

FLVS Home Education Guide



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Florida Home Education Laws & Responsibilities

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 or guardians who teach and direct the education of their own students at home must notify their district school superintendent and meet the other requirements of this law. The student 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 student'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 student to the superintendent.
5. Preserve each student'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.

You can learn more here: <https://flvs.net/b/blog/2024/04/08/9-simple-rules-for-homeschooling>

Where do I begin to learn about Home Education?

Please visit the Florida Department of Education website:

<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/other-school-choice-options/home-edu/>

It is imperative that your student remains enrolled and in good standing as a Home Education student while they are enrolled in FLVS FLEX courses. If you are unsure if your student is enrolled, you can find your county contact here: <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/other-school-choice-options/home-edu/district-home-edu-contacts.stml>

Frequently Asked Questions

Homeschool students make up 49% of the Florida Virtual School® (FLVS®) population. FLVS teachers and staff often receive questions from students and parents or guardians regarding homeschooling policies and practices. Visit this link to get started on your journey of homeschooling your student: flvs.net/homeschool.

1. Does FLVS offer a homeschool program?

FLVS provides many opportunities for homeschool families to create a personalized, learning path for their child. A full suite of courses is available to Kindergarten–12th grade Florida students at no charge, including NCAA-approved core, electives, and world languages, in varying degrees of difficulty like honors and Advanced Placement®*. Students can enroll in one or multiple courses, allowing families to create or complement their child’s educational journey to their individual needs. Students are taught by certified teachers, supported by professional school counselors, and have the opportunity to interact with other classmates through student clubs, activities, and events. Families can rest assured knowing that all courses meet the Florida State Standards and FLVS, the district and its schools, are fully accredited by AdvancED and Southern Association of Colleges and School Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.

2. Does FLVS give a diploma to homeschool students?

No. FLVS Flex does not issue diplomas to students registered as home-educated students.

3. My student is homeschooled, how does he receive a high school diploma?

Homeschool students do not earn a traditional diploma, instead the parent graduates their student with the home school affidavit. Per the Florida DOE: “There is no diploma issued by the public school system in Florida for the completion of a home education program. A signed affidavit of completion (notarized letter) submitted by the student’s parent attesting that the student has completed a home education program, pursuant to the requirements of s.1002.41, F.S. is the legal document of completion. As stated in s.1007 263(2)(a), F.S. It is equivalent to a high school diploma and is regularly accepted by state colleges and universities as proof of high school completion. This statement can be included on a student’s academic transcript or parent-issued diploma.”

<https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/18379/urlt/DistrictHomeEduFAQ2021.pdf> A sample of the Home Education Affidavit may be found on page 13 of this guide.

To earn a diploma, a home education student may opt to re-enroll his/her senior year into the local public high school or into the FLVS Full Time Program. Students re-enrolling into the local public school or transitioning into the FLVS Full Time Program will be held accountable for all district graduation requirements.

Alternatively, some homeschool students may elect to take the General Education Development (GED) test and be awarded a Florida High School diploma from the Florida Department of Education, if the student receives a passing score. Once the test is passed, the Florida Department of Education will send the student a diploma. To learn more about the GED Exam option visit: <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/hse/faq.stml>.

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

Homeschooled 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, ACT or CLT score. Lastly, a transcript must be provided by the parent or guardian to the College or University. Please contact your desired college or university for more information, as each institution may have additional requirements.

*AP and Advanced Placement Program are registered trademarks of the College Board, which was not involved in the production of, and does not endorse, this product.

Frequently Asked Questions continued

5. Is my homeschool student required to take the FAST or End-of-Course (EOC) Exams?

Homeschooled students are not required to take any type of state assessment test. Some students may elect to take the FAST or EOC as part of their annual evaluation. Participation is optional. Please contact your district for further information regarding evaluations or taking the FAST or EOC exams. State testing (Algebra I EOC and 10th Grades FAST) test or a concordant score is required to be passed graduate with a public-school diploma if the student returns to public school.

6. Can my student participate in extracurricular activities in a 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: www.fpea.com.

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

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 their area. Some districts will accept the FLVS transcript if the student has made adequate yearly progress.

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

Students must change their academic profile to Homeschool and enroll with their district's home education office to remain in courses. For a list of district contacts visit <https://www.flvs.net/student-resources/homeschool/district-contacts>. For additional information please contact our customer service representatives at 800-374-1430, option 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 a public or private school must contact the school and meet all requisite high school graduation requirements of that school or district, including the FAST and/or EOC (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: <https://www.flvs.net/student-resources/transcript-request>.

11. What is my student's FLVS GPA?

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

Frequently Asked Questions continued

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

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

13. How do I know which courses my student 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 the 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. The FLVS website provides students and parents or guardians with prerequisite and course progression recommendations. To view minimum core State University Admission requirements visit: <https://www.flvs.net/student-resources/homeschool/course-progression>.

14. Where can I get homeschooling support?

The Florida DOE provides home education resources:
<https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/other-school-choice-options/home-edu/parent-resources.stml>

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

Bright Futures for Homeschoolers: <https://floridabrightfutures.gov/>

16. Where do I get information about the PSAT?

PSAT: <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt/taking-the-test/away-students>

17. How do I register for the SAT, ACT or CLT?

Apply for SAT: www.collegeboard.com

Apply for ACT: www.act.org

Apply for the CLT: <https://www.cltxam.com/clt-florida/>

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

www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org and www.fafsa.ed.gov

19. My student is going into the military. What test should he/she take?

Take the ASVAB: www.asvabprogram.com

20. How do I make sure my student is eligible to play college sports?

Home educated student athletes can receive clearance from the NCAA. Parents or guardians should obtain the eligibility requirements before ninth grade to assure all academic and documentation requirements of the NCAA are met. For NCAA Eligibility — Homeschooled: www.ncaa.org or http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Student_Resources/Home_School_Information.pdf

Elementary School

Course List

Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Kindergarten
Grade 1	Grade 1	Grade 1	Grade 1
Grade 2	Grade 2	Grade 2	Grade 2
Grade 3	Grade 3	Grade 3	Grade 3
Grade 4	Grade 4	Grade 4	Grade 4
Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5
Art	Physical Education (PE)	Spanish	Computer Science
Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Introductory	Kindergarten
Grade 1	Grade 1	Level 1	Grade 1
Grade 2	Grade 2	Level 2	Grade 2
Grade 3	Grade 3	Level 3	Grade 3
Grade 4	Grade 4	Level 4**	Grade 4
Grade 5	Grade 5	Level 5**	Grade 5

*Our core courses are taught at the grade level standard. Advanced level courses are not available at this time.

** Elementary Spanish levels 4 and 5 will be available in the 2020-21 school year.

Recommendations for Elementary School Completion

We recommend that students enroll in the 4 core courses and take them concurrently in order to meet the grade level standards. Elective courses are optional and while not required for promotion they play a vital role in providing a well-rounded educational student experience.

How to Schedule Your Elementary Schooler's Homeschooling with FLVS

FLVS Flex Elementary offers live class times and while these sessions are not required, they are certainly recommended. During this live instruction, students will enjoy a more robust learning experience and interact with the teacher and classmates. Students are expected to submit work weekly for each course enrolled to allow the teacher to monitor progress and provide timely feedback.

Sample Weekly Schedule

	Monday <i>Independent Work</i>	Tuesday	Wednesday <i>Independent Work</i>	Thursday	Friday <i>Independent Work</i>
9-10 AM	English/ Language Arts	9-10 AM ELA + Social Studies Class Time	English/ Language Arts	9-10 AM ELA + Social Studies Class Time	English/ Language Arts
10-10:45 AM	Mathematics	10:15-11:15 AM Math + Science Class Time	Mathematics	10:15-11:15 AM Math + Science Class Time	Mathematics
10:45- 11:15 AM	Science	11:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 4 PM Special Area Elective Class Time: Art, PE, Spanish	Science	11:30 AM, 1:30 PM, 4 PM Special Area Elective Class Time: Art, PE, Spanish	Science
11:15 AM- 12 PM	Lunch Break				
12-12:45 PM	Social Studies	Mathematics	Optional Special Area Electives	Science	Optional Special Area Electives

Middle School

Sample Course Progression Recommendation

Regular Track

6th Grade

MJ Language Arts 1

MJ Grade 6 Mathematics

MJ Comprehensive Science 1

MJ World History

7th Grade

MJ Language Arts 2

MJ Grade 7 Mathematics

MJ Comprehensive Science 2

MJ Civics

8th Grade

MJ Language Arts 3

MJ Grade 8 Pre-Algebra

MJ Comprehensive Science 3

MJ US History (8th)

Advanced / Honors Track

6th Grade

MJ Language Arts 1 ADV

MJ Grade 6 Mathematics ADV

MJ Comprehensive Science 1 ADV

MJ World History ADV

7th Grade

MJ Language Arts 2 ADV

MJ Grade 7 Math ADV
or M/J Grade 8 Pre-Algebra

MJ Comprehensive Science 2 ADV

MJ Civics ADV

8th Grade

MJ Language Arts 3 ADV

MJ Grade 8 Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1*

MJ Comprehensive Science 3 ADV

MJ US History (8th) ADV

Rigorous Track

6th Grade

MJ Language Arts 1 ADV

MJ Grade 7 Mathematics ADV or
MJ Grade 8 Pre-Algebra

MJ Comprehensive Science 2 ADV

MJ World History ADV

7th Grade

MJ Language Arts 2 ADV

Algebra 1*

Earth Space Science*

MJ Civics ADV

HS World Language (Level 1)*

8th Grade

MJ Language Arts 3 ADV

Geometry*

Biology*

MJ US History (8th) ADV

HS World Language (Level 2)*

*Courses award high school credit.

Recommendations for Middle School Completion

Home educated middle school students (grades 6-8) are advised to complete at least the 12 Core Courses for promotion:

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

Electives are optional for middle school home educated students.

Middle school students may accelerate into high school credits contingent on the required prerequisite being completed. For more details on the acceleration track, public and private school students should speak with their School Counselor for further details. Homeschooled students, please speak with your FLVS Flex Counselor for further details.

How to Schedule Your Middle Schooler's Homeschooling with FLVS

FLVS provides students the opportunity to enroll in courses at any point throughout the year, allowing students to earn required credits on their unique schedule. In order to avoid overwhelming the students with a full load, FLVS recommends homeschool 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 working 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 students may be at the computer studying 16–20 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extracurricular 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 working 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 students may be at the computer studying 16–20 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extracurricular activities.

3+3 Course Schedule

Middle 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/January

1. Language Arts
2. Science
3. Elective

January – May/June

1. Math
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 students may be at the computer studying 18–24 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extracurricular activities. Highly advised schedule for professional and training athletes.

High School

Course Progression Recommendation: Traditional 24-Credit High School Track

English 4 Credits
Math 4 Credits

Science 3 Credits
History 3 Credits

Phys. Ed. 1 Credit
Fine/
Practical
Art/CTE 1 Credit

World Lang.* 2 Credits
Electives** 6 Credits

Regular Track

9th Grade

English 1

Algebra 1

World History

Earth Space Science or
Physical Science

PE Elective (1 credit)

Fine Art/ CTE Elective (1 credit)

10th Grade

English 2

Geometry

Biology

World Language (Level 1)

Elective (.5 credit)/ PFMM (.5 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

11th Grade

English 3

United States History

Algebra 2

Chemistry or Marine Biology

World Language (Level 2)

Elective (1 credit)

12th Grade

English 4

Math for College Readiness

Economics (0.5 credit)

United States Government (0.5 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

Honors Track

9th Grade

English 1 Honors

Algebra 1 Honors

World History Honors

Earth Space Science Honors or
Physical Science Honors

PE Elective (1 credit)

Fine Art/CTE Elective (1 credit)

10th Grade

English 2 Honors

Geometry Honors

Biology Honors

World Language (Level 1)

Elective (.5 credit)/ PFMM (.5 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

11th Grade

English 3 Honors or AP English
Language and Composition

United States History Honors

Algebra 2 Honors

Chemistry Honors

World Language (Level 2)

Elective (1 credit)

12th Grade

English 4 Honors or AP English
Literature and Composition

Pre-Calculus Honors

Economics Honors (0.5 credit)

United States Government Honors (0.5
credit)

Elective (1 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

Rigorous Academic Track

9th Grade

English 1 Honors

Algebra 1 Honors

World History Honors

Earth Space Science Honors or
Physical Science Honors

PE Elective (1 credit)

Fine Art/CTE Elective (1 credit)

10th Grade

English 2 Honors

Geometry Honors

Biology Honors

World Language (Level 1)

Elective (.5 credit)/ PFMM (.5 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

11th Grade

AP English Language and Composition

AP United States History

Algebra 2 Honors

Chemistry Honors

World Language (Level 2)

Elective (1 credit)

12th Grade

AP English Literature and Composition

AP Statistics

AP Macroeconomics (0.5 credit) or
AP Microeconomics (0.5 credit)

AP United States Government and
Politics (0.5 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

Elective (1 credit)

Elective (1 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.

*Although World Language credits are not required for graduation, two credits in the same world language are needed for Bright Futures and State University System (SUS) admission.

**A financial literacy course is required for 9th grade students who began in the 2023-2024 year and beyond who plan to graduate from a Florida public school. This is not required for home ed graduation. The FLVS course that satisfies this credit is called Personal Finance and Money Management

High School

Course Progression Recommendation: Academic 18-Credit High School Track

English 4 Credits Science 3 Credits World Lang.* 2 Credits Fine/Practical Art/CTE Elective 1 Credit
Math 4 Credits History 3 Credits Elective** 1 Credit

Regular Track

9th Grade

English 1

Algebra 1

World History

Earth Space Science or
Physical Science

World Language (Level 1)

10th Grade

English 2

Geometry

United States History

Biology

World Language (Level 2)

11th Grade

English 3

Algebra 2

Economics

Chemistry or Marine Biology

Fine/Practical Art Elective (1 credit)

12th Grade

English 4

Math for College Readiness

United States Government

Elective (.5 credit)/ PFMM (.5 credit)

Honors Track

9th Grade

English 1 Honors

Algebra 1 Honors

World History Honors

Earth Space Science Honors or
Physical Science Honors

World Language (Level 1)

10th Grade

English 2 Honors

Geometry Honors

United States History Honors

Biology Honors

World Language (Level 2)

11th Grade

English 3 Honors or AP English
Language and Composition

Algebra 2 Honors

Economics Honors

Chemistry Honors

Fine/Practical Art Elective (1 credit)

12th Grade

English 4 Honors or AP English
Literature and Composition

Math for College Readiness or
Pre-Calculus Honors

United States Government Honors

Elective (.5 credit)/ PFMM (.5 credit)

Rigorous Academic Track

9th Grade

English 1 Honors

Algebra 1 Honors

World History Honors

Earth Space Science Honors or
Physical Science Honors

World Language (Level 1)

10th Grade

English 2 Honors

Geometry Honors

AP United States History

Biology Honors

World Language (Level 2)

11th Grade

AP English Language and Composition

Algebra 2 Honors

AP Macroeconomics or
AP Microeconomics

Chemistry Honors

Fine/Practical Art Elective (1 credit)

12th Grade

AP English Literature and Composition

AP Statistics

AP United States Government
and Politics

Elective (.5 credit)/ PFMM (.5 credit)

Following these tracks entirely meets General Entrance requirements to any Florida State University or Community College. These tracks also meet Bright Futures FAS & FMS Scholarship Program as well as NCAA eligibility.

*Although World Language credits are not required for graduation, two credits in the same world language are needed for Bright Futures and State University System (SUS) admission.

**A financial literacy course is required for 9th grade students who began in the 2023-2024 year and beyond who plan to graduate from a Florida public school. This is not required for home ed graduation. The FLVS course that satisfies this credit is called Personal Finance and Money Management

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 3 to 4 courses at one time. Block schedules consisting of 3 courses taken at a time, followed by 3 additional courses upon completion are highly recommended for students taking 6 credits a year.

Below are some possible schedules for students following the 24-Credit Homeschool 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/January

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 students may be at the computer studying 18–24 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extracurricular activities. Highly advised schedule 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 students may be at the computer studying 16–20 hours each week. This schedule leaves room for extracurricular activities.

Homeschool Completion Affidavit

Instructions

- This affidavit is to be completed by the Homeschool Official
- This affidavit is to be signed and sealed by a Florida Commissioned Notary

Student Information

Last Name

First Name

Middle Initial

Homeschool Official (Parent/Guardian) 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 student, 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.

Homeschool Official (Parent / Guardian) Signature

Date

State of Florida, County of _____

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____ (month), _____

(year) by _____ (Name of Homeschool 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 their FPEA District Director for the most current information or the specific interpretations made by their county officials.