

DONNA M. McGAUGHEY

County School Superintendent



COUNTY OF GRAHAM  
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JILL DAVIS  
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**To:** Persons Interested in Home Schooling  
**From:** Donna M. McGaughey, Graham County School Superintendent  
**Subject:** Home Instruction Policies and Procedures

In order for us to be fully supportive of your desire to instruct your child at home, we have put together a policy and procedures packet to assure your compliance with the law.

#### STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The laws which establish the criteria for any parent/legal guardian who may wish to educate their children in their own home may be found in Arizona Revised Statutes §15-745 and §15-802, which require in part that:

The person who has custody of the child shall file an affidavit of intent with the county school superintendent within thirty days from the time the child begins attending a home school.

The child must be instructed in at least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies and science.

#### CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Arizona Revised Statutes §15-828(B) requires that any parent or legal guardian of a child instructed at home submit with their affidavit, or within thirty (30) days after home instruction begins, one of the following to the county school superintendent's office:

1. A certified copy of the pupil's birth certificate;
2. Other reliable proof of the pupil's identity and age, including the pupil's baptismal certificate, and application for a Social Security number, or original school registration records **and** an affidavit explaining the inability to provide a certified copy of the birth certificate.

#### CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

The child must be instructed in at least the subjects of reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies and science.

The parent is responsible for creating and choosing a program suited to the child. Parents are responsible for choosing their own curricula. It may be helpful to network with a home school support group. A list of some local home schooling support groups is included in this packet.

If a child has special needs, parents are encouraged to contact their local public school district for possible services.

#### STUDENT TESTING OPTIONS

Arizona Revised Statutes §15-745 and §15-802.01 state

- 1) Nothing in this article shall be construed to require the testing of children who are instructed in a home school program while they are receiving home school instruction.
- 2) A child who enrolls in a kindergarten program or grades one through twelve after receiving instruction in a home school program shall be tested pursuant to this article in order to determine the appropriate grade level for the educational placement of the child.

- 3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a child who resides within the attendance area of school and who is instructed at home may be allowed to participate in interscholastic athletic competition on behalf of the school. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules prescribing procedures for the participation of children instructed at home in interscholastic athletic competition, including, if necessary, requiring the child to take a nationally standardized norm-referenced achievement test or academic evaluation for verification of academic performance.
- 4) A school district shall not contract with any private entity that supervises interscholastic athletic competition if the private entity prohibits the participation of children instructed at home in interscholastic athletic competition.

#### **CERTIFICATES/DIPLOMAS**

Eighth grade promotion certificates and/or high school diplomas are NOT issued by the Graham County School Superintendent for students instructed at home schools. Students in home schooling will be eligible to take a GED-exam administered throughout Graham County once they reach the age of 16 years. Parents interested in a high school diploma for their home-schooled children should contact one of the many independent Correspondence Schools located throughout the United States. The number of such credits accepted toward high school graduation will depend on the high school/district involved.

#### **RE-ENTERING PUBLIC SCHOOL**

Grade level placement of home study students upon re-enrollment in public school is dependent upon school district policy and usually includes parental input. The policies of any public school district can and should be reviewed by the parent/legal guardian PRIOR to removing the child from school. Be aware that your child may need to take individual tests in each subject area to gain district credit unless the home school child is receiving correspondence school instruction from a NCA accredited program.

Parents should investigate the entrance requirements of those colleges the student is interested in attending.

#### **UPDATING STUDENT INFORMATION**

Please notify the Graham County School Superintendent within thirty days if your home schooled child is enrolled in a public school. The child's file will then be inactivated. Another affidavit of intent must be filed if the child resumes home schooling.

Also, please report any changes in addresses or phone numbers in a timely manner.

#### **FAILURE TO COMPLY**

Unless otherwise exempted in this section or section §15-802, a parent of a child between six and sixteen years of age or person who has custody of a child who does not provide instruction in a home school and who fails to enroll or fails to ensure that the child attends a public or private school pursuant to this section is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor. A parent who fails to comply with the duty to file an affidavit of intent to provide instruction in a home school is guilty of a petty offense. A violation of this section shall be charged, heard and disposed of pursuant to section 8-232. Referrals will be made to the Graham county Attorney's Office for all persons in violation of these statutes.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The affidavit is composed of an original and two copies. Please return all three copies to the county school office when completed, signed and notarized. If you submit the certified copy of the child's birth certificate along with the affidavit, we will photocopy and return the birth certificate and the pink copy of the affidavit to you.

If you have any questions, please call the Graham County School Superintendent's Office at 428-2880; we will be happy to assist you. Please use our office as a resource.



## Graham County School Office Homeschool & Private School Support

### **What if my child has special needs or requires special education?**

ARS 15-763: "Section D. If federal monies are provided to a school district or a charter school for special education services to home schooled or private schooled pupils, the school district or charter school shall provide the service to both the home schooled pupils and the private schooled pupils in the same matter."

### **Special Education Law:**

Arizona Department of Education, Arizona Find Law for Special Needs Question and Answer link:  
<http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/AZFind/>

U.S. Department of Education- Federal Special Education Laws: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Information (IDEA)  
[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

### **Arizona Resources:**

Arizona Department of Education, Exceptional Student Services - Parent Information Network (PIN) Field/Area Specialists by telephone area code:

Jill Castle            Phone: (480)699-0067            Email: [Jill.Castle@azed.gov](mailto:Jill.Castle@azed.gov)

ESS Specialist at the Arizona Department of Education (602) 542-4013

Raising Special Kids  
(602) 242-4366 Voice & TDD Email: [info@raisingspecialkids.org](mailto:info@raisingspecialkids.org) web page: [www.raisingspecialkids.org](http://www.raisingspecialkids.org)

### **National Resources:**

Parent Pals <http://www.parentpals.com/gossamer/pages/>

NATHHAN National Challenged Homeschoolers Phone: (208)267-6246 Email: [NATHANEWS@aol.com](mailto:NATHANEWS@aol.com)  
web page: [www.NATHHAN.com](http://www.NATHHAN.com)

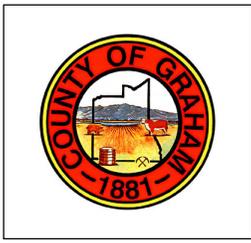
Home School Legal Defense Association  
<http://www.hslda.org/StrugglingLearnerResources>

Council for Exceptional Children  
[www.ericcc.org](http://www.ericcc.org)

Federal Resource Center for Special Education  
[www.rfcnetwork.org](http://www.rfcnetwork.org)

Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center  
[www.usu.edu/mprrc/infoserv/cop](http://www.usu.edu/mprrc/infoserv/cop)

Positive Behavior and Instructional Strategies  
[www.nasponline.org](http://www.nasponline.org)



**Graham County School Office**  
Homeschool and Private School Support

**Homeschool Changes in Information**

**Student Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last, First, Middle)

Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Old Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

New Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

New Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please sign this form:**

**Signature of parent/legal guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by mail to the address listed below. This form can also be faxed or hand delivered to the Graham County School Office.

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Graham County School Office 921 Thatcher Blvd. Safford, AZ 85546  
928-428-2880 Fax – 928-4288824  
Email: Nola Knight at [nknight@graham.az.gov](mailto:nknight@graham.az.gov)

To help meet your needs, this directory has been produced as a tool for homeschooling. As a governmental agency, our department does not endorse any of the resources listed:

## Requested Curriculum, Resource Groups and Correspondence Programs

Requested Curriculum by Homeschooling Families:

- Apologia Science
- Abeka
- Alpha Omega Lifepacs
- Bob Jones Curriculum
- Calvert Curriculum
- Christian Liberty Press
- Christian Light Education
- Math U See
- Classical Curricula
- My Fathers World
- Sonlight
- Saxon Math
- Konos Curriculum
- Five In A Row
- Teaching Textbooks
- Pearson
- Houghton Mifflin
- Mc Graw Hill
- Switched On Schoolhouse

Each family has unique curriculum needs. The home educator will make the final decision on curricula.

## High School/Correspondence Program Resources

- **Alpha Omega Academy** — Fully accredited online and mail correspondence courses available for grades K-12.  
(800) 682-7396 <http://www.aoademy.com>
- **American School** — Accredited correspondence high school diploma program. Call for a free brochure and  
information. (866) 260-7221 <http://www.americanschoolofcorr.com>
- **Blueprint Education** — Fully accredited online and on-site courses available for grades 7-12.  
(602) 674-5555 <http://www.blueprinteducation.org>
- **BYU Independent Study** — Brigham Young University high school online independent study online program.  
(800) 914-8931 <http://ce.byu.edu>

- **EVIT—East Valley Institute of Technology** — Dual enrollment for college credits, summer school, and evening classes are available. Students age 16-22. (480) 461-4000  
<http://www.evit.com>
- **GED Testing** — GED testing information for Graham County. This is the GED testing department at Eastern Arizona College. 928-428-8491 [jerri.lukens@eac.edu](mailto:jerri.lukens@eac.edu)  
[http://www.eac.edu/Student\\_Services/Counseling/Testing.asp](http://www.eac.edu/Student_Services/Counseling/Testing.asp)
- **Science Circle of Arizona**- Monthly science seminars for high school students. Gabe Salmon  
602-309-4019 [www.sites.google.com/site/sciencecircleaz/](http://www.sites.google.com/site/sciencecircleaz/)

## Homeschool Informational Resources

**AFHE (Arizona Families for Home Education)** — A statewide organization that serves the needs and protects the rights of Arizona homeschool families. AFHE is a non-profit educational corporation directed by a Christian board. AFHE membership is open to all homeschooling parents in Arizona. (602) 235-2673 <http://www.afhe.org>

**H.E.N.A. (Home Education Network of Arizona)** — An inclusive statewide organization that respects, values, and finds strength in diversity. We are neutral in matters of religion and partisan politics and we respect each other's educational choices. HENA's mission is to create an environment in which all home educating families in Arizona can share resources, find support, and build community.  
<http://www.hena.us>

**Knowledge House Learning Resource Center** — Multi-purpose homeschool resource center offering a lending library, supplementary classes, play room, standardized testing, honor society, and online resources.  
<http://www.knowledgehouse.info>

**Home School Inc.** — Offers a website featuring a free web-based planned, a college corner, resources for new homeschoolers, an online bookstore, and more helpful tools.  
(800) 760-7015 <http://www.home-school-inc.com>

**HSLDA (Home School Legal Defense Association)** — National homeschool legal defense group that protects homeschool rights and freedoms. Membership is required.  
<http://www.hslda.org>

## Home Schooling Magazines

**Home Schooling Today**—Subscription includes 6 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$21.99.  
[www.homeschooltoday.com](http://www.homeschooltoday.com)

**The Old Schoolhouse**—Subscription includes four quarterly editions per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$25.00.

[www.theoldschoolhousestore.com](http://www.theoldschoolhousestore.com)

**Home School Enrichment Magazine**—Subscription includes 6 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription for one year is \$21.97.

<https://homeschoolenrichment.com>

**Practical Homeschooling Magazine**—Subscription includes 6 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$19.95.

<http://home-school.com>

**Home Education Magazine**—Subscription includes 6 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$26.00.

[www.homeedmag.com](http://www.homeedmag.com)

**Jewish Home Educators' Network**—Subscription includes four quarterly editions per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$18.00.

<http://snj.com/jhen>

## Kids' Magazines

**Kids Discover**—Subscription includes 12 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$19.95.

[www.kidsdiscover.com](http://www.kidsdiscover.com)

**Highlights**—Subscription includes 12 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$29.64.

[www.highlights.com](http://www.highlights.com)

**Creative Kids Magazine**—Subscription includes 4 quarterly editions per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$19.95.

[www.prufrock.com/client/client\\_pages/prufrock\\_jm\\_createkids.cfm](http://www.prufrock.com/client/client_pages/prufrock_jm_createkids.cfm)

**National Geographic Kids**—Subscription includes 10 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$15.00.

[www.kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com)

**Ranger Rick**—Subscription includes 12 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$19.95.

[www.nwf.org/gowild/](http://www.nwf.org/gowild/)

**Sports Illustrated Kids**—Subscription includes 12 issues per year, multiple year subscriptions available. Subscription price for one year is \$24.95. [www.sikids.com](http://www.sikids.com)

## Helpful Online Educational Resources

**Discovery Education (Power Media Plus)** - This site offers thousands of educational video clips, photos, online lesson plans, and online units of study. The site also offers personalized quizzes or premade quizzes based on units of study covered with their online tools. Educational pod casting is

available for publishing and locating of educational information.

[www.powermediaplus.com](http://www.powermediaplus.com)

**Discovery Education**— This site has FREE resources like articles, lesson plans, videos on subjects that students struggle with, teacher tools, project ideas, etc. This site is full to the brim with educational ideas and helpful hints.

<http://discoveryeducation.com>

**Stossel In The Classroom**—This site features teacher guides and resources produced by John Stossel from the popular 20/20 television show. The resources here deal mostly with economics and politics for students. There are also DVD videos dealing with the same topics available for purchase.

<http://stosselintheclassroom.org>

**Encarta by MSN**—This site is not just a giant encyclopedia, but it also has a dictionary, an atlas, quizzes, and a homework help section. This site's main attraction is the encyclopedia that has over 42,000 articles total along with photos and videos on just about any subject.

<http://encarta.msn.com>

**Kids Know It Network**—This site offers mini-lessons on a variety of topics from animals to spelling and everything in between. They also have pod casts and free online videos and educational games for children. The site also offers online tutoring for your students via a real time online whiteboard and a tutor that is matched to your child.

[www.kidsknowit.com](http://www.kidsknowit.com)

**FunBrain**—This site has lots of educational games for children that boost their understanding of many subjects like grammar and math. There is also a movie section for the children. There is a teacher section that offers an online grade book, a curriculum guide and a homework relief center.

[www.funbrain.com](http://www.funbrain.com)

**Moore's Reminders** — Math help flash cards and helpers.

(901) 405-4588 <http://www.mathhelpcards.com>

**ABC Teach**—This site is geared for teachers, not the students. This site has printable theme units, puzzles, and lesson plan ideas. The site lets you search by subject and lets you access lots of printable pages and has links to other helpful sites for teachers.

<http://abcteach.com>

**Five Star Educational**—This site is geared toward students and offers online homework help, online reference materials, educational games, and even a family resource center. There are also project and craft ideas for students.

[www.fivestareducational.com/studentlinks.html](http://www.fivestareducational.com/studentlinks.html)

Graham County Home School Withdrawal Form  
Donna M. McGaughey - Graham County School Superintendent

**Student Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last, First, Middle)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

As of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Effective date)

I am no longer homeschooling my child for the following reason:

\_\_\_\_\_ Is enrolled in a public, private, or charter school

\_\_\_\_\_ No longer in school

\_\_\_\_\_ Moved to another county or state

**ARIZONA STATE HOME SCHOOL LAWS FOR WITHDRAWING YOUR STUDENT AS PRESCRIBED BY THE ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES:**

**§15-802 C:** An affidavit of intent shall be filed within thirty days from the time the child begins to attend a private school or home school and is not required thereafter unless the private school or the home school instruction is terminated and then resumed. The person who has custody of the child shall notify the county school superintendent within thirty days of the termination that the child is no longer being instructed at a private school or a home school. If the private school or home school instruction is resumed, the person who has custody of the child shall file another affidavit of intent with the count school superintendent within thirty days.

**AUTHORIZATION:**

Parent/Guardian Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_