

## New to Homeschooling

- ✓ Annual notification to the County Superintendent is required by law for children between the ages of 7 and 16.
- ✓ Notification should be within the first week of the school term, when parent establishes residency or during the school year once a student withdraws from a public or private school in order to comply with the compulsory attendance exemption.
- ✓ The parent is responsible for finding the curriculum, textbooks and materials for instruction and conducting an evaluation of the program. Popular programs being used include:
  - Alpha Omega-Switched on Schoolhouse—LifePac Curriculum  
<http://www.aop.com>
  - ABEKA <https://www.abeka.com/>
  - Time4learning <http://www.time4learning.com>
  - Acellus Academy <https://www.acellus.com/>

If your high school student is going to be out of public school for a semester of two, and then returning to public school, please be sure they are attending a regionally accredited on-line high school, or Cognia certified (formerly AdvancED)

You have many on-line choices, confirm with the student's HS that credits from the on-line school will be accepted when your child returns to public high school. Examples: \*Acellus Academy \*American High School

\*Excel High School \*Keystone High School \*Penn Foster High School

- ✓ Curriculum should include all the content areas required by the public school. See Montana Content Standards at a Glance. More detailed information is available from the OPI website at [www.opi.mt.gov](http://www.opi.mt.gov).
- ✓ The parent is to maintain records of attendance and immunizations.
- ✓ The parent is to provide the following hours of instruction for a school year:
  - ½ Time Kindergarten—360 hours
  - Full time Kindergarten and Grades 1-3—720 hours
  - Grades 4-12—1080 hours
- ✓ Evaluation of the program: textbook tests and quizzes, online assessments. State assessment testing is no longer an option for home schools.

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