



## Tips and Responsibilities for the Homeschooling Parent

The Hawai'i State Department of Education (Department) supports all learners, including those who are homeschooled. The Department recognizes homeschooling as a valid educational alternative and wants to see you succeed. Here are some key responsibilities for your homeschooling journey:

### **Responsibilities:**

- **Maintaining Records:** It's essential to keep good records of your child's homeschooling journey. Your records should include details such as start and end dates, weekly instruction hours, subjects covered, methods of assessment, and a list of learning materials used.
- **Annual Progress Reporting:** Submit an annual progress report to your designated school to update them on your child's progress. There are a few ways to do this:
  - A nationally normed standardized achievement test
  - A written evaluation by a certified teacher in Hawai'i
  - A written evaluation by the parent - detailing your child's progress in each subject area, including samples of their work and tests
- **Standardized Testing:** Required by the state in grades 3, 5, 8, and 10, testing helps to gauge your child's academic standing over time. You can choose to participate in testing at your designated school or arrange for private testing at your own expense. These scores can also serve as the annual progress report.
- **Notifications:** Submit a new notification of intent to homeschool to the school in your area when your child transitions from elementary to intermediate or intermediate to high school, if your family moves to a new school district, or enrolls in a charter school. You must also notify the principal if you decide to stop homeschooling, which includes situations such as your family moving to another state or enrolling in a private school.

### **Tips:**

- **Research:** As a homeschooling parent, you'll design your child's entire educational program. Explore and review different programs, curricula, tests, articles, and reputable online resources. The more you research, the better equipped you'll be to discover the perfect fit for your child's learning style and your teaching approach. Visit our website to learn about [subject matter standards](#).
- **Enriching Activities:** Coordinating social and extracurricular activities, such as sports, clubs, or community programs, can provide a well-rounded experience.
- **Build a Network:** Look for local homeschooling groups or online communities to connect with other homeschooling families. This can provide valuable resources, share experiences, and offer support.

For more information, visit [Hawaiipublicschools.org](http://Hawaiipublicschools.org) or [Hawai'i Administrative Rules Title 8 Department of Education, Chapter 12, Compulsory Attendance Exceptions](#).