



# HOME SCHOOLING



Homeschooling provides a pathway to a completely customized educational experience for children.

Homeschooling is legal in all 50 states, but homeschool laws vary by state.

All costs for homeschooling are paid for by homeschooling families themselves. Parents do not receive federal tax relief for choosing to homeschool, though some states offer state tax deductions and allowances for educational expenses.

## HOW MANY

**3.7** About **3.7 million** students homeschool in the U.S.

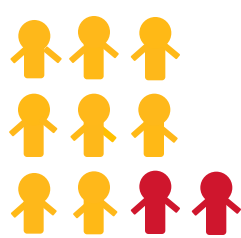
## ENROLLMENT



Parents who homeschool usually must **officially unenroll** their children from their previous school. Most states also require parents to **inform the home school district or the state** of their intent to homeschool.

## WHY

**80%** of families say they homeschool because of a **concern about the environment** of other schools.



## MANAGEMENT

**Homeschooling families** are responsible for their children's educations.



## COSTS

**\$600**

is the **average amount** homeschool families spend per student annually.

## TESTING



Less than half of U.S. states require some level of **state assessment**, either annually or periodically, of homeschooled students.

## DIVERSITY



Homeschooling is **incredibly diverse and widespread** geographically.

Home education is common among agnostics, atheists, Christians, Jews, Mormons, New Age adherents, and Roman Catholics.

## PARENTAL REQUIREMENTS

In less than half of U.S. states, parents must meet **criteria**, like holding a high school diploma, to homeschool.

**1/2**



## CAN HOMESCHOOLERS ACCESS PROGRAMS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM?

In more than half of U.S. states, homeschooled children are generally allowed to participate in extracurricular, interscholastic, or athletic programs offered within the public school system. Some states allow parents to enroll homeschooled children in specific classes at local public schools or online public schools as well. These policies often provide for some limitations or exceptions. For example, some states allow homeschooled students to participate in activities, but only at the discretion of local public school district officials.



## Homeschooling: *the original school choice*

Homeschooling is often described as the original school choice. In reality, homeschooling was the only choice for a portion of our country's history. That is because, for many families in the past, there were no public schools for children to attend. Before the mid-1800s, most education took place in the home, by private tutors, or at private or common schools. Fourteen U.S. presidents and four U.S. Supreme Court justices were homeschooled.