

HSP App: Homeschooling State Laws Informational: Missouri

Homeschooling Laws and Requirements in Missouri

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.

Homeschooling in Missouri provides families with the flexibility to customize their children's education. Here's an overview of the homeschooling laws and requirements in Missouri:

1. Declaration of Intent:

- Homeschooling families in Missouri are required to file a Declaration of Intent (DOI) to homeschool with the superintendent of their local school district.
- The DOI must be submitted within thirty days of beginning homeschooling and includes basic information about the child, the parent's educational background, and the intended curriculum.
- After filing the DOI, families are not required to submit any further documentation or reports to the school district.

2. Curriculum and Instruction:

- Missouri homeschooling law does not prescribe specific curriculum requirements. Parents have the freedom to choose or develop their curriculum and teaching materials.
- However, the curriculum should cover the fundamental subjects taught in public schools, including reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science.

3. Assessment and Evaluation:

- Missouri does not mandate standardized testing or assessments for homeschooling students.
- Parents are responsible for evaluating their child's progress. This can be done through various methods, such as portfolio reviews, standardized testing, or assessments by certified teachers.

4. Record-Keeping:

While not required 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 Missouri 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:

- Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Homeschooling Information: https://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/home-schooling
- Homeschool Missouri Support and Resources: https://www.homeschoolinginmissouri.com/

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.