

HOME EDUCATION

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A. Home Education in Florida

Parents wishing to homeschool their children in Florida may do so under Florida Statutes, Section [1002.41](#), or by registering with a non-public school established for homeschooling purposes.

B. Parents Requesting Information

Informational packets, [Home Education Important Information and Registration Form](#) and [Home Education Resources](#), are available through Volusia County Schools for parents who are requesting information regarding home education requirements and procedures under Section [1002.41](#). This material is also available on the Volusia County Schools website and at every school, or can be requested by contacting the Home Education Office or Support Services at ext. 20000. The home education packets distributed by Volusia County Schools are intended to provide information regarding the legal requirements of homeschooling and to serve as a guide for future reference. It is strongly recommended that home education parents affiliate themselves with a home education support group of their choice for further guidance and direction.

C. Establishing and Maintaining a Home Education Program

Parents must provide written notification to the superintendent of schools indicating their intent to homeschool their child(ren). This notification may be in the form of a personal letter or by completing the [Notice to Enroll in Home Education](#) (form 98081) enclosed in the information packet. A portfolio of records and materials must be maintained by the parents/guardians for each child being homeschooled. An educational evaluation must be completed annually on each child being homeschooled, as outlined in Section [1002.41\(1\)\(c\)](#).

D. Portfolio Reviews

Students who have been identified as exhibiting a pattern of non-attendance while in public school prior to enrolling in home education must comply with a Home Education Review Committee pursuant to Florida Statutes, Section [1003.26\(f\)](#). Referrals may be made for portfolio reviews by school social workers or other school personnel who have documentation that efforts have been made to resolve the attendance problem. Copies of such documentation should be sent to the home education office along with a written request for a portfolio review.

E. FCAT Participation

Home education students may participate in FCAT testing at the school determined to be their zoned school, according to the student's home address. Notification of how and when to pre-register for FCAT participation will be mailed to all home educated students registered with Volusia County Schools in the fall of each school year. Pre-registration for FCAT participation by home education students must be completed through the Home Education Office only. FCAT participation may be used to satisfy the annual educational evaluation requirement. FCAT participation is completely optional.

F. Interscholastic Extracurricular Activities

Home Education students in middle and high schools are eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities provided that the following conditions are met:

- The student is enrolled in home education with the School District of Volusia County and has met the requirements of the home education program, pursuant to Section [1002.41](#), Florida Statutes.
- The home education student maintains the necessary grade point average, where required.
- The home education student meets the same residency requirements as other students in the school in which he or she wishes to participate.
- The parent/guardian agrees to provide transportation for their student to and from all extracurricular activities.
- The parent completes the enrollment forms from the school zoned for their residential address.

To obtain additional information about participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities, contact the school zoned for your residential address.

G. Partial Enrollment

Home Education students are eligible to participate in partial enrollment provided the following conditions are met:

- The student has met all related criteria pursuant to Section [1002.41](#), Florida Statutes including submission of a satisfactory evaluation for the previous school year.
- The student and parent/guardian requests and completes the [Request for Partial Enrollment](#) (form 2005134) from the District Home Education Office. The District Home Education Contact Person verifies that the student has met the partial enrollment criteria, signs the [Request for Partial Enrollment](#) form and returns it to the student/parent. When this form is signed by the District Home Education Contact Person, it signifies to the school that the registration process may begin.

- The student who wishes to enroll in a course in order to be eligible to participate in the related interscholastic extracurricular activity may do so with or without prior enrollment in home education, provided they have met the academic eligibility requirements outlined by FHSAA and school board policy.
- The student must meet the same registration requirements as full-time students, and must register prior to the start of the semester they will attend.
- The student must enroll for and attend at least one regularly scheduled class period at the zoned school.
- The student who is excluded from a class/course at the zoned school due to space limitations may attend another school if space in the class/course is available and a variance is granted.
- The student will be subject to all applicable rules and regulations pertaining to full-time students, including required immunizations.
- The parent/guardian agrees to provide transportation for the student to and from all classes/courses.

H. Termination

Parents wishing to terminate the home education program for their child(ren) may do so by submitting a letter to the home education office. Parents who do not comply with the annual evaluation requirement are subject to having their home education program terminated. School social workers may be requested to assist parents in understanding their legal obligation to provide another choice of education for their child, when parents are non-compliant with the annual education requirement. These cases should be followed in a similar manner as non-attendance cases.