

DELAWARE

Compulsory Attendance Ages: “Between 5 years of age [before September 1] and 16 years of age,” unless the local school authorities determine that such a beginning is not “in the best interests of the child.” Delaware Code Annotated, Title 14, § 2702(a-b).

Required Days of Instruction: None, but homeschools must submit attendance reports annually to the Department of Education.

Required Subjects: None, unless the homeschool is coordinated with the local school district, in which case the subjects must be the same as public school. Delaware Code Annotated, Title 14, § 2703A

Home School Statute: Delaware Code Annotated, Title 14, § 2703A.

Home schools have three options from which to choose:

Option 1: “Single-family homeschool” means the education of one’s own child(ren) primarily by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of such child(ren) mainly in their own residence. Delaware Code Annotated, Title 14, § 2703A(2).

Option 2: “Multi-family homeschool” means the education of children, primarily by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of such children mainly in one or several residences, or other facilities, when such children are not all related to each other as brother or sister. A person shall act as a liaison to the Department of Education for reporting enrollment and attendance information for all families involved. Delaware Code Annotated, Title 14, § 2703A(1).

Option 3: “Single-family homeschool coordinated with the local school district” means the education of child(ren) primarily by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of such child(ren) mainly in their own residence using a curriculum approved by the local superintendent or his/her designee. The local superintendent shall determine in writing that the student is or will be provided with regular and thorough instruction by the student’s parent(s) or legal guardian(s) in the subjects prescribed for the public schools of the State and in a manner suitable to children of the same age and stage of advancement. Delaware Code Annotated, Title 14, § 2703A(3).

Under all three options above, homeschools must report attendance information to the Department of Education on or before July 31 each year. Before November 1, homeschools must also submit an annual statement of enrollment as of the last school day in September. Both reports must be on forms prescribed by the Department of Education. Delaware Code Annotated, Title 14, § 2704.

Teacher Qualifications: None.

Standardized Tests: None.

