

PARENT INFORMATION SHEET # 1

REVIEW OF INFORMATION REGARDING HOME SCHOOLING REGULATIONS IN MICHIGAN

1. Home Schooling is legal in Michigan.
2. Parents are entitled to teach their children at home under Exemption 3f of the Compulsory School Attendance Act.
3. Exemption 3f home schools do not report to the Michigan Department of Education.
4. Home schools must teach the basic subjects – including Reading, Spelling, Mathematics, Science, History, Civics, Literature, Writing, and English grammar.
5. Home Schools are responsible for choosing and purchasing their own textbooks and materials.
6. All home school students are entitled to enroll in non-core courses at their local Public School District.
7. There is no law mandating a minimum number of days and hours of instruction for Home Schooled students.
8. Home school parents issue their own report cards and diplomas.
9. Testing is not required of home schooled students.
10. If a homeschool student transfers back to an institutional school setting the receiving school has the authority to assess and place the student as they see fit.
11. An additional option for Home Schooling is Exemption A of the Compulsory School Attendance Act. Home Schools operating under Exemption A should utilize a person with a minimum of a Bachelor's degree as the teacher, unless they claim an objection to Teacher Certification based upon a sincerely held religious belief. If that claim is made, the Bachelor's degree requirement is waived.

Information as presented via the phone through the Michigan Department of Ed. 10/01

PARENT INFORMATION SHEET # 2

Exemption (f) Home Schools

Section 1561(3)(f) states:

A child shall not be required to attend the public schools in the following cases:

(f) The child is being educated at the child's home by his or her **parent or legal guardian** in an organized educational program in the subject areas of reading, spelling, mathematics, science, history, civics, literature, writing, and English grammar.

If a homeschool family chooses to operate under exemption (f), the conditions listed below apply:

- The home school family is not a nonpublic school.
- The Michigan Department of Education plays no role with this homeschool family.
- **The homeschool family does not report to the Department of Education.**
- Intermediate school and local school districts are responsible for interpreting and enforcing the Compulsory School Attendance Law.
- **There are no minimum qualifications for teachers except that they must be the parents or legal guardian of the children.**
- The home school family must provide "an organized educational program in the subject areas of reading, spelling, mathematics, science, history, civics, literature, writing and English grammar."

Students in home school families operating under exemption (f), solely, are not entitled to Auxiliary Services. Students in these homeschool families may enroll in non-core courses such as band, physical education, music, or driver's education, in public schools.

Curriculum Materials

Home school families may purchase the textbooks and materials of their choice. Support services may be contracted but are not required by law. Information regarding home school support services and materials can be accessed on the Internet by typing any of the following at the search prompt: *homeschool curriculum, homeschool associations, or correspondence schools*.

The Department of Education does not provide curriculum materials for homeschools.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT REVISIONS TO THE COMPULSORY
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROVISION OF THE REVISED SCHOOL CODE**

P.A. 339 of 1996

July 1996

The Compulsory School Attendance provision of the Revised School Code was recently amended by P.A. 339 of 1996.

Sections 1561(3)(a) and 1561(3)(f) provide that a child educated at home shall not be required to attend the public schools in the following cases:

- (a) The child is attending regularly and is being taught in a state approved nonpublic school, which teaches subjects comparable to those taught in the public schools to children of corresponding age and grade, as determined by the course of study for the public schools of the district within which the nonpublic school is located.
- (f) The child is being educated at the child's home by his or her parent or legal guardian in an organized educational program in the subject areas of reading, spelling, mathematics, science, history, civics, literature, writing and English grammar.

Section 1561(4) states:

For a child being educated at the child's home by his or her parent or legal guardian, exemption from the requirement to attend public school may exist under either subsections (3)(a) or (3)(f), or both.

A homeschool family choosing to operate under exemption (a), solely, and complying with the requirements of the Nonpublic School Act is considered a nonpublic school.

A homeschool family choosing to operate under exemption (f), solely, is not a nonpublic school and need not comply with the requirements of the Nonpublic School Act.

A home school family choosing to operate under both exemptions (a) and (f) must comply with the requirements of both (a) and (f).

This legislation does not affect the requirements under exemption (a).

See Attachment A for the full text of P.A. 339 of 1996.