



Knox County Schools Home School

Office of Innovation

A Home School is a school conducted or directed by a parent or parents or legal guardian or guardians for their own children. The following information explains the processes and requirements for homeschooling students in Knox County Schools.

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Introduction

In Tennessee, parents and legal guardians have the option to educate their children at home, an option known as homeschooling or home education. The Knox County Schools Office of Innovation is proud to assist and support parents who choose this option for their children.

Parents and legal guardians in Tennessee may choose to home school their own children in grades K-12. The Tennessee Home School Law (Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3050) states: "A home school is a school conducted or directed by a parent or parents or a legal guardian or guardians for their own children."

Parents and legal guardians deciding to home school their own children may do so by choosing one of the following three recognized options by the state of Tennessee:

1. Independent Home School
2. Category III Online Virtual School
3. Category IV Satellite School (Church-related/Umbrella)

Please note the requirements for these three options may differ, so we encourage you to thoroughly read this handbook to help you determine what is needed for your chosen home school option.

Once you have chosen the option that best meets the needs of your family, please ensure you complete the appropriate paperwork and provide needed documentation for your selection. All information may be sent:

- Via fax at (865) 594-1747
- Scanned and emailed to daphne.odom@knoxschools.org; casey.robison@knoxschools.org; or angie.satterfield@knoxschools.org
- Mailed to the Office of Innovation at 901 S. Gay Street, Knoxville, TN. 37902

It is our goal in the Office of Innovation to make this experience one that is supportive and informative. Please do not hesitate to call our office at (865) 594-1731 with any questions. You may also email the Executive Director of Innovation, Daphne Odom, at daphne.odom@knoxschools.org with questions.

Legal Requirements and Information

Parents may home school their own children pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3050 by registering with their local school district. The law states that independent home school students must:

- “Provide annual notice to the local director of schools prior to each school year of the parent-teacher’s intent to conduct a home school and, for the purpose of reporting only, submission to the director of schools of the names, number, ages and grade levels of the children to be home schooled, the location of the school, the proposed curriculum to be offered, the proposed hours of instruction and the qualifications of the parent-teacher”;
- Maintain attendance records and submit these records to the Director of Schools at the end of each school year; and
- Submit proof of vaccination and receipt of any health services or examinations as required by law.

Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3050

49-6-3050. Home schools.

(a) (1) A “home school” is a school conducted or directed by a parent or parents or a legal guardian or guardians for their own children. Public school facilities may be used by home school participants with the approval of the principal of the school, but this permissive authority shall not be construed to confer any right upon the participants to use public school facilities. If approved, use shall be in accordance with rules established by the local board of education.

(2) (A) Home schools that teach kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12), where the parents are associated with and where students are enrolled with a church-related school, as defined by § 49-50-801, that are supervised by the church-related school’s director and that administer or offer standardized achievement tests, are exempt from this section.

(B) Parent-teachers who register with an organization, as defined by § 49-50-801, for conducting a home school for students in grades nine through twelve (9-12) shall possess at least a high school diploma or general education development certificate (GED(R)).

(3) A parent-teacher may enroll the parent’s home school student or students in a church-related school, as defined in § 49-50-801, and participate as a teacher in that church-related school. Such parent-teacher shall be subject to the requirements established by the church-related school for home school teachers and exempt from the rest of this section.

(b) Except for home schools operated under subdivision (a)(2) or (a)(3), a parent-teacher conducting a home school shall comply with the following requirements:

(1) Provide annual notice to the local director of schools prior to each school year of the parent-teacher’s intent to conduct a home school and, for purpose of reporting only, submission to the director of schools of the names, number, ages and grade levels of the children to be home schooled, the location of the school, the proposed curriculum to be offered, the proposed hours of instruction and the qualifications of the parent-teacher relative to subdivision (b)(4). Information contained in the reports may be used only for record keeping and other purposes for which similar information on public school students may be used in accordance with guidelines, rules and regulations of the state board of education. The director of schools or the director’s designee shall ensure that attendance teachers are informed of parents’ rights to conduct a home school pursuant to § 49-6-3001(c)(4), subsection (a) and § 49-50-801 upon employment of the attendance teachers and at the beginning of each school year;

(2) Maintenance of attendance records, subject to inspection by the local director of schools, and submission of these records to the director of schools at the end of each school year;

(3) Instruction for at least four (4) hours per day for the same number of instructional days as are required by state law for public schools;

(4) Possession of a high school diploma or GED(R) by the parent-teacher;

(5) (A) Administration by the commissioner of education, or the commissioner's designee, or by a professional testing service that is approved by the LEA, to home school students of the same state board approved secure standardized tests required of public school students in grades five (5), seven (7) and nine (9); however, the test for grade nine (9) shall not be the high school proficiency test required by § 49-6-6001;

(B) (i) Tests administered by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall be at the same time tests are administered to public school students, and shall be administered in the public school that the home school student would otherwise be attending, or at whatever location students at such school are tested. Tests administered by the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall be administered without charge. The parent-teacher may be present when the home school student is tested in grade five (5). Both parent-teacher and home school student shall be under the supervision of the test administrator;

(ii) Tests administered by a professional testing service shall be administered within thirty (30) days of the date of the statewide test. Tests administered by a professional testing service shall be administered at the expense of the parent-teacher;

(iii) All test results from either administration by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, or by a professional testing service, shall be provided to the parent-teacher, the director of schools and the state board of education;

(6) (A) Consultation between the director of schools and the parent-teacher if the home school student falls three (3) to six (6) months behind the home school student's appropriate grade level, based on the test required in subdivision (b)(5);

(B) If a home school student falls six (6) to nine (9) months behind the home school student's appropriate grade level in the home school student's reading, language arts, mathematics or science test scores or such of these areas, regardless of the term used on the test, as are actually tested for the student's grade level, based on the tests required in subdivision (b)(5), the parent shall consult with a teacher licensed by the state board of education and having a certificate or endorsement in the grade level or course or subject matter in which consultation is sought. The parent and teacher shall design a remedial course to help the child obtain the child's appropriate grade level. The parent shall report the remedial course for the child to the local director of schools;

(C) (i) If a home school student falls more than one (1) year behind the home school student's appropriate grade level in the home school student's comprehensive test score for two (2) consecutive tests based on the tests required in subdivision (b)(5) and if the child is not learning disabled in the opinion of a teacher licensed to teach at the child's grade level, the local director of schools may require the parents to enroll the child in a public, private or church-related school, in accordance with this part, and the parents shall have all rights provided by law to respond to this requirement;

(ii) If a test indicates that a home school student is one (1) year or more behind the home school student's appropriate grade level, the same test shall be administered to the child not more than one (1) year later, notwithstanding the required testing schedule in subdivision (b)(5)(A);

(7) Proof shall be submitted to the local director of schools that the home school student has been vaccinated as required by § 49-6-5001 and has received any other health services or examinations as may be required by law generally for children in this state; and

(8) Submission by the home school student entering public schools to the evaluation test provided for in § 49-50-801, if the local system requires the test, or the tests required by the state board of education for transfer students.

(c) In the event of the illness of a parent-teacher, or at the discretion of the parent-teacher, a tutor, having the same qualifications that would be required of a parent-teacher teaching the grade level or course, may be employed by the parent-teacher.

(d) The department of education shall provide annually to home schools with which they have contact information about meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of vaccination against meningococcal disease at the beginning of every school year. This information shall include the causes, symptoms and the means by which meningococcal disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children. This information may be provided electronically or on the department's website. Nothing in this subsection (d) shall be construed to require the department of education to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

(e) (1) If any of the public schools established under the jurisdiction of an LEA are members of an organization or an association that regulates interscholastic athletic competition, and if such organization or association establishes or maintains eligibility requirements for home school students desiring to participate in interscholastic athletics at a member school, then the LEA shall permit participation in interscholastic athletics at those schools by home school students who satisfy the eligibility requirements established by the organization or association.

(2) This subsection (e) does not guarantee that a home school student trying out for an interscholastic athletics team will make the team or supplant the authority of coaches or other school officials in deciding who makes the team. This subsection (e) is intended to guarantee only that the home school student shall not be prohibited from trying out for an interscholastic athletics team, if

the student is eligible under the rules of the organization or association, solely by reason of the student's status as a home school student.

(3) This subsection (e) shall not be construed to limit or supplant the authority of the organization or association to determine eligibility and to establish, modify and enforce its rules and eligibility requirements, including those applicable to home school students.

(f) (1) As used in this subsection (f):

(A) "AP" means the advanced placement program offered by the College Board; and

(B) "PSAT/NMSQT" means the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test administered by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

(2) Each public school that administers the AP and PSAT/NMSQT examinations shall provide notice of the dates on which the school will administer the examinations on the school's web site. The notice shall include:

(A) The availability of AP and PSAT/NMSQT examinations; and

(B) The availability of outside financial assistance to low-income and needy students to take the AP and PSAT/NMSQT examinations.

(3) Home school students shall be permitted to take the AP and PSAT/NMSQT examinations at any public school offering such examinations.

HISTORY: Acts 1985, ch. 398, § 3; 1987, ch. 42, §§ 2-5; 1987, ch. 308, § 33; 1994, ch. 725, §§ 1-3; 1995, ch. 534, § 1; 1997, ch. 434, §§ 4, 5; 2005, ch. 177, § 4; 2011, ch. 499, §§ 1-8; 2013, ch. 225, § 1; 2016, ch. 732, § 1.

Athletics and Home School Students

Independently registered home school students have the right to try out for sports/athletic teams at their zoned Knox County School. TCA § 49-6-3050 states: (e)(1) If any of the public schools established under the jurisdiction of an LEA (Local Education Agency) are members of an organization or an association that regulates interscholastic athletic competition, and if such organization or association establishes or maintains eligibility requirements for home school students desiring to participate in interscholastic athletics at a member school, then the LEA shall permit participation in interscholastic athletics at those schools by home school students who satisfy the eligibility requirements established by the organization or association. (2) This subsection (e) does not guarantee that a home school student trying out for an interscholastic athletics team will make the team or supplant the authority of coaches or other school officials in deciding who makes the team. This subsection (e) is intended to guarantee only that the home school student shall not be prohibited from trying out for an interscholastic athletics team, if the student is eligible under the rules of the organization or association, solely by reason of the student's status as a home school student. (3) This subsection (e) shall not be construed to limit or supplant the authority of the organization or association to determine eligibility and to establish, modify and enforce its rules and eligibility requirements, including those applicable to home school students.

- If a student is interested in trying out for athletics at his/her zoned school, notification must be sent to the Director of Knox County Schools by August 1.
- Application to participate in athletics at a zoned school must be turned into the school principal by August 15.

If interested, contact Marion Quinn at marion.quinn@knoxschools.org or (865) 594-1725

For more information, visit: <http://tssaa.org/compliance-publications/tssaa-home-school-rule/>



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 225

SENATE BILL NO. 240

By Campfield, Burks

Substituted for: House Bill No. 222

By Kane, Sargent, Durham, Hall, Moody, Timothy Hill, Dunn, Womick, Matthew Hill, Dean, Van Huss, Holt, Joe Carr, Sparks, Spivey, Lundberg, Butt, Todd, Weaver, Carter, Kevin Brooks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-50-801 and Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to participation in athletics by home school students.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050, is amended by adding the following language as new subsection (e):

(e)(1) If any of the public schools established under the jurisdiction of an LEA are members of an organization or an association that regulates interscholastic athletic competition, and if such organization or association establishes or maintains eligibility requirements for home school students desiring to participate in interscholastic athletics at a member school, then the LEA shall permit participation in interscholastic athletics at those schools by home school students who satisfy the eligibility requirements established by the organization or association.

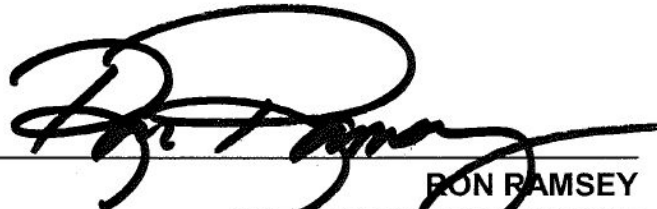
(2) This subsection (e) does not guarantee that a home school student trying out for an interscholastic athletics team will make the team or supplant the authority of coaches or other school officials in deciding who makes the team. This subsection (e) is intended to guarantee only that the home school student shall not be prohibited from trying out for an interscholastic athletics team, if the student is eligible under the rules of the organization or association, solely by reason of the student's status as a home school student.

(3) This subsection (e) shall not be construed to limit or supplant the authority of the organization or association to determine eligibility and to establish, modify and enforce its rules and eligibility requirements, including those applicable to home school students.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to participation in extracurricular athletics beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year.

SENATE BILL NO. 240

PASSED: April 1, 2013



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 19th day of April 2013



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR

Independent Home School

The first home school option is the Independent Home School model. Independent home school students are those who register with the LEA (Knox County Schools) through the *Intent to Home School form* (See Section: Forms). Please note, parents or legal guardians must have documentation of a GED or High School Diploma.

Parent or legal guardian must provide instruction for at least 4 hours per day for the same number of instructional days as are required by state law for public schools, which is 180 days.

Some important items to note:

- The *Intent to Home School form* must be completed and submitted to the Office of Innovation each year.
- Independent home school students must provide proof of immunization.
- Students in grades 5, 7, and 9 must participate in standardized assessments.
- Tests can be administered by either Knox County Schools free of charge, or by a professional testing service approved by the school district at the parent's expense.
- If a home school student in grade 9 is taking a course for which there is an end of course test, that student should be required to take that end of course exam.
- If the student falls more than 1 year behind grade level for 2 consecutive years, the Superintendent of Knox County Schools may require the parent to enroll the child in a public or non-public school.
- Accurate attendance records must be kept and submitted to the Office of Innovation each year.

The chart below lists in detail **Independent Home School Requirements** for your convenience.

Requirement	Grades K-12
Parent/Legal Guardian's Education	Proof of High School Diploma or GED is required
Beginning of the Year Registration	Facilitated by KCS through the Office of Innovation prior to each school year
Mid-year Registration	After withdrawing from current zoned school, registration is facilitated by KCS through the Office of Innovation
Attendance	4 hours per day, 180 days per year is required
Record Keeping and Reporting	Attendance records are submitted to the Office of Innovation at the end of the school year using the provided calendar found in the Forms Section.
Testing	In grades 5 and 7, same state board approved secure standardized tests required of public school students shall occur. In grade 9 same state board approved secure standardized tests required of public school students shall occur.
Location and Cost of Testing	Testing site will be determined by KCS and the Office of Innovation will notify home school parents or legal guardian. Testing may also be provided by a professional testing service at parent or legal guardian's expense.
Test Sanctions	<p>If students score 1 year or more below grade level for 2 years in a row, the Superintendent may require parent or legal guardian to enroll child in a public or private school (unless child is recognized as having a learning disability by the state of Tennessee).</p> <p>If students score Below Basic on the state standardized test, they will be asked to retest the next year.</p>
Enter or Re-enter Public or Approved Private School	Students in grades K-8 must be tested for grade placement. Students in grades 9-12 must be tested in each subject for credit toward graduation. The Office of Innovation can help facilitate this if needed.
High School Diploma or Certificate of Attendance	There is no diploma or certificate provided. Parents or legal guardian must create their own if they choose.

Testing

We know that Tennessee families are eager to help their children take advantage of every opportunity, and they want to empower their child to do their best. In an effort to support you and your child, we are providing websites designed to help your family prepare for the TN Ready assessment. The Knox County Schools has put together all the information you will need to prepare for the assessment. If you experience trouble accessing the website, please contact our office and we will be glad to assist you.

<https://www.knoxschools.org/domain/4664>

Our office will contact each family required to test with the testing dates and location. Please note: We must have a pre-registration form for 9th graders testing. These tests are taken online and must be scheduled before the testing date. We are more than happy to walk you through this process.

There are particular testing requirements stated in Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3050. Students in grades 5, 7 and 9 are required to participate in standardized tests of public school students. The Office of Innovation seeks to make this process as easy as possible for your family. For your convenience, we have summarized them below. Additionally, we have listed the specific requirements as pulled directly from the law.

When scores are available, our office will mail/email your test results.

TN Code Annotated states:

(A) Administration by the commissioner of education, or the commissioner's designee, or by a professional testing service that is approved by the LEA, to home school students of the same state board approved secure standardized tests required of public school students in grades five (5), seven (7) and nine (9); however, the test for grade nine (9) shall not be the high school proficiency test required by § 49-6-6001;

Per Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3050, our office will work with you if the following occur:

- If your child falls 3-6 months behind the student's appropriate grade level, based on the required test, a consultation with the Office of Innovation may occur.
- If your child falls 6-9 months behind the home school's student's appropriate grade level, based on the required test, a consultation and plan must occur with a licensed teacher and submitted to the Office of Innovation.
- If your child falls one year behind the student's appropriate grade level, based on the required test, your child will be required to take the same test not more than one year later.
- If your child falls behind the student's appropriate grade level (1 year behind) in the home school student's comprehensive test score for two (2) consecutive tests based on the tests required in subdivision (b)(5) and if the child is not learning disabled in the opinion of a teacher licensed to teach at the child's grade level, the Superintendent may require your student to enroll the child in a public, private or church-related school.

Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3050

(6) (A) Consultation between the director of schools and the parent-teacher if the home school student falls three (3) to six (6) months behind the home school student's appropriate grade level, based on the test required in subdivision (b)(5);

(B) If a home school student falls six (6) to nine (9) months behind the home school student's appropriate grade level in the home school student's reading, language arts, mathematics or science test scores or such of these areas, regardless of the term used on the test, as are actually tested for the student's grade level, based on the tests required in subdivision (b)(5), the parent shall consult with a teacher licensed by the state board of education and having a certificate or endorsement in the grade level or course or subject matter in which consultation is sought. The parent and teacher shall design a remedial course to help the child obtain the child's appropriate grade level. The parent shall report the remedial course for the child to the local director of schools;

(C) (i) If a home school student falls more than one (1) year behind the home school student's appropriate grade level in the home school student's comprehensive test score for two (2) consecutive tests based on the tests required in subdivision (b)(5) and if the child is not learning disabled in the opinion of a teacher licensed to teach at the child's grade level, the local director of schools may require the parents to enroll the child in a public, private or church-related school, in accordance with this part, and the parents shall have all rights provided by law to respond to this requirement;

(ii) If a test indicates that a home school student is one (1) year or more behind the home school student's appropriate grade level, the same test shall be administered to the child not more than one (1) year later, notwithstanding the required testing schedule in subdivision (b)(5)(A).

Our job is to make sure you navigate this process with ease. Do not hesitate to call our office.

TNReady Assessments SY1718 - Home School Schedule

7th Graders – Monday, April 16 (Paper/Pencil) – 3rd Floor – Lincoln Park	
Grade 7 ELA – (135 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 1 – 85 minutes Subpart 2 – 50 min	Grade 7 Math – (40 min – 1 subpart) Subpart 1 – 40 min (No Calculator)
7th Graders – Tuesday, April 17 (Paper/Pencil) – 3rd Floor – Lincoln Park	
Grade 7 ELA – (95 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 3 – 50 min Subpart 4 – 45 min	Grade 5 Science – (95 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 1 – (48 min) Subpart 2 – (47 min)
7th Graders – Wed., April 18 (Paper/Pencil) Wed., April 25 (Paper/Pencil) – 3rd Floor – Lincoln Park	
Grade 7 Social Studies – (100 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 1 – 50 min Subpart 2 – 50 min	Grade 7 Math – (85 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 2 – 35 min (Calculator) Subpart 3 – 50 min (Calculator)
5th Graders – Monday, April 23 (Paper/Pencil) – Kelley Room 1st Floor – Lincoln Park	
Grade 5 ELA – (120 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 1 – Writing – 80 min Subpart 2 – 40 min	Grade 5 Math – (45 min – 1 subpart) Subpart 1 – 45 min (No Calculator)
5th Graders – Tuesday, April 24 (Paper/Pencil) – Kelley Room 1st Floor – Lincoln Park	
Grade 5 ELA – (80 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 3 – 40 min Subpart 4 – 40 min	Grade 5 – Science – (95 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 1 – 48 min Subpart 2 – 47 min
5th Graders – Wed., April 25 (Paper/Pencil) – Kelley Room 1st Floor – Lincoln Park	
Grade 5 Social Studies – (100 min – 2 subparts) Subpart 1 – 50 min Subpart 2 – 50 min	Grade 5 Math – (70 min – 2 parts) Subpart 2 – 30 min (Calculator) Subpart 3 – 40 min (Calculator)
9th Graders – Mon.-Wed., April 30-May 2, 2018 – All EOC tests will be on-line – MUST PRE-REGISTER EOC Subjects available – Algebra I, II; Geometry; English I, II, III; Biology, Chemistry, US History	
English I, II, or III – Total 230 minutes Subpart 1 – Writing - 85 min Subpart 2 – 50 min Subpart 3 – 50 min Subpart 4 – 45 min	US History – Total 140 minutes Subpart 1 - Writing – 50 min Subpart 2 – 45 min Subpart 3 – 45 min
Algebra I and II – Total 145 minutes Subpart 1 – 35 min (no calculator) Subpart 2 – 55 min (calculator) Subpart 3 – 55 min (calculator)	Geometry – Total 145 minutes Subpart 1 – 35 min (no calculator) Subpart 2 – 55 min (calculator) Subpart 3 – 55 min (calculator)
Biology – Total 75 minutes	Chemistry – Total 75 minutes

Category III: Online Virtual School

The second option to consider for home school is the Category III Online Virtual School model. Parents or legal guardians may also enroll their child in an accredited online school. Parents or legal guardians choosing this educational option must be sure to determine that the school has legitimate accreditation status and will be required to provide evidence to Knox County Schools that their child is enrolled in an accredited online school.

To be an acceptable online school for students who reside in Tennessee, the school must be accredited by one of the regional accrediting agencies listed below:

- AdvancED
- SACS CASI: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement
- NCA CASI: North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement
- NWAC: Northwest Accreditation Commission
- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA)
- MSCES: Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools
- MSCSS: Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and affiliates (e.g., SAIS)
- National Council of Private School Accreditation (NCPSA)

The chart below is a partial list of **Category III Online Virtual Schools** for your convenience. Please check the websites of these schools to determine if they are still accredited by one of the associations listed on the previous page. **Accreditation status may change in between updates to this handbook.** It is ultimately the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to determine if their child is attending an accredited online school. The Office of Innovation will be happy to assist if needed.

A Beka Academy- Academy Video and Traditional Program only (K-12)	Alpha Omega Academy (K-12)
American Academy Online (9-12)	American High School (K-12)
American High School (6-12)	American High School/Virtual EDU.org (6-12)
American School (6-12)	Apex Learning High School (9-12)
Ashworth College/James Madison High School (9-12)	Blueprint Education (7-12)
Bridgeway Academy (preK-12)	Brigham Young University (9-12)
Calvert (K-8)	Catholic Schools K12 Virtual (K-12)
Christa McAuliffe Academy-School of Arts and Science Christian Academy (K-12)	Clonlara School(K-12)
CompuHigh/Whitmore School (K-12)	Cornerstone Christian School (3-12)
EdOptions Online Academy (9-12)	Enlightium Academy (preK-12)
Excel High School (9-12)	Forest Trail Academy (K-12)
Global Student Network (K-12)	Greenways Academy (5th-12)
Griggs University/Griggs International Academy (K-12)	Indiana University High School (9-12)
International Connections Academy (K-12)	International Virtual Learning Academy (K-12)
Internet Home School (1st-12)	K-12 International (K-12)
The Keystone School (K-12)	Laurel Springs School (K-12)
Liberty University Online Academy (K-12)	Mother of Divine Grace School (K-12)
National High School (9-12)	National University Virtual High School (9-12)
NFC Academy (K-12)	North Dakota Center for Distance Education (6-12)
Northstar Academy (4th- 12)	Oak Meadow (K-12)

Obridge Academy (6-12)	Ogburn School (K-12)
Orion High School (K-12)	Penn Foster High School (9-12)
Seton Home Study School (preK-12)	Sevenstar Academy (6th-12)
Slavic Christian Academy (can be found as Northwest Christian Education K-12)	Southeast Academy (preK-12)
The Oaks Private School (K-12)	University of Miami Global Academy (6th-12th)
University of Missouri High School (K-12)	University of Nebraska/Lincoln (9-12)
Western Christian Academy (preK-12)	Wilostar 3D Virtual School (K-12)

Category IV: Satellite School (Church-related/Umbrella)

The third option for home school is the Category IV Satellite School (Church-Related/Umbrella). By authority of the § 49-6-3050: Home schools statute, parents or legal guardians may also home school their own children by registering with a church-related “umbrella” school defined by Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-50-801.

Parents or legal guardians who choose this option will be required to provide evidence to the Knox County Schools that their child is enrolled in a church-related/umbrella school. The church-related/umbrella school will determine record keeping and test requirements for students enrolled in a program.

The chart below lists **Category IV Satellite Schools (Church-related/Umbrella)** for your convenience. Please note some of these institutions are considered **Category III Online Schools** as well.

Satellite Program	Category	Location	Phone Number
Berean Christian School	III, IV	Knoxville, TN	865-521-6054
Bolivar Christian Academy	IV	Bolivar, TN	731-658-4213
Central Baptist School	IV	Memphis, TN	901-386-8161
Christ Presbyterian Academy	III, IV	Nashville, TN	615-373-9550
Christian Academy of Knoxville	III, IV	Knoxville, TN	865-690-4721
Christian Community School	IV	White House, TN	615-672-6949
Daniel One Academy (3-12)	IV	Cookeville, TN	931-432-1496
Family Christian Academy	IV	Knoxville, TN	865-689-1313
Faith Heritage Christian Academy	IV	Millington, TN	901-872-0828
First Baptist Academy	III	Knoxville, TN	865-947-8503
Franklin Christian Academy	III	Franklin, TN	615-599-9229
Gateway Christian Schools	IV	Memphis, TN	901-452-3176
HomeLife Academy	IV	Jackson, TN	888-560-0774
Lancaster Christian Academy	IV	Smyrna, TN	615-223-0451
Lighthouse Christian Academy	III	Nashville, TN	615-612-2502
Mt. Juliet Christian Academy	III	Nashville, TN	615-758-2427

Satellite Program	Category	Location	Phone Number
New System School, Inc.	IV	Rutledge, TN	865-828-4488
Riverside Christian School	III, IV	Fayetteville, TN	931-438-4722
South Haven Christian School	IV	Springfield, TN	615-384-5073
St. Andrews School	IV	Sevierville, TN	865-868-2050
Temple Baptist Academy	IV	Powell, TN	865-938-8180
Trinity Christian School	IV	Knoxville, TN	865-688-9991
The Farm School	IV	Summertown, TN	931-964-2325

Scholarship Information

Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship (TELS)/ HOPE eligibility:

A homeschool student must:

- Be enrolled as a homeschool student in a homeschool program for a minimum of one (1) year prior to graduating. The student must achieve a 21 Composite score or above, on a national test date for the ACT test (or concordant equivalent score on the SAT on a national test date) for HOPE Scholarship consideration. The student does not need to submit a grade point average as this is not a consideration.
- Students must request the confirmation enrollment form, found in the forms section of this homeschool handbook, to be filled out by Knox County Schools before eligibility is established. To request the form to be completed, please call the Office of Innovation at (865) 594-1731

For more information about the HOPE Scholarship program, the GAMS scholarship, and Dual Enrollment information, please visit the website below:

<https://www.tn.gov/collegepays/important-links/tennessee-hope-scholarship-for-home-school-and-category-iv--v---vi-non-public-schools.html>

Tennessee Promise

A homeschool student is eligible for the TN Promise assistance. Visit the website below for a list of eligibility requirements, mandatory meeting dates, due dates, and a FAFSA application:

<http://tennesseehomeschoolers.com/>

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can a parent withdraw to attend home school at any point in the school year?**
 - Yes. The cutoff date for registering for home school has been removed from the home school law. A parent is allowed to withdraw their child from the public school and register for home school at any point in the school year. The Office of Innovation can walk you through this process if needed.
- **Is a power of attorney sufficient as proof of legal guardianship?**
 - No. A power of attorney is not considered the same as legal guardianship for the purposes of withdrawing a student to attend home school.
- **Can a student who has been home schooled during the kindergarten year enter the first grade in a public school?**
 - Since home schooling in kindergarten is in compliance with the compulsory school attendance law, it is deemed an approved kindergarten program. A student who has been home schooled during the kindergarten year may enter the first grade in a public school if they demonstrate acceptable performance on the district's placement test. The Office of Innovation can help support you when making arrangements for taking the placement test.
- **What rights do home school students have for special education services from Knox County Schools?**
 - Students who are home schooled are entitled to the same services as children who are placed in private schools by their parents. This is provided via a "services plan" and is generally some type of related service, such as speech therapy, as determined by the school district where the student is registered to home school. The parent should contact the Knox County Schools' Office of Innovation for complete information.
- **Are home school students allowed to participate in public school athletic programs?**
 - Independently registered home school students have the right to try out for sports/athletic teams at their zoned Knox County School. TCA § 49-6-3050 states: (e)(1) If any of the public schools established under the jurisdiction of an LEA (Local Education Agency) are members of an organization or an association that regulates interscholastic athletic competition, and if such organization or association establishes or maintains eligibility requirements for home school students desiring to participate in interscholastic athletics at a member school, then the LEA shall permit participation in interscholastic athletics at those schools by home school students who satisfy the eligibility requirements established by the organization or association. (2) This subsection (e) does not guarantee that a home school student trying out for an interscholastic athletics team will make the team or supplant the authority of coaches or other school officials in deciding who makes the team. This subsection (e) is intended to guarantee only that the home school student shall not be prohibited from

trying out for an interscholastic athletics team, if the student is eligible under the rules of the organization or association, solely by reason of the student's status as a home school student. (3) This subsection (e) shall not be construed to limit or supplant the authority of the organization or association to determine eligibility and to establish, modify and enforce its rules and eligibility requirements, including those applicable to home school students.

- If interested, contact Marion Quinn at marion.quinn@knoxschools.org

- **If a student is 18 years old, can they withdraw themselves as an independent home school student?**

- The home school law is defined as a school “conducted or directed by a parent or parents or a legal guardian or guardians for their own children.” So, students (even if they are 18 years old) would not be allowed to withdraw themselves to home school.

- **Is the state curriculum mandated for independent home school students?**

- No. The Home School Law (TCA 49-6-3050) provides very little guidance specific to the curriculum a parent must provide. The only mention of curriculum is in section (b) (1): “...submission to the director of schools... the proposed curriculum to be offered...” But there is no mention of what type of curriculum should be used. However, parents should keep in mind the testing requirement in grades 5, 7, and 9 in which their child will be tested on the grade level state curriculum in Reading/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. A parent should include those subjects in with their proposed curriculum to ensure that their child will be prepared for testing in those areas.
- See the Testing section of this handbook for information on practice materials and important websites.

- **Is Knox County responsible for testing students enrolled in Category III Online Virtual and Category IV Satellite (Church-Related/Umbrella) home schools?**

- No. Knox County is only responsible for testing students who are registered as independent home school students.

- **Can a parent of a home school student in grades 5, 7, or 9 choose to provide some other form of assessments rather than the TCAP/EOC?**

- Yes, there is an option outlined below in TCA § 49-6-3050 which would allow for a home school student to take a test other than the TCAP or End of Course Assessments. The law states: (5) (A) Administration by the commissioner of education, or the commissioner's designee, or by a professional testing service that is approved by the LEA, to home school students of the same state board approved secure standardized tests required of public school students in grades five (5), seven (7) and nine (9); (ii) Tests administered by a professional testing service shall be administered within thirty (30) days of the date of the statewide test. Tests administered by a professional testing service shall be administered at the expense of the parent-teacher; (iii) All test results

from either administration by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, or by a professional testing service, shall be provided to the parent-teacher, the director of schools and the state board of education; So the test would need to be standardized, administered by a professional testing service within 30 days of the statewide assessments, and the results provided to the LEA for review.

- Please contact the Office of Innovation so we can work with you and your family to ensure the appropriate assessments and steps are taken in order for you to be in compliance with the requirements.

- **Which End of Course Assessments are required of 9th grade home school students?**

- If a home school student in grade 9 is taking a course for which there is an end of course test, that student should be required to take that end of course exam. That will mean some 9th grade students, depending on the courses they are taking, will have less tests to take that year than others.

Additional Information

Home School Model Comparison Chart			
	Independent	Category III Online	Category IV Satellite
Authority	TCA 49-6-3050	TCA 49-5-801	SBE Rules and Regulations 0520-2-7
Intent to Home School Form	Yes	Yes	Yes
Parent Education Required	K-12 High School Diploma or GED	K-12 High School Diploma or GED	None
Proof of Enrollment to KCS	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hours Required	4 hours per day	None required	None required
Testing	Grades 5, 7, 9	None required	None required
Diploma	Recognized by state and local government entities	Recognized by state and local government entities	Fully-recognized diploma
Re-entry Requirements to KCS	Placement Test	Placement Test	Automatic Re-entry

Helpful Websites:

- Knox County Schools Office of Innovation
<https://www.knoxschools.org/Domain/1061>
- Tennessee Department of Education: Home School
<https://www.tn.gov/education/school-options/home-schooling-in-tn.html>
- Knox County Schools TN Ready Information and Support
<https://www.knoxschools.org/domain/4664>
- Tennessee State Standards
<https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards.html>
- Graduation Requirements
<https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/education/instruction/graduation-requirements.html>
- Tennessee Assessments
<https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/education/assessment.html>

Intent to Home School Form: Independent Home School

Tennessee Notice of Intent to Home School

To be completed by school system:	
School system name:	System number:
Date received:	
Received by name:	
Signature:	
Title:	

This form should be completed only by parent(s) conducting a home school under the supervision of the superintendent of a local education agency (LEA).

“Home schools” are schools conducted by parents or legal guardians for their own children, which are distinct from degree-granting online or distance education schools. This form may be utilized as notice of your intent to conduct a home school, meaning that you will serve as the primary teacher for the student(s) as permitted by T.C.A. §49-6-3050. **Please complete both pages of the form and return both pages to your local public school system office before the start of each school year.**

PLEASE PRINT

Part 1. Student Information

A. **Grades K-8:** For each student in grades K-8, please list the following information:

1.	Last name	First name	Grade	Subjects to be taught
	Age	Birthdate	Social security number (optional)	
2.	Last name	First name	Grade	Subjects to be taught
	Age	Birthdate	Social security number (optional)	
3.	Last name	First name	Grade	Subjects to be taught
	Age	Birthdate	Social security number (optional)	
4.	Last name	First name	Grade	Subjects to be taught
	Age	Birthdate	Social security number (optional)	

B. **Grades 9-12:** For each student in grades 9-12, please list the following information:

1.	Last name	First name	Grade	Subjects to be taught
	Age	Birthdate	Social security number (optional)	
2.	Last name	First name	Grade	Subjects to be taught
	Age	Birthdate	Social security number (optional)	

Tennessee Notice of Intent to Home School

Part 2. Parent Information

Please provide information **only** for the parent(s) or guardian(s) who will teach.

	Last Name	First Name
A. Name of parent(s) or guardian(s)	(Mother)	
	(Father)	
	or	
	(Guardian)	

B. Contact Information

Home (Mailing Address) _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number (____) _____

Email Address _____

C. Parent/Guardian Educational Background (**complete only for parent(s)/guardian(s) who will teach**)

1. For grades K-12, I have a GED or high school diploma. _____ Yes _____ No
2. If mailing this form, please attach documentation of qualifying education. If presenting this form in person, please bring documentation of your qualifying education for school staff to verify.

Part 3. Health Records

Please attach documentation that student(s) have received immunizations as required by T.C.A. § 49-6-5001.

_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date

HOME SCHOOL STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Student Name _____ Parent/Guardian _____

Grade _____ Home Address _____

2017-18

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JULY 2017						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
AUGUST 2017						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
SEPTEMBER 2017						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
OCTOBER 2017						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
NOVEMBER 2017						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
DECEMBER 2017						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Student Name _____

2017-18

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JANUARY 2018						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
FEBRUARY 2018						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			
MARCH 2018						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
APRIL 2018						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
MAY 2018						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
JUNE 2018						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

State law requires that a parent teacher conducting a home school must comply with the following requirements:

- (1) Maintenance of attendance records, subject to inspection by local director of schools, **and submission of those records to the director of schools at the end of the school year.**
- (2) Instruction for at least four (4) hours per day for 180 instruction days.

Intent to Home School Form: Category III Virtual Online School

Please complete and return this form along with enrollment verification with a Satellite or Virtual/Online School to Knox County Schools Office of Innovation. Be sure to take proof of enrollment with a satellite or virtual school to your zoned school in order to be dropped and registered as a home school student.

Part 1: Student Information

1.	Last name	First name	Grade
	Age	Birthdate	SSN (optional)
2.	Last name	First name	Grade
	Age	Birthdate	SSN (optional)
3.	Last name	First name	Grade
	Age	Birthdate	SSN (optional)
4.	Last name	First name	Grade
	Age	Birthdate	SSN (optional)

Previous School _____
 Name of Virtual Online Program _____

Part 2: Parent Information

Last Name
First Name

A. Name of parent(s) or guardian(s) (Mother) _____
 (Father) _____

or

(Guardian) _____

B. Contact Information

Home (Mailing Address) _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number (_____) _____

Email Address _____

Intent to Home School Form: Category IV Satellite Program (Church-related/Umbrella)

Please complete and return this form along with enrollment verification with a Satellite or Virtual/Online School to Knox County Schools Office of Innovation. Be sure to take proof of enrollment with a satellite or virtual school to your zoned school in order to be dropped and registered as a home school student.

Part 1: Student Information

1.	Last name	First name	Grade
	Age	Birthdate	SSN (optional)
2.	Last name	First name	Grade
	Age	Birthdate	SSN (optional)
3.	Last name	First name	Grade
	Age	Birthdate	SSN (optional)
4.	Last name	First name	Grade
	Age	Birthdate	SSN (optional)

Previous School _____
Name Online Program _____

Part 2: Parent Information

	Last Name	First Name
B. Name of parent(s) or guardian(s) (Mother)	_____	
(Father)	_____	
or		
(Guardian)	_____	

B. Contact Information

Home (Mailing Address) _____

 City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number (_____) _____

Email Address _____

Homeschool Testing Registration Form
5th and 7th grade

My child _____, will take the following exam(s):

(Please mark any that apply)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5th grade ELA | <input type="checkbox"/> 5th grade Math | <input type="checkbox"/> 5th grade Science | <input type="checkbox"/> 5th grade Social Studies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7th grade ELA | <input type="checkbox"/> 7th grade Math | <input type="checkbox"/> 7th grade Science | <input type="checkbox"/> 7th grade Social Studies |

I will bring my student to Lincoln Park Technology Center located at 515 Chickamagua Avenue on _____ (please list all dates that apply) between 8:00 and 8:15am to begin testing at 8:30am.

Parent or Guardian Name: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

****Please return this form no later than Friday, March 16.**

Homeschool Testing Registration Form
9th Grade Registration

My child _____, will take the following exam(s):

(Please mark any that apply)

Algebra I

Algebra II

Geometry

Biology

Chemistry

US History

English I

English II

English III

I will bring my student to Lincoln Park Technology Center located at 515 Chickamagua Avenue on _____ (please list all dates that apply) between 8:00 and 8:15am to begin testing at 8:30am.

If you would like to register your 9th grade student for an optional practice testing session on March 28 or 29 from 9:30 - 12:30, please indicate below your preference of dates and times for the practice session:

First choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Parent or Guardian Name: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

****Please return this form no later than Friday, March 16.**



STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION
SUITE 1510, PARKWAY TOWERS
404 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0820
(615)741-1346 • 1-800-342-1663 • FAX (615)741-6101
www.TN.gov/CollegePays

**Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship (TELS)
Home School Notice**

For the purpose of the TELS program, pursuant to TCA §49-4-902 (25), a *home school student* means a student who completed high school in a Tennessee home school program meeting the requirements of §49-6-3050.

For one (1) year immediately preceding completion of high school as a home school student, the student shall have been a student in a home school associated with a church-related school as defined by §49-50-801 or an independent home school student whose parent or guardian has given notice to the local director of the Tennessee school district under §49-6-3050 (b)(1) of intent to conduct a home school. The TELS Home School Notice is required for the student who graduates from a home school programs that is not church-related and meet certain accreditation standards or membership as defined in §49-50-801.

Students who are enrolled in Category 4, 5 or 6 non-public secondary schools located in Tennessee may qualify for the HOPE Scholarship at an eligible postsecondary institution by completing high school in a Tennessee home school program for at least one (1) year of enrollment immediately preceding graduation. In this case, the TELS Home School Notice is not required for students graduating from TN home school programs.

To be completed by the Tennessee county local school district in which the student reside:

1. Name of student: _____
Last First
2. Student's Last four (4) SSN digits: XXX – XX –
3. Student's Date of Birth: / /
4. Name of Home School and State: _____
Name State
5. Did the parent/guardian give notice to the school district with the intent to conduct a home school program? (check one) Yes: _____ No: _____

By signing below, I certify the information provided above is correct to the best of my knowledge. For the purpose of TELS, the student meets the minimum requirements as described in the content of this document for home school students.

TN School District County () Phone Number Date

Authorized Local School District Name (Print)

Authorized Local School District Signature