



New Mexico Public Education Department
Attention: Home School Bureau
300 Don Gaspar Avenue
Santa Fe, NM 87501-2786
Phone: (505) 827-6909

Statements of Understanding of Home School Parent/Family

In order to support parents and families engaged in home schooling in understanding their responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Public Education Department (“department”), the department has prepared the following statements of understanding. Prior to submitting this notification form, please read these statements in their entirety and sign a confirmation at the end:

1. I understand that my home school student is subject to the provisions of the Compulsory School Attendance Law and is **required** to attend home school for at least the length of time of the school year that is established in the local school district. This requires at a minimum, my home school student **must** be engaged in instructional activities (which is **not** inclusive of lunch) for the following amounts of time annually based on a 180 day school year:

For students in kindergarten: two and one half (2 ½) hours per day for one hundred eighty (180) days **OR** four hundred fifty (450) hours per year;

For students in grades one (1) through six (6): five and one half (5 ½) hours per day for one hundred eighty (180) days **OR** nine hundred ninety (990) hours per year;

For students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12): six (6) hours per day for one hundred eighty (180) days **OR** one thousand eighty (1,080) hours per year

Instructional activities can include a variety of activities that result in student learning (e.g., student practice and study, individual reading, attending civic events, visiting museums, learning about money and finances during shopping trips, etc.) and are **not** limited to direct text based instruction. There is **no** requirement that home school providers keep documentation or logs of instructional hours, and the Public Education Department will **not** request or require home school providers to produce such documentation.

(Sections 22-12-2(B) and 22-2-8.1(A)(1)-(3) NMSA 1978)

2. I understand that my home school student **must** attend school until the student is at least eighteen years of age, has graduated from high school, **OR** has received a high school equivalency credential.
(Section 22-12-2(A) NMSA 1978 and Section 6.10.8.8(A) NMAC)
3. I understand that my student’s home study program of instruction **must** include instruction in reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies and science.
(Section 22-1-2(E) NMSA 1978)
4. I understand that all instruction in the student’s home study program of instruction **must** be provided by a person possessing at least a high school diploma or its equivalent.
(Section 22-1-2.1(C) NMSA 1978)
5. I understand that I am **obligated** to either maintain records of student disease immunization or a waiver of that requirement for my home school student.
(Section 22-1-.12(B) NMSA 1978)
6. I understand that I **must** use the home school registration form made available by the department and posted on the department’s web site to notify the department within thirty days of the establishment of the home school. I understand that I may not modify this form.
(Section 22-1-2.1(A) NMSA 1978)

7. I understand that I **must** notify the department on or before August 1 of each subsequent year of operation of the home school.
(Section 22-1-2.1(A) NMSA 1978)
8. I understand that it is the responsibility of the department to enforce requirements for home schools and that upon finding that a home school is not in compliance with law, the department may order that a student attend a public school or a private school.
(Section 22-2-2(H) NMSA 1978)
9. I understand that the department may require a reasonable assurance, *and no other documentation*, from the parent(s) or guardian that the child is actually engaged in a home-study program of instruction only upon receipt of verified information that a school age child—whose parent(s)/guardian(s) have previously filed a home school notification about that child with the department—has failed or refused to participate in, or is no longer being offered, any home-study program of instruction.
(Section 6.10.8.11 NMAC)
10. I understand that upon a determination that a home school student is repeatedly not (or no longer) engaged in a home-study program of instruction, because the parent or guardian has failed to provide a reasonable assurance that the child is actually engaged in a home-study program of instruction, the department may order that the home school habitual truant attend a public school, or at the election of his parent/guardian, a private school.
(Sections 6.10.8.7(E) and 6.10.8.11 NMAC)
11. I understand that prior to pursuing remedies that include ordering that a home school habitual truant attend a public school or a private school, the department shall make a reasonable effort to accommodate the parent's/guardian's preference for maintaining their child in a home school.
(Section 6.10.8.11 NMAC)

I confirm that I have read each of the eleven statements of understanding above. I confirm that I understand the legal requirements for home schooling in New Mexico, which are established in New Mexico statutes and regulations as cited above.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Phone # _____

E-Mail _____

Notification and Establishment of a Home School

NO SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED OR PROCESSED THAT ARE NOT COMPLETELY FILLED OUT AND UNCHANGED FROM THIS FORM

Please type or print legibly. All information must be completed.

General Information:

School district where student and custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) is a resident

Legal name of custodial parent(s)/guardian(s)

Legal name of non-custodial parent(s) who retain some legal parental rights

Legal name of individual(s) providing instruction in the home school

Minimum Education Level of Instructor ___ High School ___ GED

Physical Home Address of student and custodial parent(s)/guardian(s):

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Child's name (First, Middle, Last)

Date of birth

Child's name (First, Middle, Last)

Date of birth

Child's name (First, Middle, Last)

Date of Birth

Child's name (First, Middle, Last)

Date of Birth

Statement of Accuracy:

The information given by me in this notification of establishment of a home school form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of parent or legal guardian

Date

Phone # _____

E-Mail _____