home School students make up 26% of the FLVS population. FLVS teachers and staff often receive questions from students and parents regarding home schooling policies and practices. Visit this link to get started on your journey of home schooling your child:

<http://www.flvs.net/parents/Pages/HomeschoolerParents.aspx>

1) Is FLVS a home school program?

FLVS is a public, online school providing free middle and high school courses to all Florida students. There are several advantages to taking courses with FLVS. First, all of our courses meet the Sunshine State Standards and our school is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. We pride ourselves in providing students the best on-line education by allowing students to work at their own pace, with a certified teacher. You will also have the opportunity to explore a full range of courses that include honors and Advanced Placement levels.

2) Does FLVS give a diploma to Home School students?

No. FLVS does not issue diplomas to Home Educated students.

3) My student is home schooled, how does he receive a high school diploma?

Home School students do not earn a traditional diploma. Home Educated students, per Florida law, complete a home education program as designed by the parent. Once the student completes all needed courses, the parent is responsible for filling out the Home Education Affidavit, therefore attesting that their child has completed high school as a home school student. A sample of the Home Education Affidavit may found on the last page of this guide.

To earn a diploma, a home education student may opt to re-enroll their senior year into the local public high school. Students re-enrolling into the local public school will be held accountable for all district graduation requirements.

Alternatively, some home school students may elect to take the General Education Development (GED) test and be awarded a Florida High School diploma from the State of Florida Education Department, if the student receives a passing score. Once the test is passed, the Department of Education in Florida will send you a diploma. To learn more about the GED Exam option visit: <http://www.fldoe.org/faq/default.asp?ALL=N&Dept=203&ID=699>

4) If my home educated student will not receive a diploma, how will he go to college?

Home schooled students apply directly to the College or University of their choice with a signed affidavit attesting that the student has completed a home-education program. In addition, students will be required to take placement tests or submit an SAT or ACT score. Lastly, a transcript must be provided by the parent to the College or University. Please contact your desired college or university for more information, as each institution may have additional requirements.



5) Is my home school student required to take the FCAT?

Home school students are not required to take any type of state assessment test. Some students may elect to take the FCAT as part of their annual evaluation. Participation is optional. Please contact your district for further information regarding evaluations or taking the FCAT.

6) Can my child participate in extracurricular activities in the public school?

Home education students are eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities at their local zoned public school, provided they meet the same immunization and GPA requirements as students attending any non-home education program. Please refer to Florida Statute Section 1006.15(5) for more information and the FPEA can also provide additional resources. <http://www.fpea.com/>

7) If my child is taking courses with FLVS, can an FLVS instructor conduct an annual evaluation of my child?

No. FLVS employees may not fill out annual evaluations as it constitutes a conflict of interest. There are five methods of evaluation to choose from provided by statute. Parents may contact their local district home education program office or local support group to obtain the names of available evaluators in your area.

8) What if my child was attending a physical school when he started with FLVS, and he/she is now homeschooled. Is there anything I need to do now?

Students must change their academic profile to Homeschooled and fax a copy of their confirmation letter to our office at 407-520-5479. For additional information please contact our customer service representatives at 407-513-FLVS ext 1.

9) What if my child wants to return to a public or private school?

Any student who is within the compulsory attendance age has the right to enroll in a public school. Current district policies and State Board Rule 6A-1.09941 govern the grade placement of the home education student. Students returning to the public or private school must contact the school and meet all requisite high school graduation requirements of that school or district, including the FCAT (for Public schools).

10) How can I get a copy of my child's FLVS official transcript?

Students may print an unofficial transcript from their Cumulative Academic Report. Students may request an Official transcript at our website. <http://www.flvs.net/areas/student services/Pages/TranscriptRequest.aspx>

11) What is my student's FLVS GPA?

Florida Virtual School is not a home schooling school of record, thus does not calculate GPA for homeschooled students. Parents however are encouraged to calculate their child's GPA. Homeschooled students applying for scholarships or college admission, keep in mind, the university or scholarship granting institution will re-calculate the student's homeschool GPA.



12) If I have more questions about FLVS, who do I contact?

Students and Parents may contact our office at 407-513-FLVS (3587) or via email at info@flvs.net.

13) How do I know what courses my child should take?

Home educated students are advised to design their curriculum to enable them to achieve their post high school goals. There are many things to consider when building your curriculum. For example, students who plan on attending a university or college should gear their course selections to college admission requirements. At a minimum, students should align with Florida Graduation options. Refer to www.FACTS.org for more information regarding graduation options. Additionally, the FLVS website provides students and parents with prerequisite and course progression recommendations.

14) Where Can I get Homeschooling support?

Florida Parent-Educator Association: <http://www.fpea.com>

15) Where can I read about Florida's Bright Futures Scholarship?

Bright Futures for Homeschoolers

<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf/homepac.htm>

16) Where do I get information about the PSAT?

PSAT: <http://www.collegeboard.com/>

17) How do I register for the SAT or ACT?

Apply for SAT: <http://www.collegeboard.com/>

Apply for ACT: <http://www.act.org>

18) Where do I begin to get Financial Aid for College?

<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/>

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

<http://www.FACTS.org>

19) My child is going into the military. What test should he take?

Take the ASVAB: <http://www.asvabprogram.com/>

20) How do I make sure my child is eligible to play college sports?

Home-educated student-athletes can receive clearance from the NCAA. Parents should obtain the eligibility requirements before ninth grade to assure all academic and documentation requirements of the NCAA are met. For NCAA Eligibility -Homeschooled:

<http://www.ncaa.org/>



MIDDLE SCHOOL SAMPLE COURSE PROGRESSION RECOMMENDATION

REGULAR TRACK

6TH GRADE
MJ Language Arts 1
MJ Mathematics 1
MJ Comprehensive Science 1
MJ World Cultures or MJ World Geography
Elective
7TH GRADE
MJ Language Arts 2
MJ Mathematics 2
MJ Comprehensive Science 2
MJ Civics
Elective
8TH GRADE
MJ Language Arts 3
MJ Mathematics 3
MJ Comprehensive Science 3
MJ US History (8th)
Elective

ADVANCED TRACK

6TH GRADE
MJ Language Arts 1 ADV
MJ Mathematics 1 ADV
MJ Comprehensive Science 1 ADV
MJ World Cultures ADV or MJ World Geography ADV
Elective
7TH GRADE
MJ Language Arts 2 ADV
MJ Mathematics 2 ADV
MJ Comprehensive Science 2 ADV
MJ Civics ADV
Elective
8TH GRADE
MJ Language Arts 3 ADV
MJ Mathematics 3 ADV or Algebra I
MJ Comprehensive Science 3 ADV
MJ US History (8th) ADV
Elective

Recommendations For Middle School Completion

Home Educated middle school students (grades 6-8) are advised to complete at least the 12 Core Courses.

- 3 MJ Language Arts
- 3 MJ Math
- 3 MJ Science
- 3 MJ Social Studies

Electives are optional for middle school home educated students. However, MJ Career Education is a public school student elective requirement. If the home educated student plans to return to public school in 7th or 8th grade, this course is advised to be taken. Otherwise, this is an Optional Course for Home Educated Students

Middle School Students may accelerate into High School Credits contingent the required prerequisite is completed. For more details on the acceleration track, Public and Private school students please speak with your School Counselor for further details. Homeschooled students please speak with your FLVS Regional Counselor for further details.



HOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOLER'S HOMESCHOOLING WITH FLVS

FLVS is a year round school option that gives homeschooling students the opportunity to earn their needed annual credits without overwhelming the student with a full load. We recommend that students take no more than 3 to 4 courses at one time. Below are some possible schedules for middle school homeschooling students.

4 CORE ONLY SCHEDULE

Middle school homeschool students may choose to do solely core subjects for each grade level; therefore, attempting 4 credits (courses) a year and traditionally work from August to May.

August – May

1. Language Arts
2. Math
3. Science
4. History

Advisement: A typical course week is about 4–5 study hours a week per course, therefore, with 4 classes that means you may be at the computer studying 16–20 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extra-curricular activities.

4 CORE + 1 SCHEDULE

Middle school homeschool students may choose to do solely core subjects for each grade level; therefore, attempting 4 credits (courses) a year and traditionally work from August to May. Later, the student will do 1 credit elective at an accelerated pace during the summer months.

August – May

1. Language Arts
2. Math
3. Science
4. History

May – August

1. Elective

Advisement: A typical course week is about 4–5 study hours a week per course, therefore, with 4 classes that means you may be at the computer studying 16–20 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extra-curricular activities.

5 CREDIT LOAD

Middle school students attempting 5 credits a year may choose to work on 5 credits (courses) at one time. Students working on 5 credits will typically do schooling for 9 months (August – May) and take the summer off.

August – May

1. Language Arts
2. Math
3. Science
4. History
5. Elective

Advisement: A typical course week is about 4–5 study hours a week per course, therefore, with 5 classes that means you may be at the computer studying 20–25 hours each week. This schedule leaves little room for extra-curricular activities and is not encouraged.



Middle School Reading List

MJ Language Arts 1 (6th)

Novels: Choose 1

- The Eyes of Amaryllis by Natalie Babbitt
- Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
- Holes by Louis Sachar
- The Cay by Theodore Taylor

Advanced Track: Choose 1 from the above plus,

- Dancing in Cadillac Light -Kimberly Willis Holt
- Bloomability by Sharon Creech OR The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene du Bois

MJ Language Arts 2 (7th)

Novels: Choose 1

- Tangerine by Edward Bloor
- A Girl Named Disaster by Nancy Farmer

Advanced Track: Choose 1 from the above plus,

- Gathering Blue by Lois Lowry OR Breathing Under Water by Alex Flinn OR Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
- Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt

MJ Language Arts 3 (8th)

Novels: Choose 1

- The Giver by Lois Lowry
- The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
- The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway
- The Watsons Go to Birmingham -1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis
- Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
- The Last Book in the Universe by Rodman Philbrick

Advanced Track: Choose 1 from the above plus,

- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
- Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt -alternate
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain – alternate



HIGH SCHOOL COURSE PROGRESSION RECOMMENDATION

Traditional 24 Credit High School Track

ENGLISH	4 CREDITS
MATH	4 CREDITS
SCIENCE	3 CREDITS
HISTORY	3 CREDITS
PE	1 CREDIT
FINE ART	1 CREDIT
FOREIGN LANG.	2 CREDITS
ELECTIVES	6 CREDITS

Regular Track	Honors Track	Rigorous Academic Track
9TH Grade	9TH Grade	9TH Grade
English 1	English 1 Honors	English 1 Honors
Algebra 1	Algebra 1 Honors	Algebra 1 Honors
World History	World History Honors	World History Honors
Earth Space Science or Physical Science	Earth Space Science Honors or Physical Science Honors	Earth Space Science Honors or Physical Science Honors
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)
10TH Grade	10TH Grade	10TH Grade
English 2	English 2 Honors	English 2 Honors
Geometry	Geometry Honors	Geometry Honors
Biology	Biology Honors	Biology Honors
Foreign Language (Level 1)	Foreign Language (Level 1)	Foreign Language (Level 1)
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)
11TH Grade	11TH Grade	11TH Grade
English 3	English 3 Honors or AP Language	AP Language
American History	American History Honors	AP US History
Algebra 2 or Liberal Arts Math**	Algebra 2 Honors	Algebra 2 Honors
Chemistry or Marine Biology	Chemistry Honors	Chemistry Honors
Foreign Language (Level 2)	Foreign Language (Level 2)	Foreign Language (Level 2)
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)
12TH Grade	12TH Grade	12TH Grade
English 4	English 4 Honors or AP Literature	AP Literature
Economics / Government	Advanced Algebra or Pre-Calculus Honors*	Pre-Calculus Honors
Algebra 2 or Advanced Algebra or Liberal Arts Math**	Economics Honors &	AP Economics & AP Government
or Pre-Calculus	Government Honors	Elective (1.0 credit)
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)

*If High School credits were earned while in Middle School, the student may be ahead of the above sample High School track. Please speak with your Counselor for further advising and an individualized academic plan.

**Disclaimer: Liberal Arts Math does not meet NCAA requirements, nor 4 year University admission.



HIGH SCHOOL COURSE PROGRESSION RECOMMENDATION

Academic 18 Credit High School Track

ENGLISH	4 CREDITS
MATH	4 CREDITS
SCIENCE	3 CREDITS
HISTORY	3 CREDITS
FOREIGN LANG.	2 CREDITS
ELECTIVES	2 CREDITS

Regular Track	Honors Track	Rigorous Academic Track
9TH Grade	9TH Grade	9TH Grade
English 1	English 1 Honors	English 1 Honors
Algebra 1	Algebra 1 Honors	Algebra 1 Honors
World History	World History Honors	World History Honors
Earth Space Science or Physical Science	Earth Space Science Honors or Physical Science Honors	Earth Space Science Honors or Physical Science Honors
Foreign Language (Level 1)	Foreign Language (Level 1)	Foreign Language (Level 1)
10TH Grade	10TH Grade	10TH Grade
English 2	English 2 Honors	English 2 Honors
Geometry	Geometry Honors	Geometry Honors
American History	American History Honors	AP US History
Biology	Biology Honors	Biology Honors
Foreign Language (Level 2)	Foreign Language (Level 2)	Foreign Language (Level 2)
11TH Grade	11TH Grade	11TH Grade
English 3	English 3 Honors or AP Language	AP Language
Algebra 2	Algebra 2 Honors	Algebra 2 Honors
Economics	Economics Honors	AP Economics
Chemistry or Marine Biology	Chemistry Honors	Chemistry Honors
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)
12TH Grade	12TH Grade	12TH Grade
English 4	English 4 Honors or AP Literature	AP Literature
Advanced Algebra w/ Finan. Appl.	Advanced Algebra w/ Finan. Appl. or Pre-Calculus Honors*	Pre-Calculus Honors
Government	Government Honors	AP Government
Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit)

*Meets General Entrance requirements to any Florida State University or Community College.

**Meets Bright Futures FAS & FMS Scholarship Program as well as NCAA eligibility.



HOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR HIGH SCHOOLER'S HOMESCHOOLING WITH FLVS

FLVS is a year round school option that gives homeschooling students the opportunity to earn their needed annual credits without overwhelming the student with a full load. We recommend no more than three to four courses at one time. Block schedules consisting of three courses taken at a time, followed by three additional courses upon completion are highly recommended for students taking six credits a year.

Below are some possible schedules for student's following the 24 Credit Home School Track, therefore attempting 6 credits a year.

3+3 COURSE SCHEDULE

High school students attempting 6 credits a year may choose to work on 3 credits at a time. Students who work on this schedule, typically follow the accelerated pace chart to reach their goals.

August – December/Jan

1. English
2. Math
3. Elective

January – May/June

1. Science
2. History
3. Elective

Advisement: A typical course week on accelerated pace is about 6–8 study hours a week per course, therefore, with 3 classes that means you may be at the computer studying 18–24 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extra-curricular activities. Highly advised schedules for professional and training athletes.

4 + 2 COURSE SCHEDULE

High school students attempting 6 credits a year may choose to work on 4 credits (courses) from August to May, and later do 2 credits at an accelerated pace during the summer months.

August – May

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. History

May – August

1. Elective
2. Elective

Advisement: A typical course week is about 4–5 study hours a week per course. With 4 classes that means you may be at the computer studying 16–20 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extracurricular activities



High School Reading List

English 1

Novels

- Animal Farm by George Orwell OR The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
- Romeo & Juliet by Shakespeare

Honors: The above plus,

- Lord of the Flies by William Golding OR The Red Badge of Courage by Steven Crane
- Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

English 2

Novels

- Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
- The Hot Zone by Richard Preston
- Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
- A Separate Peace by John Knowles
- Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
- A MidSummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare
- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck OR The Pearl OR The Red Pony by John Steinbeck

Honors: The above plus,

- Antigone by Sophocles

English 3

Novels

- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
- The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
- Of Plymouth Plantation – William Bradford

Honors: The above plus,

- The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- The Crucible by Arthur Miller
- The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- The Awakening by Kate Chopin

English 4

Non-Fiction Books (Choose 1)

- Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt
- West with the Night by Beryl Markham
- Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer
- The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger
- Ben & Jerry's Double-Dip: How to Run a Values-Led Business and Make Money



Science Fiction Novels (Choose 1)

- Anthem -Ayn Rand
- 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea -Jules Verne
- Brave New World -Aldous Huxley
- Fahrenheit 451 -Ray Bradbury
- 1984 by George Orwell

Hamlet by Shakespeare

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde

Honors: The above plus,

- Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam

AP Literature

Choose One

- Huckleberry Finn
- The Glass Menagerie
- The Joy Luck Club
- The Color Purple

Choose One

- Things Fall Apart by Achebe Chinue
- Cry the Beloved Country by Alan Paton
- Othello by William Shakespeare
- A House Made of Dawn by N. Scott Momaday

Heart of Darkness

Death of a Salesman

Beloved

Frankenstein

Wuthering Heights

The Grapes of Wrath

Hamlet by Shakespeare

The Awakening

AP Language

Choose One

- The Great Gatsby
- Shaara's The Killer Angels
- Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
- A Raisin In The Sun -Hansberry

Choose One

- Hawthorne – The Scarlet Letter
- O'Brien – The Things They Carried
- Chopin -The Awakening
- Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer



Home School Completion Affidavit

Instructions

- This affidavit is to be completed by the Home School Official
- This affidavit is to be Signed & Sealed by a Florida Commissioned Notary

Student Information

Last Name

First Name

Middle Initial

Home School Official (Parent) Certification

This affidavit is executed on behalf of my son/daughter who was educated in a home education program as defined by Florida Statute 1002.41.

I, _____ do by acknowledge under sworn oath that my child, named above, has met the school attendance policy as defined in Florida Statute 232.02 (4) and has completed all curriculum requirements for graduation as defined by Florida Statute 1003.43 or Florida Statute 1003.429, and, therefore, has successfully graduated from a home education program.

Home School Official (Parent / Guardian) Signature

Date

STATE OF FLORIDA
 COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this _____ day of, _____ (year),
 by _____ (name of home school official (parent/guardian)).

(Signature of Notary Public -State of Florida)

AFFIX NOTARY SEAL

(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

Personally Known _____

OR Produced Identification _____

Type of Identification Produced _____



Disclaimer

The laws and information provided in this Guide are as current and accurate as possible. Legislation is passed frequently, thus causing changes to laws and policies. This Guide is only recommended as an educational resource and NOT as legal advice. Families should contact your FPEA District Director for the most current information or the specific interpretations made by your county officials.