

Background

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) offers two types of Home Schooling programs. Families wishing to independently educate their children may enroll in a BESE Approved Home Study Program (HSP) or a Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval (NPNSB).

BESE Approved Home Study program

A student who participates in a BESE Approved Home Study program is considered in attendance at a day school and in compliance with state compulsory attendance laws. The parents have complete control and responsibility for educating their child.

Parent Responsibilities

- Covering all Home Study related costs.
- Selecting the curriculum.
 - A parent or tutor may provide instruction to the Home Study student.
 - There are no teaching certification requirements.
- Determining the child's grade placement.
 - Parents determine the grade level at which they plan to teach their child during the upcoming year.
 - Retroactive changes to a student's grade level are not allowed.
 - For instance: If a student has an application for 8th grade, the parent cannot apply for the 7th grade as the next grade level.
- Submitting initial and renewal Home Study applications by the appropriate deadline.

The Department of Education does not offer a list of approved Home Study curriculum, programs, and/or strategies. Review the [Approve Home Study Program Guidance](#) and check out the resources shared in the confirmation letter to identify the curriculum that best suits your student.

Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval

A Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval, also referred to as a "registered nonpublic school", has not met the criteria established by The Department Of Education for approval, nor does it seek state approval. The LDOE is not responsible for ensuring students meet compulsory attendance laws. Parents and providers assume complete responsibility for the student's education.

Students enrolled in a Nonpublic School (Not Seeking State Approval) are:

- **not** considered enrolled in a [BESE-Approved Home Study Program](#).
- **not** considered enrolled in a [BESE-Approved Nonpublic School](#).
- **not** eligible for Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) scholarship.
- **not** required to take state assessments. However, testing is available upon request through the local school system for only the 4th and 8th grade LEAP. Contact the state testing coordinator to obtain the district testing schedule.

BESE Approved Home Study Programs	Frequently asked questions	Registered Nonpublic Schools Not Seeking State Approval
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents/guardians may officially withdraw the student prior to receiving a Home Study approval letter. A school cannot refuse to let a parent withdraw their child from public school. 	<p>When do I start the withdrawal process from public school?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents/guardians may officially withdraw the student prior to receiving a submission confirmation letter. Parents/guardians will have 10 days to present a copy of the submission confirmation letter to the previous school to complete withdrawal.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit the online application through the LDOE website. The LDOE verifies legal guardianship for initial application. The application is valid for one year. Programs must maintain 180 instructional days. 	<p>How do I start the enrollment process?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enroll the school using the online attendance submission form through the LDOE website. The application is valid for one year. Enrollment must be reported.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is suggested that families provide a copy of the Home Study approval letter to the prior school. 	<p>Do I notify the school?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nonpublic Schools Not Seeking State Approval have 10 days of the enrollment of the student to provide the student’s former public school with a notice of enrollment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents have complete control in selecting the curriculum for their child’s home study program. Review the Louisiana Home School Options document, Academic Standards Library, and the Home Study Program Guidelines for additional information. 	<p>Which curriculum should I choose?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents have complete control in selecting the curriculum for their child’s home study program.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewal applications must be submitted either by October 1 of that school year or within 12 months (whichever is later) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Example: If an application is approved June 30, 2023, the renewal application must be submitted by June 30, 2024 or October 1, 2024 (later date). ○ Example: If an application is approved November 30, 2023, the renewal application must be submitted by October 1, 2024 or November 30, 2024 (later date). • The LDOE verifies annual student progression through a variety of submitted documents. 	<p>What should I do to continue the process?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrollment information is submitted annually by using the online attendance submission form.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be eligible for the TOPS Scholarship program, students must be enrolled in a BESE Approved Home Study program for both 11th and 12th grade. In addition, students must meet TOPS' ACT requirements. 	<p>Will my student receive TOPS?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are ineligible for TOPS.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/guardians provide diplomas (template provided in BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines). • The diploma is comparable to a diploma by a state approved private school. 	<p>How does my student receive a diploma?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students may receive a diploma in accordance with the Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval's policies. • The diploma is not recognized by the state.

For additional resources on BESE Approved Home Study and Nonpublic Schools (Not Seeking State Approval), visit [Approved Home Study Programs](#) and [Nonpublic Schools Not Seeking State Approval](#).

Additional Resources

- LDOE Resources
 - [BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines](#)
 - [Guidelines for Nonpublic Schools Not Seeking State Approval](#)
 - [Academic Standards](#)
- Next Step Resources
 - [Homeschool Louisiana](#)
 - [Homeschool Freedom](#)
 - [Homeschool Legal Defense Association](#)
 - [National Home Education Research Institute](#)

Email question to homestudy@la.gov.