

## MINNESOTA

**Compulsory Attendance Ages:** “between 7 and 17 years of age.” Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.22 Subd. 5. Parents who begin homeschooling and submit their initial report to the superintendent before a student turns 16 are not required to submit notification or perform assessments after the student turns 16. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.22 Subd. 11(a); Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.24 Subd. 1(b).

**Required Days of Instruction:** None.

**Required Subjects:** Reading, writing, literature, fine arts, math, science, history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, health, and physical education. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.22 Subd. 9.

**Home School Statute:** Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.22 Subd. 10. “The parent of a child is primarily responsible for assuring that the child acquires knowledge and skills that are essential for effective citizenship.” Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.22 Subd. 1.

**Reporting: Yes, annual.** A person providing instruction to a child must file an “initial report” to the Superintendent (1) by October 1 of the first school year after a child has reached age seven, (2) within 15 days of withdrawing a child from public school, or (3) by October 1 when moving into a new school district. The report must provide the following information: child’s name, birth-date, address, annual test to be used, and immunization compliance information for a child reaching age seven or who is in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. After the “initial report,” a parent annually files a “letter of intent to continue homeschooling” noting any changes to the “initial report.” These changes would include whether additional children are being taught at home. When moving out of a school district, the parent is responsible for notifying the current school district of the move within 15 days. See HSLDA’s “Minnesota Forms and Other Resources” link on the Minnesota state page for these forms.

**Teacher Qualifications: None if the instructor is a parent.** If an instructor is not a parent, his name and statutory qualification (pursuant to Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.22 Subd. 10) should be included in either the initial report or letter of intent to continue homeschooling. Minn. Stat. § 120A.24, Subd. 1.

**Standardized Tests: Yes, annual.** Children who are not enrolled in a program accredited by a state recognized accrediting agency or public school “must be assessed using a nationally norm-referenced standardized achievement examination.” Homeschools that are accredited by a state recognized accrediting agency are exempt from annual standardized testing requirements. Unless a parent has passed a teacher competency exam, holds a teaching license, or is directly supervised by a licensed teacher, the parent must also assess his children in the required subject areas that are not covered by the standardized test. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.22 Subd.11(b). Children scoring at or below the thirtieth percentile or one grade below children of the same age must be evaluated for learning problems. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.22 Subd.11(c). Test results do not have to be submitted to the school district.

**Recordkeeping: Yes.** Parents must maintain certain documentation that indicates that the required subjects are being taught and proves annual tests have been administered. This documentation includes class schedules, copies of materials used for instruction, and description of method used to assess student achievement. This information need only be made available to county attorneys under certain circumstances.