



HSP App: Homeschooling State Laws Informational: New Jersey

Homeschooling Laws and Requirements in New Jersey

Disclaimer: The following information is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice. Homeschooling laws and regulations may vary, and it is essential to verify the information with local county and state officials. The author is not a lawyer, and this document does not constitute legal advice.

If you're considering homeschooling your child in New Jersey, it's crucial to understand the state's homeschooling laws and requirements. Here's an overview to help you get started:

1. Notification Requirements:

- New Jersey requires homeschooling families to submit an annual letter of intent to the local superintendent of schools by the beginning of the school year.
- The letter should include basic information about the child, such as name, age, and address, as well as a statement of the parent's intent to homeschool.
- Additionally, parents may need to submit an Individualized Home Instruction Plan (IHIP) outlining the educational objectives and materials to be used for the year.

2. Curriculum and Instruction:

- Homeschooling parents in New Jersey have the freedom to choose or create their curriculum. There are no state-mandated requirements regarding the subjects to be taught or the instructional materials to be used.
- However, the curriculum should cover the basic subjects typically taught in public schools, including reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

3. Assessment and Evaluation:

- New Jersey does not require homeschooling students to undergo standardized testing or assessment.
- However, parents may choose to assess their child's academic progress through various methods, such as portfolio reviews, progress reports, or evaluations by certified teachers.

4. Record-Keeping:

While not explicitly mandated by law, it is advisable for homeschooling families to maintain records of their children's academic progress, including attendance, coursework, and any assessments or evaluations conducted.

5. Graduation Requirements:

- Homeschooled students in New Jersey must meet the same graduation requirements as students in public schools to receive a high school diploma.
- These requirements typically include completing a certain number of credits in core subjects and electives.

Useful Resources:

- New Jersey Department of Education - Homeschooling Information: <https://www.state.nj.us/education/parents/homeschooling/>
- Homeschool Association of New Jersey - Support and Resources: <https://www.hanj.org/>

Remember, homeschooling laws and regulations can change, so it's essential to stay informed and consult with local county and state officials for the most up-to-date information. Homeschooling offers families the opportunity to provide personalized education to their children, and understanding the legal requirements ensures compliance and a successful homeschooling journey.