

Louisiana families may choose to educate their children independently from the public or nonpublic school system. Louisiana families typically provide this independent education through a Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval (NPNSA) or a Board of Elementary and Secondary Education Approved Home Study Program (HSP).

Parents who enroll their child in an Approved Home Study Program are solely responsible for deciding the curriculum, providing instruction, and all related costs. Louisiana does not provide funding or resources for home study programs.

This guidance document outlines common questions and answers related to Approved Home Study Programs.

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ):**

#### **Q: Now that I am approved, what do I do?**

A: Now that you are approved for home study, you may withdraw your child from his/her current school. If you have not already done so, choose the curriculum/program you plan to use, and begin homeschooling. Consider reaching out to a home study support group for advice about getting started.

#### **Q: What curriculum should I use?**

A: The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) does not recommend nor maintain a list of approved curriculum, programs, and strategies for Home Study students. Parents have complete control in selecting the curriculum for their child's home study program. Home Study instruction may include online programs, in-person instruction, and/or tutoring services. Review the [Louisiana Home School Options](#) document, [Academic Standards Library](#), and the [Home Study Program Guidelines](#) for additional information.

#### **Q: Where can I get materials for my child?**

A: Parents are responsible for all Approved Home Study Program related costs. State funding is not available to parents who have students in an Approved Home Study Program. The LDOE does not provide computers or other instructional materials for Home Study students.

Parents who have been approved by BESE to provide a Home Study program to their child(ren) and wish to checkout textbooks for Home Study students should:

- Contact the administrator at your local public school or curriculum supervisor to check out a set of books for each Home Study.
  - Be prepared to present a copy of the Home Study Approval letter and to pay a book deposit Contact the textbook or curriculum supervisor at the local school board office and request to borrow or check out one set of books for each student at the appropriate grade level. Be prepared to present a copy of your approval for home study and to pay a deposit on the books.

#### **Q: How often should I submit a Home Study Application?**

A: Home Study applications are valid for one year from the approval date for the grade level indicated on the application. Renewal applications must be submitted either by October 1 of that school year or within 12 months (whichever is later)

- 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).

**Q: How do I sign up for state testing?**

A: State testing is not required for BESE Approved Home Study programs. However, a parent may contact the state testing coordinator to obtain the district testing schedule.

**Q: My child has graduated, when can I expect their diploma?**

A: Parents create and issue diplomas for students in an Approved Home Study Program. Diplomas are not awarded by BESE or the LDOE. Therefore, a depiction, reproduction, or duplication of state seals or wording which implies it is from BESE or the LDOE is unauthorized. All diplomas from BESE-Approved Home Study programs are recognized by all public secondary educational institutions, state departments, agencies, boards, commissions and all other state/local government entities.

**Q: How can my child receive TOPS?**

A: 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](#).

Email [homestudy@la.gov](mailto:homestudy@la.gov) with additional questions.