



HSP App: Homeschooling State Laws Informational: Pennsylvania

Homeschooling Laws and Requirements in Pennsylvania

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 Pennsylvania allows families to educate their children at home according to state guidelines. Here's an overview of the homeschooling laws and requirements in Pennsylvania:

1. State Requirements:

Pennsylvania homeschooling law requires parents to file a notarized affidavit with the superintendent of the school district in which they reside. This affidavit must include basic information about the homeschool, including the names and ages of the children to be homeschooled and the educational objectives for each child.

2. Record-Keeping:

- Homeschooling families in Pennsylvania are required to maintain certain records, including attendance records and portfolios of student work.
- Parents must keep a log of attendance for each homeschooled child, documenting at least 180 days of instruction per year or 900 hours for elementary students and 990 hours for secondary students.

3. Evaluation Requirements:

- Pennsylvania homeschooling law requires homeschooled students to undergo annual evaluations by a qualified evaluator. This evaluation may be conducted through standardized testing or a portfolio review by a certified teacher or other qualified evaluator.
- Parents must submit the results of the evaluation to the school district each year.

4. Qualifications for Homeschool Teachers:

- Pennsylvania does not require homeschooling parents to have specific educational qualifications or teaching credentials.
- Parents have the freedom to determine the educational approach and curriculum for their homeschool, provided it meets the state's requirements for attendance and instruction.

5. Graduation Requirements:

Homeschooled students in Pennsylvania must meet the same graduation requirements as students enrolled in public schools. These requirements include completing specific coursework and passing standardized tests or alternative assessments.

Useful Resources:

- Pennsylvania Department of Education - Homeschooling Information:
<https://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Home%20Education%20and%20Private%20Tutoring/Pages/default.aspx>
- Pennsylvania Homeschoolers Accreditation Agency (PHAA): <https://www.phaa.org/>

It's essential to stay informed about homeschooling laws and regulations in Pennsylvania, as they may change over time. Consult with local county and state officials for the most up-to-date information and ensure compliance with Pennsylvania's homeschooling requirements. Homeschooling offers families the flexibility to provide personalized education to their children, and understanding the legal requirements ensures a successful homeschooling journey.