

# Homeschooling in WASHINGTON State

The *Firmly Planted Homeschool Resource Center* is here to help! We recommend you refer to the state law as changes may occur. At FPHRC we are committed to empowering parents, students, and teachers to pursue a home education with a broad Christian framework. FPHRC is a positive resource for our growing community and we look forward to helping you!

## **What age do we need to register with the State of WA?**

Compulsory attendance in WA is from ages 8-18. If your child turns 8 after September 1, you are not required to comply with the homeschool laws until the following school year.

## **Withdrawing your child from his or her current school:**

**Note:** *If your child has not been enrolled in a public or private school, this section does not apply to you.*

If you want to start homeschooling your child during the school year, HSLDA recommends that you formally withdraw your child from the school your child is currently enrolled in. If you are going to homeschool your child after the current school is complete and your child is considered enrolled for the following year, HSLDA recommends you formally withdraw your child before the new school year begins, so the school does not mark your child as absent or truant.

## **To Homeschool in WA you will need to do the following steps:**

1. Meet the WA homeschool parent qualifications.
2. File a letter of intent.
3. Teach for the required number of days or hours.
4. Teach the required subjects.
5. Conduct an annual assessment.



**MEET THE WA HOMESCHOOL PARENT QUALIFICATIONS:**

In WA there are four ways you can qualify to homeschool your child.

1. Have earned 45 quarter units (30 semester units) of college-level credit.
2. Have attended a Parent Qualifying Course, courses can be found at <https://washhomeschool.org/qualifying-courses/>.
3. Work with a certificated teacher who works with the student for a minimum of one hour per week.
4. Be approved by the school district superintendent as suitably qualified.

**FILE A LETTER OF INTENT:**

You must submit an annual signed letter of intent to homeschool by September 15, or within the first two weeks of the first day of your local public school. The letter should be submitted to the superintendent of the public school district within which the parent resides or the district that accepts the transfer, and the student shall be deemed a transfer student of the nonresident district. You can print off a Declaration of Intent from, <https://washhomeschool.org/homeschooling/declaration-of-intent/>.

**\*TEACH FOR THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF DAYS:**

180 days per year, or an average of 1,000 hours per year.

**\*TEACH THE REQUIRED SUBJECTS:**

Not all subjects are required to be taught in one year. Studies can overlap and be combined, depending on the age, level and interest of your child(ren).

**Your homeschool curriculum includes:**

Math	History
Reading	Social studies
Writing	Science
Spelling	Health
Language	Occupational education

\* "The homeschool law also states that the legislature recognizes that home-based instruction is less structured and more experiential than the instruction normally provided in a classroom. Therefore, the provisions relating to the nature and quantity of instructional and related educational activities shall be liberally construed." <https://washhomeschool.org/homeschooling/the-law/#Required-Subjects>



**CONDUCT AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT:**

A standardized test should be given annually to your child by a “qualified” person, or have your child evaluated by a certificated person. The Firmly Planted Homeschool Resource Center in Vancouver, WA will provide scheduled annual assessment dates with a state qualified administrator.

**References:**

<https://www.fphrc.org/>

<https://hsllda.org/content/hs101/WA.aspx>

<https://washomeschool.org/>

<https://www.movingbeyondthepage.com/how-to-homeschool-in-your-state/homeschooling-in-washington/>

