

The Requirements by State Page: A How-To Guide

The **Requirements by State** page gives you a plain-language summary of the homeschool rules for any US state, so you can see at a glance what your state expects around notification, testing, evaluation, recordkeeping, and deadlines. It covers all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and every entry links out to official state sources so you can confirm the details yourself.

This guide walks through every function on the page.



requirements.

State or jurisdiction

Texas



Texas

Yes; governed by case law (Leeper v. Arlington ISD / TEA v. Leeper, 1994). Homeschool treated as a private school, exempt from compulsory attendance under TEC 25.086

Required Recommended Optional

Click any requirement below to see the full details.

Notification	OPTIONAL	Attendance records	OPTIONAL
Reading log	OPTIONAL	Curriculum records	REQUIRED
Student work samples	OPTIONAL	Portfolio	OPTIONAL
Standardized testing	OPTIONAL	Annual evaluation	OPTIONAL
Immunization / health records	OPTIONAL		

DEADLINES

No state-set deadlines.

DETAILS

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGE
6-18 (age 6 by Sept 1 through under 19th birthday; TEC 25.085)

PARENT QUALIFICATIONS
None

INSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS
None specified (no required days/hours)

REQUIRED SUBJECTS
Five required: reading, spelling, grammar, mathematics, good citizenship

GRADES REQUIRED
No

GRADUATION
Parent-issued diploma; no state diploma

RECORD RETENTION
Not specified (keeping records/transcripts recommended)

NOTES

Requirements rest on 1994 Leeper case law, not statute: instruction must be bona fide (not a sham), use a written/visual curriculum, and cover the five subjects. A district may request a letter of assurance if it becomes aware of a homeschooled child. Withdrawal letter of intent recommended before leaving public school. No state oversight, testing, or notification.

OFFICIAL RESOURCES

State Department of Education THSC - Texas Home School Coalition

SOURCES

hilda.org crhe.org tea.texas.gov thsc.org

Disclaimer: This information is provided as a general educational resource and is not legal advice. Homeschool laws and regulations may change. Families should verify current requirements with their state's Department of Education or applicable homeschooling authority.

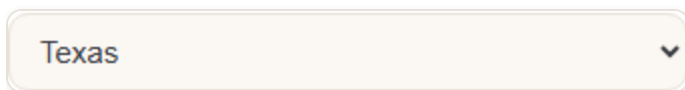
Opening the Requirements by State page

From the main menu on the left, under **Resources**, click **Requirements by State**. On a phone, you may find it under the **More** menu in the bottom bar.

When the page opens, it automatically shows the state you chose as your **Homeschool State** on the Family page. If you haven't set one yet, the page waits for you to pick a state. Nothing here changes your family settings, so you can look up any state freely.

Part 1: Choosing a state

At the top of the page is a single dropdown labeled **State or jurisdiction**.

A light beige rounded rectangular button with the word "Texas" in a dark grey sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a small, dark grey downward-pointing chevron icon.

1. Click the dropdown.
2. Pick any of the 50 states or the District of Columbia.

The requirements below update immediately. If you set a **Homeschool State** on the Family page, that state is already selected for you when you arrive, so most of the time you can just read.

Tip: The dropdown lets you preview any state, not just your own. This is handy if you're planning a move, comparing states, or helping another family understand their rules.

Part 2: Reading the requirement indicators

Once a state is selected, you'll see the state's name, a short legal summary, and a list of requirement indicators. Each indicator is a key part of homeschooling in that state (things like

notification or registration, testing, evaluation, and recordkeeping), paired with a colored dot that tells you how it applies.



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The dot colors follow a simple legend:

Indicator	Color	What it means
Required	Green	The state requires this. You need to do it to homeschool legally.
Recommended	Amber	Not required, but advised or commonly done.
Optional	Grey	Available to you, but not expected either way.

Each indicator also shows its status in words (**REQUIRED**, **RECOMMENDED**, or **OPTIONAL**) on the right, so you don't have to rely on color alone.

Tip: Click any requirement in the list to expand the full details for that item, and click it again to collapse. The page shows a small hint above the list to remind you.

Part 3: Deadlines and details

Below the indicators, two more sections fill in the specifics.

Deadlines

The **Deadlines** section lists any dates the state sets, such as when to file a notice of intent or when annual testing must happen. If a state doesn't set formal deadlines, this section simply reads "No state-set deadlines."

Details

The **Details** section spells out the finer points of the state's rules:

Detail	What it covers
Compulsory attendance age	The age range during which a child must be receiving instruction.
Parent qualifications	Any education or credential the state requires of the teaching parent.
Instruction requirements	Required hours or days of instruction, if any.
Required subjects	Subjects the state expects you to cover.
Grades required	Which grade levels the rules apply to.
Graduation	How a homeschool diploma or completion is handled.
Record retention	How long you should keep your records.

If a state has extra context worth calling out, a **Notes** section appears with a short explanation.

Part 4: Official resources and the disclaimer

At the bottom of the page, the **Official resources** section links you straight to the authorities that set and explain the rules.

- **State Department of Education** takes you to the state's official education website.
- The **statewide homeschool organization** link (when available) points to a local group that supports homeschooling families in that state.
- A short **Sources** list shows the sites the summary was compiled from, so you can trace any point back to its origin.

All of these links open in a new tab.

A note on legal accuracy

Chalk and Chart provides this information as a general educational resource, not as legal advice. Homeschool laws and regulations change, and the way rules are applied can vary by district. Always confirm the current requirements with your state's Department of Education or applicable homeschooling authority before you act.

Tip: When in doubt, follow the official links on this page and verify against the source. Treat the indicators as a helpful starting map, not the final word.

How this connects to the Family page

This page works hand in hand with the **Family** page:

- On the Family page, the **Homeschool State** dropdown (in the Family card) is where you record your own state. Whatever you pick there is what this page shows first.
- Once you've chosen a Homeschool State, a condensed version of the same information appears on the Family page in the **State Requirements** card, so you get a quick reminder without leaving your family settings.

Think of the Family page's card as the summary and this page as the full reference.

Tip: If the State Requirements card on the Family page is empty, it means you haven't chosen a Homeschool State yet. Pick one in the Family card to fill it in, and this page will default to it too.

Quick reference

I want to...	Do this
Open the page	Left menu → Resources → Requirements by State
Look up my state	It's preselected from your Homeschool State, or pick it in the State or jurisdiction dropdown
Compare another state	Choose any state from the dropdown
Understand a colored dot	Green = Required, Amber = Recommended, Grey = Optional
See the full detail of a requirement	Click it in the indicator list to expand
Check state deadlines	Read the Deadlines section
Visit the official source	Use the links in Official resources
Set which state shows first	Family page → Homeschool State → Save family
See a quick summary elsewhere	Family page → State Requirements card

Screenshots use a sample state selection for illustration; always confirm your own state's current requirements with the official sources linked on the page.