

Wyoming Homeschool Laws as of the 2015-2016 School Year: The Break Down: Understand the Law

(Also See: *Wyoming Homeschool Laws*
The Statutes: Know the Law below)

- ❖ The parent or guardian of the child(ren) being homeschooled need to turn a **Letter of Intent/Curriculum Submission** into the board of trustees each year. *NO deadlines or dates are given in the law* --*A Sample Letter of Intent/Curriculum Submission form is provided on wyomingfreedomineducation.org under the "Homeschooling" tab.*
 - A letter of Intent/Curriculum Submission form ONLY needs to be turned in for children of compulsory age. As of the 2015-2016 school year compulsory age is defined as any child **"whose seventh (7th) birthday falls on or before September 15 of any year and who has not yet attained his sixteenth (16th) birthday or completed the tenth (10th) grade"**
 - Your letter of Intent/Curriculum Submission form must include the curriculum you will be using for only these subjects: **reading, writing, mathematics, civics, history, literature and science.** Do not offer more information than required by law.
- ❖ Currently the law requires 175 days of instruction.
- ❖ You do not need any special "qualifications" to educate your children in your home
- ❖ Standardized testing is not required

Be sure to read the statutes below for yourself.

****DO NOT FILL OUT THAT PACKET****: The "Homeschool Curriculum Packets" sent out by the school district ARE NOT required by the law. You can provide your own Letter of Intent/Curriculum Submission Form. The packets sent out by the school districts are used for data mining purposes, and are a violation of 21-4-101 (a)(iv): **Nothing contained in W.S. 21-4-102(b), 21-2-401 or 21-2-406 grants to the state of Wyoming or any of its officers, agencies or subdivisions any right or authority to control, manage, supervise or make any suggestions as to the control, management or supervision of any parochial, church or religious school which meets the requirements of W.S. 21-2-406(a)**; Per definitions provided in the statutes, home based education is a "private school"

Wyoming Homeschool Laws The Statutes: Know the Law

21-4-101(a)

(iii)

"Private school" is any nonpublic, elementary or secondary school providing a basic academic educational program for children and may include parochial and church or religious schools and **home based educational programs**;

(iv)

"Parochial, church or religious school" is one operated under the auspices or control of a local church or religious congregation or a denomination established to promote and promulgate the commonly held religious doctrines of the group though it may also include basic academic subjects in its curriculum.

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(v)

A home based educational program means a program of educational instruction provided to a child by the child's parent or legal guardian or by a person designated by the parent or legal guardian. An instructional program provided to more than one (1) family unit does not constitute a home based educational program;

(vi)

"Basic academic educational program" is one that provides a sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, civics, history, literature and science. These curriculum requirements do not require any private school or home based educational program to include in its curriculum any concept, topic or practice in conflict with its religious doctrines or to exclude from its curriculum any concept, topic or practice consistent with its religious doctrines.

21-4-102(a)

Every parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of any child who is a resident of this state and **whose seventh birthday falls on or before September 15 of any year and who has not yet attained his sixteenth birthday or completed the tenth grade** shall be required to send such child to, and such child shall be required to attend, a public or private school [see definitions in section 21-4-101 (a)(iii) and (iv)] each year, during the entire time that the public schools shall be in session in the district in which the pupil resides; (see 21-4-301 on the next page)

(b)

A home based educational program shall meet the requirements of a basic academic educational program pursuant to W.S. 21-4-101(a)(vi). **It shall be the responsibility of every person administering a home based educational program to submit a curriculum to the local board of trustees each year showing that the program complies with the requirements of this subsection.** Failure to submit a curriculum showing compliance is prima facie evidence that the home based educational program does not meet the requirements of this article.

2-1-4-102 continued:

(c)

In addition to subsection (a) of this section, the parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of any child under the age of eighteen (18), who has not otherwise notified the district of enrolling that child in a different school district or in a private school or home-based educational program, shall meet in person with a school district counselor or administrator to provide the school district with written consent to the withdrawal of that child from school attendance. The written consent to withdrawal shall include a separate provision authorizing the release of the student's identity and address to the Wyoming national guard youth challenge program, as established by W.S. 19-9-701, for the sole purpose of recruitment into the Wyoming national guard youth challenge program

21-4-301.

Schools to be free and accessible to all children; minimum school year. Except as otherwise provided by law, the public schools of each school district in the state shall at all times be equally free and accessible to all children resident therein of five (5) years of age as of September 15 of the applicable school year and under the age of twenty-one (21), subject to regulations of the board of trustees. **Each school district shall operate its schools and its classes for a minimum of one hundred seventy-five (175) days each school year** unless an alternative schedule has been approved by the state board. Prior to submission of a proposed alternative schedule to the state board, the board of trustees shall hold at least two (2) advertised public meetings within the district, at which the board shall present the proposed alternative schedule and respond to public questions and comments. Any school district operating under an alternative schedule shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of that schedule in meeting the educational goals and purposes for which the schedule was adopted.

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