

The Third Option Manual for Homeschooling in

SC

Everything you want to know, need to know, and wish you knew.

This manual was created for SC home schools that homeschool under 59-65-47, also known as the third option.

This manual is sponsored by:

CHASE SC
Christian Homeschooler's Association of South
Eastern South Carolina

and

NBHSA
New Beginnings Home School Association

All homeschoolers, and home schools should consult their attorney, or HSLDA for all legal matters.

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Introduction

The information provided in this manual has been compiled from the CHASE SC and the NBHSA web sites. Please realize that all information, explanations, and clarifications are based on 59-65-47, also known as the SC homeschooling 'Third Option' law.

Each association operating under 59-65-47 must require the complete requirements as laid out in 59-65-47. They may choose to require only the complete requirements or they may require more.

The Third Option Manual for Homeschooling in SC, Everything you want to know, need to know, and wish you knew is based upon the complete requirements of 59-65-47.

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Disclaimer

All homeschoolers, and home schools should consult their attorney, or HSLDA for all legal matters.

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Information About the Sponsors-

CHASE SC

Christian Homeschooler's Association of South Eastern South Carolina

PO Box 58

Ruffin, SC 29475

(843) 866-7208

Web Site - <http://www.chasesc.com/>

Email - CHASESC@chasesc.com

and

NBHSA

New Beginnings Home School Association

975 Bacons Bridge Road Unit 148 PMB 189

Summerville, SC 29485-4189

(843) 851-9832 x9

Web Site - <http://home.sc.rr.com/nbhsa/>

Email - nbhsa@sc.rr.com

NBHSA Education Site

http://members.tripod.com/sc_new_beginnings/

The Law

Section 59-65-47

Effective June 20, 1996, under Title 59, Chapter 65 of the 1976 Code the following section was added:

Section 59-65-47. In lieu of the requirements of Section 59-65-40 or Section 59-65-45, parents or guardians may teach their children at home if the instruction is conducted under the auspices of an association for homeschools which has no fewer than fifty members and meets the requirements of this section. Bona fide membership and continuing compliance with the academic standard of the association exempts the home school from the further requirements of Section 59-65-40 or Section 59-65-45

The State Department of Education shall conduct annually a review of the association standards to insure that requirements of the association, at a minimum, include:

- (a) A parent must hold at least a high school diploma or the equivalent general educational development (GED) certificate;
- (b) the instructional year is at least one hundred eighty days;
- (c) the curriculum includes, but is not limited to, the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature; and
- (d) educational records shall be maintained by the parent-teacher and include:
 - (1) a plan book, diary, or other record indicating subjects taught and activities in which the student and parent-teacher engage;
 - (2) a portfolio of samples of the student's academic work; and
 - (3) a semi-annual progress report including attendance records and individualized documentation of the student's academic progress in each of the basic instructional areas specified in item ©) above.

By January thirtieth of each year, all associations shall report the number and grade level of children home schooled through the association to the children's respective school districts.

Explanation of the Third Option Law, 59-65-47

Size 12 font words - SC Section 59-65-47

Size 14 font words - Explanation of 59-65-47

Effective June 20, 1996, under Title 59, Chapter 65 of the 1976 Code the following section was added:

Section 59-65-47.

In lieu of the requirements of Section 59-65-40 or Section 59-65-45,
If you homeschool under 59-65-47 the requirements of Section 59-65-40 or Section 59-65-45 do not apply to you.

parents or guardians may teach their children at home
This shows us who can homeschool their children at home.

if the instruction is conducted under the auspices of an association for homeschools
In order to homeschool under 59-64-47 you must homeschool under an association for homeschools.

which has no fewer than fifty members and meets the requirements of this section.
The association must have a minimum of 50 members, the law does not specify how these members are counted. The association must meet all requirements of this section.

Bona fide membership and continuing compliance with the academic standard of the association
The homeschooler must be a member that maintains compliance of the academic standards of their association.

exempts the home school from the further requirements of Section 59-65-40 or Section 59-65-45.
Section 59-65-40 nor Section 59-65-45 apply to you.

The State Department of Education shall conduct annually a review of the association standards to insure that requirements of the association, at a minimum, include:
The State Dept. of Ed. reviews all association standards yearly to make sure they are requiring the minimums listed below.

(a) A parent must hold at least a high school diploma or the equivalent general educational development (GED) certificate;
The parent **MUST** have at least a high school diploma, or a GED.

(b) the instructional year is at least one hundred eighty days;
The school year is set for an 180 day minimal.

c) the curriculum includes, but is not limited to,
You must teach at least the subjects listed, but you are not limited to teaching just those subjects.

the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies,
The subjects required for all students are reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature; and
Those students in 7th to 12th grades are also required to include composition and literature in their curriculum.

(d) educational records shall be maintained by the parent-teacher and include:
All educational records shall be kept by the parent (the teacher). These records include those listed below.

(1) a plan book, diary, or other record indicating subjects taught and activities in which the student and parent-teacher engage;
The key word here is or. You are not required to keep a plan book, diary and other record; however, you are required to keep one of them. You are to indicate subjects taught, and the activities in which the student and parent-teacher engage.

(2) a portfolio of samples of the student's academic work; and
You do not need to keep all of the student's work. You must keep samples, a small part that is representative of the whole.

(3) a semi-annual progress report including attendance records and individualized documentation of the student's academic progress in each of the basic instructional areas specified in item ©) above.
You must complete a semi-annual progress report, you must include a record of attendance. You must also include documentation of the student's progress in the required curriculum subjects listed above in item c.

By January thirtieth of each year, all associations shall report the number and grade level of children home schooled through the association to the children's respective school districts.
Each association has until January 30th of each year to report how many students in each grade homeschool with their association to the school district that the children reside in.

Key points are:

- 1) **If you homeschool under Section 59-65-47, neither Section 59-65-40 nor Section 59-65-45 apply to you. This means that you do not have to homeschool a certain number of hours, nor do you have to do any standardized testing (both of these apply to homeschoolers under section 59-65-40).**
- 2) **Accountability for homeschoolers under 59-65-47 requires that associations must require the complete requirements of 59-65-47.**
- 3) **Parents are accountable for maintaining educational records under 59-65-47.**
- 4) **If your home school elects to use the public school credit system for high school, you the parent-teacher are still required to teach the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature each year.**

Legal Resources

SC Code of Laws 59-65-Attendance of Pupils-
Article 1. Compulsory Attendance
<http://www.lpittr.state.sc.us/code/t59c065.htm>

Association of Home School Attorneys
lconrad@ahsa-usa.org

AHSA is an informal network of attorneys and legal experts in the United States supporting homeschooling and homeschoolers by providing legal information about homeschooling issues, empowering homeschoolers to have the legal tools they need to meet homeschooling challenges, and providing a network of attorneys for legal representation.

Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA)
540-338-5600
<http://www.hslda.org/>
E-mail: info@hslda.org

The Rutherford Institute
P.O. Box 7482
Charlottesville, VA 22906-7482
Phone: 434-978-3888
(8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Eastern)
Fax: 434-978-1789

General inquiries: staff@rutherford.org
Legal assistance: tristaff@rutherford.org
Website: <http://www.rutherford.org/>

American Center for Law and Justice
PO Box 64429
Virginia Beach, VA 23467
Phone: 757-226-2489
Fax: 757-226-2836
Website: <http://www.aclj.org/>

Attorneys Across SC Knowledgeable In South Carolina Homeschooling Law

Charleston

Alvin C. Biggs
843-875-9804

Curtis E. Bostic Esq.
Vincent & Bostic
843-402-0102

Mr. Jason (Jan) Kauser
843-569-1125

Mr. Thomas P. Lowndes, Jr.
Attorney at Law
843-723-1688

Please let us know of any that you know of so that we can provide you with a good listing.

General Homeschool Information

Celebrate South Carolina Homeschool Awareness Week

October 5th through October 11th, 2003

Special thanks to homeschool students Steven and Todd.
They took a home school assignment one step further.
They learned how a bill becomes law, and they pursued it.
This definitely shows how Homeschoolers of South Carolina are motivated.
Way to go boys!

SECTION 59-29-35. Home school awareness week; admission privileges.

<http://www.lpittr.state.sc.us/code/t59c029.htm>

To recognize the many families in South Carolina who educate their children at home as provided by law, each year the first full week in October is designated and shall be recognized as "South Carolina Home School Awareness Week". During "South Carolina Home School Awareness Week", all home school students in this State and their parents or guardians who serve as their children's teacher shall be provided the same admission opportunities to any educational facilities owned by or under the control of this State or any state agency, department, or institution as are provided to public or private school students and their teachers. In addition during Home School Awareness Week, educational facilities, not including public school facilities, owned or under the control of a local political subdivision or entity also shall provide the same admission opportunities as are provided to public or private school students and their teachers.

Only during Home School Awareness Week shall these affected educational facilities provide the same special admission opportunities to home schooled students and their parents or guardians who serve as the students' teachers as they do to public or private school students and their teachers.

SECTION 59-65-46. Home schooling of foster child.

<http://www.lpittr.state.sc.us/code/t59c065.htm>

A foster parent may teach a foster child at home as provided in Sections 59-65-40, 59-65-45, or any other provision of law, if, in addition to any other requirements, home schooling of the child has been approved by the Department of Social Services or other agency having custody of the child.

Mark your calendar now for the 2004 and 2005 Homeschool Awareness Weeks!

October 3rd through October 9th, 2004

October 2nd through October 8th, 2005

Types of Homeschooling

Charlotte Mason

Charlotte Mason utilizes 'living books' which are based on core subjects, and include a focus in the fine arts.

Charlotte Mason Homeschool Lists

http://www.geocities.com/hs_hopeful/yahogroups/philosophy/Charlotte_Mason.html

Charlotte Mason Homeschool Web Ring by Camrose Classical Academy

<http://www.camroseacademy.com/>

Donnell House - Different Types of Homeschool

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/6565/hstypes.html>

Homeschooling and It's Many Faces - Homeschooling Methods

<http://homeschooling.about.com/library/weekly/aa091699.htm>

Homeschool World: Practical Homeschooling Articles: The Charlotte Mason Method
<http://www.home-school.com/Articles/CharlotteMason.html>

Classical Education

"The core of Classical Education is the trivium, which simply put is a teaching model that seeks to tailor the curriculum subject matter to a child's cognitive development. The trivium emphasizes concrete thinking and memorization of the facts of the subjects in grade school; analytical thinking and understanding of the subjects in middle school; and abstract thinking and articulation of the subjects in high school. Subjects unique to Classical Education which help accomplish the goals of the trivium are Grammar, the science of language usage; Logic, the science of right thinking; and Rhetoric, the science of verbal and written expression. Classical Christian Education is further characterized by a rich exposure to the history, art, and culture of Western Civilization, including its languages (Latin and Greek), its philosophy and literature (the Great Books of Western Civilization and the Christian tradition), and the development of a Biblical worldview with Theology in its proper place as the Queen of the Sciences."

This excerpt quoted from -
Classical Christian Homeschooling:
Introduction to Classical Education & Classical Education at Home.
<http://www.classicalhomeschooling.org/introduction.html>

Escondido Tutorial Service
<http://www.gbt.org/>

Family Values At Home - Homeschooling
<http://familyvalues.netfirms.com/homescho.htm>

Homeschooling and It's Many Faces - Homeschooling Methods
<http://homeschooling.about.com/library/weekly/aa091699.htm>

Homeschooling – Who Me?
<http://www.waymarks.com/homeschool/>

Homeschool World: Practical Homeschooling Articles: Classical Education
<http://www.home-school.com/Articles/ClassicalEducation.html>

Deschooling

Is a period of time that a child does nothing at all after coming out of a public or private school setting. Usually the child is burned out, and has had some really negative experiences. However, some families may choose a time to deschool, just to reacquaint with each other and to research and find their common interests.

Deschooling: Homeschooling Anywhere with the Denver Northwest Homeschool Community
<http://home.att.net/~dnhc/deschool.htm>

deschooling.org
<http://deschooling.org/>

Donnell House - Different Types of Homeschool
<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/6565/hstypes.html>

John Taylor Gatto
<http://www.preservenet.com/theory/Gatto.html>

Natural Life Magazine #52 - Finding My Deschooling Path
<http://www.life.ca/nl/52/deschoolpath.html>

Eclectic (Relaxed, Mixed Curriculum, Home Made, and Individualized)

There's a large variety of ways that an eclectic homeschooler can choose to go with their homeschooling. They are usually considered to be a relaxed or laid back homeschooler, they may use a mixed combination of curriculum, home made curriculum, or individualized curriculum. They can operate as borderline unschooling or borderline school-at-home, or anywhere in between and be considered eclectic. Relaxed homeschoolers have many options available to them for home-schooling, as you have seen from some of them already mentioned. Many eclectic homeschoolers today are finding lots of free curriculum online to use with their own hodge podge of ideas and store bought curricula. The Internet offers endless information, games, and other resources for today's homeschooling family.

Donnell House - Different Types of Homeschool
<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/6565/hstypes.html>

Eclectic Homeschooling - A to Z Home's Cool Homeschooling
<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/methods/Eclectic.htm>

Eclectic Homeschooling on the Web
<http://hometown.aol.com/clayvessel/>

Eclectic Homeschool Online: A Creative Homeschool Community for All Homeschoolers
<http://eho.org/>

Family Values At Home - Homeschooling
<http://familyvalues.netfirms.com/homescho.htm>

Homeschooling and It's Many Faces - Homeschooling Methods
<http://homeschooling.about.com/library/weekly/aa091699.htm>

Literature based

Literature based curriculum is just that, curriculum based on literature. You can design your own, purchase a prepackaged program (similar to unit studies), or pick and choose the literature based curriculum you want to use (similar to eclectic).

Beautiful Feet Books - Literature based Studies for Homeschoolers

<http://www.bfbooks.com/>

Creating Literature Based Unit Studies - Horatio Hornblower

http://www.eho.org/creating_literature_unitstudies.htm

Homeschooling – Who Me?

<http://www.waymarks.com/homeschool/>

Sonlight: Christian Homeschool Curriculum, Resources & Education, Homeschooling Materials & Books

<http://www.sonlight-curriculum.com/>

Unit Study Library: Free Unit Studies: Literature

http://teachers.hypermart.net/links/pages/Free_Unit_Studies/Literature/

Welcome to Five in a Row!

<http://www.fiveinarow.com/>

The Moore's

Leaders in homeschooling and Christian education. They believe in teaching with low stress, low cost, high success and behavior. They believe in not subjecting your children to formal, scheduled study before age 8, to 10 or even 12, whether they can read or not.

Homeschool the Moore Formula way

<http://www.moorefoundation.com/memorial2.html>

Montessori

A method where learning is a natural, self-directed process which follows certain fundamental laws of nature. This method is committed to such principles, or laws of nature, that include observation, individual liberty, and preparation of the environment.

Home School Learning Network, Homeschool Resources and Links, Approaches

http://www.homeschoollearning.com/resources_approaches.shtml

MEARTH's Montessori resources for parents, teachers, and homeschool.

<http://www.saber.net/~mearth/>

Montessori Homeschooling - A to Z Home's Cool Homeschooling Method

<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/methods/Montessori.htm>

Montessori Homeschooling - created by and for homeschooling families

<http://www.montessori.edu/homeschooling.html>

Online Montessori & homeschool distance learning lessons and activities

<http://www.montessorifortheearth.com/>

What is Montessori?

<http://trust.wdn.com/ims/Mont.htm>

Principal Approach

The principal approach is also known as the Noah Plan, it's a learning system based on the Bible, Christian heritage, and the original Noah Webster dictionary.

Different Curriculum Approaches

<http://www.lighthousebaptist.com/lhef/basicinfo/approach.htm>

Foundation for American Christian Education - Christian School and Homeschool Curricula

<http://www.face.net/>

Homeschooling Resources - Types of Homeschooling

<http://www.perrypubliclibrary.org/Kids/homeschooling.htm>

Noah Plan, The

http://www.ethi.com/ptflfo/wbsts/face/HTML/Noah_Plan.html

Religion Based

Curriculum based on your religion; to train your children in your beliefs, the way they should go. You can design your own, purchase a prepackaged program, use a religious based unit study, or pick and choose the religious based curriculum you want to use (an eclectic).

Approaches to homeschooling (Home Taught)

<http://www.hometaught.com/approaches.htm>

Heart of Wisdom homeschool curriculum materials and resources

<http://heartofwisdom.com/>

Home Education Sites -- International and Specialty

<http://expage.com/UnschoolingOtherwise>

Sonlight: Christian Homeschool Curriculum, Resources, & Education, Homeschooling Materials & Books

<http://www.sonlight.com/index.html>

Theology/Religion/Catholic Education Resources

<http://www.cloudnet.com/~edrbsass/edthe.htm>

Traditional (School-at-Home, Boxed Curriculum)

The most common type of curriculum is the traditional, pre-packed, or boxed curriculum shipped to you ready to use.

Annotated links for the different methods

<http://homeschooling.about.com/cs/homeschoolmethods/>

Approaches to homeschooling (Home Taught)

<http://www.hometaught.com/approaches.htm>

Donnell House - Different Types of Homeschool

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/6565/hstypes.html>

Homeschooling and It's Many Faces - Homeschooling Methods

<http://homeschooling.about.com/library/weekly/aa091699.htm>

Homeschooling -- Who Me?

<http://www.waymarks.com/homeschool/>

Unit Studies

A family may choose topics by brain storming, from a purchased unit study curriculum or guide, and/or a family may follow the topics in order of a unit study curriculum or guide. A family can design their own unit study for one topic, and purchase a premade unit study guide or curriculum for another topic. Unit studies can be based on people, places, things, time (history), and/or stories (literature).

Donnell House - Different Types of Homeschool

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/6565/hstypes.html>

Family Values At Home - Homeschooling

<http://familyvalues.netfirms.com/homescho.htm>

Homeschooling and It's Many Faces - Homeschooling Methods

<http://homeschooling.about.com/library/weekly/aa091699.htm>

Homeschooling -- Who Me?

<http://www.waymarks.com/homeschool/>

Life In America

<http://www.lifeinamerica.com/>

Unschooling (Natural Learning Method)

Natural learning that is child-led. The parent offers assistance and guidance to the child as they explore their home, community, state, union, and the world. The child may be interested in learning about bees this week, computer designs and web sites next week, and perhaps, geology the following week. They may focus on a certain subject and explore it for months.

Approaches to homeschooling (Home Taught)

<http://www.hometaught.com/approaches.htm>

Donnell House - Different Types of Homeschool
<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/6565/hstypes.html>

Family Values At Home - Homeschooling
<http://familyvalues.netfirms.com/homescho.htm>

Homeschooling and It's Many Faces - Homeschooling Methods
<http://homeschooling.about.com/library/weekly/aa091699.htm>

Homeschooling -- Who Me?
<http://www.waymarks.com/homeschool/>

Schools Out Support (SC unschool support and network)
<http://www.schoolsoutsupport.org/>

Unschooling or Homeschooling?
<http://www.homeschoolingfriends.org/unschooling.html>

Virtual Schooling

There are lots of resources on the Internet, that families can pull from and that students can use to learn. This is the very basic format of virtual schooling. There are high school programs, technical programs, and even college degrees available online through virtual schooling today.

While doing my research and looking for links to place in this section, I found several articles on virtual charter schools. Homeschoolers need to be careful if they sign up with a program to complete all of their children's schooling through virtual schooling. Make sure you know all of the facts, and check to see if you are considered a public school. If you do sign up under a charter public school, it is my understanding that you will be placing your family and your belief in God on hold during school hours.

Home School Court Report Vol. XVIII, No. 1, The -- Charter Schools
<http://www.hsllda.org/courtreport/V18N1/V18N101.asp>

Homeschool High School Online Schools and Correspondence Schools List (Virtual schools listed too).
http://eho.org/highschool_resources.htm

Junior Great Books for Homeschoolers
<http://www.greatbooks.org/programs/parents/homeschool.shtml>

Scholastic Administrator
<http://www.scholastic.com/administrator/march03/features.asp?article=virtualschool>

World Wide Home School
<http://www.worldwidehomeschool.com>

The Tutor

<http://www.thetutomj.com/links.htm>

Waldorf

An independent, non-denominational educational system that goes through all grades, it is designed to address the whole child: the head, the heart and the hands.

Homeschooling and It's Many Faces - Homeschooling Methods

<http://homeschooling.about.com/library/weekly/aa091699.htm>

Waldorf Homeschool

<http://www.waldorfhomeschoolers.com/waldorfhs.htm>

Waldorf Inspired Homeschool Support

<http://www.geocities.com/waldorfhomeschool/>

We Homeschool - Resources for Waldorf Education inspired homeschoolers

<http://www.wehomeschool.org/>

Welcome to Homeschool.com

<http://www.homeschool.com/welcome/styles.asp>

Afterschooling

Afterschoolers consist of those parents that spend 15 minutes to several hours helping their children with homework, to assist them in their educational experience after school. Others are extremely disappointed with the public or private school that their children attend, and they purchase supplemental curriculum to aid their children with their studies after school. Some afterschoolers that become confident in their afterschooling methods, of assisting and teaching their children, will become homeschoolers.

Cohen- Teen Homeschooling - Afterschooling

<http://www.homeschoolzone.com/hsz/cohen4.htm>

Fairfax County Public Schools - Afterschooling

<http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/9155/fcps-after.htm>

KiteCD - Variety of Home Education

http://members.aol.com/kitecd/var_hsch.htm

KRL Homeschooling Bibliography

<http://www.krl.org/youngpeople/bibhmsch.html>

Peg's Homeschool Reviews

<http://members.aol.com/PegFlint/review1.html>

School's In Session - Afterschooling

http://www.cloh.net/home-school/Homeschool/Reasons/after_schooling.htm

Summerschooling

Many families 'get their feet wet', by trying to homeschool over the summer. They take this break from the public or private schools, and try summerschooling to see if perhaps homeschooling will work for them. Others utilize the summer break from the school system to assist and aid their children in subjects that they have failed, or had an extremely difficult time with in the school setting. Educationally speaking, what better way can you spend your summer?

For those unsure of homeschooling, summerschooling is the best answer for them! It will give them the hands-on opportunity to see how they and their children will function in the home school, before making a commitment that they are uncertain with, or that they may change their minds about later.

For parents that have students that need the extra assistance during the summer in order to succeed in the school system, we applaud you and your efforts to help your children. Continue, to help them throughout the school year by afterschooling, and weekend schooling too.

Galaxy- Homeschooling - Education

<http://www.mommyschool.com/>

Just For the Summer - A to Z Home's Cool Homeschooling

<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/articles/061201.htm>

Special Needs Homeschoolers

The most important thing to remember with (most) special needs children is that they learn an objection/problem if it's shown to them in a way that they understand. Yes, it does take time and a strong will (on the parents part) to explore the many ways of showing a child something that he/she just cannot get. Children are learning DELAYED instead of learning DISABLED.

There are no special requirements placed on the homeschooling child with special needs.

SpecialHomeschoolers Email Loop

If you are homeschooling special needs children in South Carolina, you are welcome regardless of your religious affiliations. However please understand that this is a Christian based support group and email loop. We do advocate prayer for our children and our families. We will share resources, curriculum ideas, support and prayer if needed and always when requested. :-)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SpecialHomeschoolers/>

Books to read about special needs:

Strategies for Struggling Learners by Joe & Connie Sutton

Special Education: A Biblical Approach edited by Joe Sutton

Learning In Spite of Labels by Joyce Herzog

SC Resources for special needs/disabilities:

Through the SC Disabilities Collaborative Resource Center Library, groups or individuals may borrow additional publications and videotapes concerning disabilities and special needs.

The Library is located on the ground of the SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs' Midlands Center. For more information, please call (803) 935-5278 or write to:

Librarian
SC Dept. of Disabilities and Special Needs
Midlands Center
8301 Farrow Rd.
Columbia, SC 29203

South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs
Practical Guide To Services (most current addition is available online)
at: <http://www.state.sc.us/ddsn/>

Here are a few of the great resources listed in this guide-

Family Connection of SC, Inc
2712 Middleburg Dr, Ste... 103B
Columbia, SC 29204
Phone:
Columbia (803) 252-0914
Greenville (864) 455-6213
Fax:
Columbia (803) 799-8017
Greenville (864) 455-6299
Toll free: 1-800-578-8750
Email: famconn@mindspring.com
Home Page: <http://www.familyconnectionsc.org/>

Parents Reaching Out to Parents (PRO-Parents) of SC
652 Bush River Road, Ste.... 218
Columbia, SC 29210-7537
Phone: (803) 772-5688
Fax: (803) 772-5341
Toll free: V/TTY 1-800-759-4776
Email: proparents@proparents.org
Home Page: <http://www.proparents.org/>

SC Autism Society
229 Parson St 1-A
W Columbia, SC 29169
Phone: (803) 794-2300
Fax: (803) 794-2303

Email: scas@scautism.orgom
Home Page: www.scautism.org

SC Autism Support Groups:
Aiken (803) 642-5719
Anderson (864) 295-9377
Charleston (843) 763-6877
Columbia (803) 736-2094
Georgetown (843) 546-4824
Florence (843) 662-6470
Hartsville (843) 383-3484
Hartsville (843) 383-2313
Greenville (864) 233-7708
Rock Hill (803) 366-4907
Sumter (803) 778-1045

SCDDSN also has a page with Toll Free Numbers for support and information on disabilities is available from statewide and national organizations to individuals and their families. To find this page click onto SC Support/Advocacy Organizations and then Toll Free Numbers. This website is worth a thorough visit for those homeschooling families with special homeschoolers.

Online Resources

A School Zone

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Plains/6097>

A to Z Home's Cool Special Needs

<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/weblinks/specialneeds.htm>

Another Path:

A comprehensive guide to homeschooling your deaf or hard of hearing child

<http://www.pacinfo.com/~handley/>

Blind homeschooling

A to Z Home's Cool Homeschooling

<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/weblinks/blind.htm>

Born to Explore

<http://borntoexplore.org>

Brightword

<http://www.brightword.com>

CanLearn

<http://www.kidscanlearn.net/>

Christian Unschooling

<http://www.inspirit.com.au/unschooling/resources/hsspecialneeds.html>

Coffin-Lowry Syndrome Foundation

<http://clsf.info/>

Down Syndrome on the Internet

<http://www.downsyndrome.com>

Down Syndrome: Teaching Reading and Language

<http://www.concentric.net/~Lovlearn/>

Handicapped Children: Suggestions & Reference Sources

<http://www.wtc.ab.ca/writeword/>

"H.A.N.D.S. on" families.

<http://geocities.com/kellilynette/handsonhomeschool>

Homeschooling Children Who "Aut" to be Home

<http://home.earthlink.net/~tammyglaser798/authome.html>

Homeschooling Children with Special Needs

<http://home.earthlink.net/~tammyglaser798/authome.html>

Homeschooling Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/deafhomeschool>

Homeschooling Kids with Disabilities

<http://www.members.tripod.com/~Maaja/index.html>

Homeschooling LD and Special Needs Children

<http://www.bayshoreeducational.com/special.html>

Homeschooling Special Kids

http://www.geocities.com/specialkids_2000/

Homeschool Language Impaired Forum

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/homeschoolLI>

Homeschool Zone

<http://www.homeschoolzone.com/add/index.htm>

Institutes for the Achievement of Human Potential

<http://www.iahp.org/>

Internet Resources for Special Children (IRSC)

<http://www.irsc.org:8080/irsc/irscmain.nsf>

ISER

<http://www.iser.com/>

LD Online

<http://www.ldonline.org>

MindPlay Special Software for Special People

<http://www.mindplay.com/index.html>

Misunderstood Minds

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/misunderstoodminds/>

Multiple Intelligences

<http://www.thomasarmstrong.com>

NATHAN

<http://www.nathhan.com/>

National Down Syndrome Society

<http://www.ndss.org>

Parents Instructing Challenged Children

<http://www.amulvey.com/picc>

Reading Help

<http://www.neuro.read.net/>

Resources for Parents and Teachers of Blind Kids

<http://home.earthlink.net/Edeedaze/>

The ABCs of Joshua's World

<http://midusa.net/~cherbear/story2.html>

The Home Education Special Needs Webring

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Pointe/3624/hesnring.html>

The National Academy for Child Development

<http://www.nacd.org/>

Ultimate Homeschool

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Trail/6096/index.html>

Uniquely Gifted
<http://uniquelygifted.org>

More Resources:

International Dyslexia Society/SC
Bonnie Kelley
213 Hominy Hills Road
Six Mile, SC 29682
(864) 868-9735

Learning Disabilities Association/SC
Carol Sunderman
239 Blackhawk Terrace
West Columbia, SC 29169
(803) 926-8302

Laubach Literacy Action/SC
Vickie Zissette
SC Adult Literacy Educators (SCALE)
P.O. Box 185
Blackville, SC 29817
(803) 284-4424

Trident Literacy Council
Ms. Mary Ann Olwig
5416 B Rivers Ave.
North Charleston, SC 29406
Work Phone: (803) 747-2223

Library Literacy Programs
Ms. Jane Conner, Youth Services Consultant
South Carolina State Library
P.O. Box 11469
1430 Senate St.
Columbia, SC 29211
Work Phone: (803) 734-8658
Fax: (803) 734-8676
Email Address: janec@leo.scsl.state.sc.us
Internet Home Page: <http://www.state.sc.us/scsl>

Literacy Hotline Contact
Ms. Tammy Durham
South Carolina Literacy Resource Center
1722 Main St., Ste. 104
Columbia, SC 29201
Work Phone: (803) 929-2562

Fax: (803) 929-2571
Internet Home Page: <http://www.state.sc.us/scsl>

Literacy Resource Center
Ms. Colleen Clark, Education Associate
South Carolina Literacy Resource Center
1722 Main St., Ste.
104 Columbia, SC 29201
Work Phone: (803) 929-2573
Fax: (803) 929-2571
Email Address: clclark463@aol.com
Internet Home Page: <http://tlrc.tamu.edu/s.carolina/>

School to Work
Mr. Carl P. Warren
South Carolina Dept. of Education
Office of Occupational Education
1429 Senate St., Rm. 920
Columbia, SC 29201
Work Phone: (803) 734-8413
Fax: (803) 734-3525
Email Address: cwarren@sde.state.sc.us
Internet Home Page: <http://www.stw.ed.gov/states/ecs/SC.htm>

Vocational Rehabilitation
Mr. P. Charles LaRosa, Commissioner
South Carolina Rehabilitation Dept.
P.O. Box 15
1410 Boston Ave.
West Columbia, SC 29171-0015
Work Phone: (803) 896-6504
Fax: (803) 896-6529
Email Address: clarosa@edu.gte.net

Welfare Programs
Ms. Leigh Bolick, Director FI Policy and Program Development
South Carolina Dept. of Social Services
P.O. Box 1520
Columbia, SC 29202-1520
Work Phone: (803) 737-9261
Fax: (803) 737-9296
Email Address: lbolick@dss.state.sc.us

Other State-Level Contacts

Dr. Sam F. Drew, Director of State and Local Partnership Development
Adult Literacy Media Alliance
104 Ridgepoint Rd.
Columbia, SC 29233
Work Phone: (803) 788-2030
Fax: (803) 734-5685
Email Address: esadre.55@aol.com

Learning Modalities/Styles

by Ava Miller
(updated February 2003)

A knowledge of your learning style and your child's/children's learning styles is very important when it comes to homeschooling. You need to understand the way you learn best and the way each of your children learn best to most effectively help them when it comes to homeschooling.

Visual-

Learns by seeing, watching and demonstrations. Likes TV, magazines, books and just about anything they can look at. Parents should use the TV and VCR prayerfully with much thought as tools to their child's/children's education focusing on the educational shows and videos.

Auditory-

Learns through verbal instructions from others or self. Parents should give instructions verbally especially when the child has been having problems understanding the written directions. Cassette tapes are great especially those with songs and rhymes. VCR tapes and educational TV can be helpful. Having the child tape record themselves orally reading is helpful in addition.

Kinesthetic-

Learns by doing; direct involvement. Loves games and hands-on activities. Thematic studies are best.

Combination Learners-

Combination Learners are those that learn by doing two (or all three) of the learning modalities somewhat equally.

A Well Rounded Learner

Make sure you do not just focus on the modality that is your child's strongest. You need to include material that involves the modalities that they are weak in as well. This will help them to become a well rounded learner.

Learning Modality Activities-

Visual-

Comparing/matching games

Looking up information
Tracing
Educational Video Tapes
Educational Television Programs (ETV - Discover Channel)
Flash cards
Puzzles
Instructional books
Charts
Pictures
Posters
Plays/Drama
Writing
Computer

Auditory-

Tapes/Tape Player
Educational Video Tapes
Educational Television Programs (ETV - Discover Channel)
Reading orally
Parents reading orally
Phonics
Plays
Music
Computer with sound

Kinesthetic-

Hopping, jump roping, jumping on a trampoline, or playing basketball rhythmically while learning anything that needs to be memorized.
Games
Projects
Plays/Drama
Use clay for making shapes, letters, etc.
Use sand or sandpaper
Learn the sign language alphabet
Use finger spelling
Outline shapes/words
Trace shapes/words
Use a pen or crayon that writes with two or more colors at a time
Draw on the whiteboard and/or chalkboard
Typing
Computer

Combination Learners use a combination of any two, or three types of activities listed above.

Let's Use My Family as an Example.

I am a combination learner, if I'm learning something new I will own it, after the first time or two that I do it, only if I can involve all three of the learning modalities. If I can see, hear and do it, I'll have it right away.

My husband and middle son are visual learners, if they can see or read it, they own it. The data is stored in the brain, just from that visual stimulation of seeing or reading the data. When they need to pull on it later to do a project/activity, they've got it.

My three daughters and my oldest son are all hands-on (Kinesthetic) learners, when they do something with their hands, they will conquer the challenge and will learn how to do something new and enjoy it.

My youngest son is an audio learner, he has many special needs and this is his strength. He really loves to hear words, music, and even using his auditory communication device.

As you can see, families can have a wide variety of learning modalities, and if you become familiar with each of your family members you will save yourself a lot of heartache in homeschooling and your daily life.

Figure Out What Type of Learners You Have.

Figure out now from the list of activities above what type of learners you have in your family. I have included links below for more information on learning modalities and styles as well as a few surveys & questionnaires to aid you in figuring out what type of learners you have in your family.

I am a _____ learner.

My spouse is a _____ learner.

_____ is a _____ learner.

Books to Read About Learning Modalities-

Growing Up Learning by Walter Barbe

Every Child Can Succeed: How to Make the Most of Your Child's Learning Style by Cynthia Ulrich Tobias

Learning Modality Links

(some questionnaires and surveys)-

<http://www.middleschool.net/LearningStrategies/learning.htm>

<http://www.westmark.pvt.k12.ca.us/reading.html>

http://faculty.valencia.cc.fl.us/ffarquharson/learning_styles/

<http://planet.tvi.cc/idc/webresources/LearningStyle.htm>

Timeline Information

by Ava Miller

March 8th, 2003

Free Timeline Forms (available at www.chasesc.com)

Timelines are a fun way for children (and adults) to organize history while learning about it. There are many ways to make timelines, I will cover several here. Your students can make a new timeline for each school year or you can let them use the same one for all of their school years, preschool through high school. Their timelines will soon become one of their favorite and most cherished possessions. They will most likely want to keep it as a reflection of their homeschooling years.

My Timeline

My Timeline is simply a timeline for children to complete about themselves. Of course parents can complete one too, and this would be a good example when showing them how to complete their own time line. My children have placed their My Timelines on the back of their 3 ring binder timelines (in the clear slip covers provided on the 3 ring binder that they use) . As your children grow up, they may add to their personal My Timeline information to reflect their updated history.

How do I Complete the My Timeline Sheet?

1. Please see the Forms Page for the My Timeline form and print out as many copies as you need.
2. Either write your name in print, big goofy letters, bubble letters or some other fancy or crazy writing to make this uniquely you're my Timeline. You may color it with crayons, paint, colored pencils, or **colored glue (this is an inexpensive way to add color to lots of stuff and the children absolutely love it).
3. Write your date of birth either using the same technique(s) you used for your name or spice up your page and use another technique.
4. Either paste on a photo of you now (or a previous one like one from when you were a baby), or you can do a self-portrait using any art media you'd like.
5. Add your birthday in by 0 on the time line.
6. Now you can add any interesting facts about yourself on you're my Timeline. Some examples are, beside the space for age 2 -won the trophy for 'Cutest Smile', age 5-started homeschooling, age 11- got saved and was baptized, age 16- received my high school diploma, and age 17- started college.
7. Decorate your page and add some color if it is needed.
8. Make sure that you're my Timeline is dry before filing it into your portfolio or elsewhere!

Notebook Timeline

We, the Millers, have used various types of timelines throughout the years and our absolute favorite is the 3 ring binder time line. Our children have put memorabilia from various field trips all throughout them; as well as, historical people, places and things that they have learned about. It is much easier for them to understand history and to keep it straight with the 3 ring binder time lines, and they have chosen to keep the same timeline for all of their homeschooling years. Their time lines have gotten so big that they have two separate 3 ring binders, one for the BC and one for the AD. They are always adding blank sheets of paper, in order to fit all the information and other stuff that they want for certain time periods.

How do I set up a notebook timeline?

1. Please see the Forms Page for the Notebook Timeline forms, select either the horizontal or the vertical form and print out as many copies as you need.
2. Place pages in a 3 ring binder.
3. *You will need to label the dates before you begin, see the Forms Page for the Sample Notebook Timeline forms BC & AD.
4. Be creative and add people, places and things that you've learned about on your timeline. Make sure to include at least one sentence about the person, place or thing on your timeline.

How many copies will I need?

Divide the total number of years you want to cover in your timeline by how many years each page represents. Copy this number of sheets for each student.

BC

We set our BC timelines up for every two hundred years, and this has been more than sufficient space for our children's timelines. If you set up your BC section for every two hundred years you will need 20 pages per student (plus one or two extra).

AD

We set our AD timelines up for every 20 years. Now that we've had them set up several years, we wished we had done it slightly different. We didn't need as much room in the 0 to 1500 years as we have for the 1500 to 2000 years. If you will be doing lots of World History you may need the room. We do more United States History, and we therefore need much more room in our 1500 to 2000 years time period. In order to continue using our timeline as we had originally set them up, we just add additional blank sheets between the timeline sheets that we already have in our 3-ring binders. If you set your AD section for every 100 years from 0 to 1500, and for every 10 years from 1500 to 2010 you will need 66 pages per student (plus one or two extra).

Suggested BC Guide

4000-3800

3800-3600

3600-3400

3400-3200

3200-3000

3000-2800

2800-2600

2600-2400
2400-2200
2200-2000
2000-1800
1800-1600
1600-1400
1400-1200
1200-1000
1000-800
800-600
600-400
400-200
200-0

Suggested AD Guide

0-100
100-200
200-300
300-400
400-500
500-600
600-700
700-800
800-900
900-1000
1000-1100
1100-1200
1200-1300
1300-1400
1400-1500
1500-1510
1510-1520
1520-1530
1530-1540
1540-1550
1550-1560
1560-1570
1570-1580
1580-1590
1590-1600 and continue making a timeline sheet for every 10 years through 2010

Banner Timeline

This can be quite fun when you are studying a certain time frame and would like an illustration of it, to see the whole picture. When we used a textbook curriculum during our 2nd and 3rd years of homeschooling we made several different banner timelines. We did one for each of the chapters that we studied.

How do I set up a banner timeline?

1. Please see the Forms Page for the Banner Timeline forms (you could even use the Notebook Timeline forms too), select either the horizontal or the vertical form and print out as many copies as you need.
2. Tape the number of sheets together on the back that you will need for your banner. It would be best to use 2-inch wide tape; however, normal sized tape will do.
3. *Label your dates.
4. Be creative and add people, places and things that you've learned about on your timeline. Make sure to include at least one sentence about the person, place or thing on your timeline.

Index Timeline

This method is convenient when you want a display of the time period you are working on, and you want to store those previously made but that you are not using currently. Unless you make very few cards each year, it is unlikely that you will be able to keep all the cards you make up on the wall for more than a year or two.

In order to display your cards you should stretch a piece of string across a wall and attach it to the wall with nails or tacks. You then attach your cards to the string with paper clips (like a clothesline). When you want to add new cards, you simply slide over the older cards to make some room for the newer cards. If you fill your index card line and still need more room just add another line above or below your original one.

When you have too many cards, or are finished with the timeline for the year, you can store your cards in an index cardholder or find a box and make your own. You will already have them in date order, so that would be the easiest way to set up your index card timeline filing system.

Paper Strip Timeline

A great way to see history everyday. This is really a nice way to do a timeline; it was our favorite when we had the wall space to make one. When we moved we didn't have anywhere to put it! Before you decide to do a paper strip timeline, look for a spot that you will be able to place it. Some ideas of places that you could put your timeline are: in a hallway, if it's a small hallway you could put you BC on one wall and your AD, on the other on the wall space surrounding a door, or if you have the luxury of having a huge wall space, you could use that space.

If you will be using this timeline for any length of time, it will fill up fast so make sure to plan for enough room. You and your children will often reflect upon the wonderful memories that were made while working on the timeline, what a great way to remember history while making your own. It will be always be an art in the making. Everyone's wall space is different so you will need to figure up how much you have and how much time you want each strip to represent to determine how many strips you want.

How do I make a paper strip timeline?

1. Make as many paper strips up as needed for the space you have. A minimum of 3 inches of free space should be left between the strips in order to have adequate room to put your figures on the timeline. You can place your figures above the paper strips or on the paper strips, this may influence where you write the dates and/ or place your dashes (top or bottom).

2. On construction paper, white paper or colored paper mark both sides of the paper horizontally every two inches. Use a ruler to draw lines on your paper.
3. *Write your numbers and dashes onto your paper strips now. If you forget to do this before you laminate you will have to use a permanent maker, and oftentimes the ink will scrap off when scratched. You may also make small laminated date cards that you can move around if needed.
4. After you have written your numbers and dashes it is best to laminate your strips before cutting them. If you will leave your timeline up for an extended length of time you should plan in advance to help keep it looking nicely by laminated your strips and figures (when made). You can use contact paper, the 2-inch wide clear tape, or an inexpensive laminator (now available at lots of department stores).
5. Cut your strips and now staple them onto the wall. A staple on each end of the strip will more than adequately hold the paper strips up long-term. 6. The stapler or sticky tack will become your best friend; you can use either to place your figures and memorabilia on the timeline.

Poster Timeline

This is a good type of time line for those that wish they had room to make the paper strip timeline, but they just don't have a place that it can stay indefinitely. This time line can be taken out when needed, and can be placed in a closet, under the bed or other storage area when not needed. It is always a plus that it is so portable, as when your local support group has a 'Toot Your Horn Night', or bring something that you've made this school year, your children can bring their time line.

How do I make a Poster Timeline?

1. Buy several poster boards (the more you connect the longer your timeline will be) and tape them together on the back side with 2 inch wide tape, or you can purchase one (or more) of those nice boards used for science experiments and/or displays. When your poster timeline is not being used just fold it up and put it away.
2. Make some paper strips the same way as explained above for the Paper Strips Timeline; however you may want to make them 1 to 1 and ½ inches wide instead of two inches wide (this will give you more room on your boards for your figures) and either glue or tape them onto your board(s) remember to make sure you have about 3 inches of free space between the strips.
3. *Mark your dates and dashes onto the strips unless you will make small laminated date cards to move around as necessary.
4. Laminate the poster boards or the display board if it is not made of a durable material.
5. You will definitely want to use sticky tack for this kind of board. Another alternative is using tape, just make sure that the tape is a kind that will come off easily when you want it to.
6. You can make one large one for both the BC and AD or you can make two, one for both BC and AD.

Overlay Timeline

This is a much smaller timeline that you can use for special projects. You may choose to laminate it so that you can use it over and over again or you may decide that you want to make a new overlay for each period, chapter, or book studied.

How do I make Overlay Timelines?

1. Choose either to make a vertical or a horizontal book. Make 20 copies for the vertical book and 15 copies for the horizontal book. You will need one additional sheet of paper not to be cut for the

overlay timeline.

2. Cut sheet number one on the line marked cut 1, cut sheet number two on the line marked cut 2, finish cutting each sheet on the line marked to cut for the number sheet you are cutting.
3. Laminate now if you choose to do so.
4. Place your whole sheet of paper on a table/counter top, now place the largest sheet that you have on top of the whole sheet of paper, the next largest, and continue placing the larger of the sheets you have down until you have placed them all in order (largest to the smallest, with the smallest on top).
5. Pick up all of the sheets and tap them towards one of the ends of the whole sheet so that they all are aligned nicely.
6. Staple, or use brads to connect the ends of the stack together. You should easily be able to see that you have your smallest section on top with each sheet under it becoming a little larger.
7. *Mark your dates and dashes onto the sheets.
8. You may choose to use your timeline this size or make it a mini overlay timeline by cutting the booklet into half starting at the end that you secured together and cutting to the other end. Make sure to have the end secured good before you start cutting.
9. You can use sticky tack or tape on your laminated overlay. If you chose not to laminate then glue may be used for a permanent adhesive.

Report Card Timeline

This method of making a timeline is very similar to the index card timeline, and you may choose to use a card line (like the clothesline) or a filing system for your report card timeline. With the report card timeline, you have more room to be creative and to list more facts or information on the person, place, or thing that you are studying about. However, because the report card timeline is much bigger you will not be able to keep as many of them on the card line (clothesline) at one time. Another good thing about the report card timeline is that I have designed the forms at our Forms Page on a standard size sheet of paper, and you can choose to place them in a 3-ring binder for easy access and to use when doing a homeschool support group or other kind of display. You can either use regular paper or weighted paper to make your report card timelines. You can also choose to use different colors of paper, an example of this using blue for a person, green for a place and yellow for a thing. You be creative and design your own color coded system for the report card timeline.

Pre-Made/Pre-packaged Timeline Figures Vs. Making Your Own

The pre made pre-packaged timeline figures that are available now are really great, there are some basic ones and there are some really fancy colorful ones. I'm sure there are many folks who will prefer them; however, I do not. There are several reasons why I do not prefer them, the first and foremost reason is retention. When a child or children make their own timeline symbols they come up with the design on their own, after they have researched and learned about the subject matter. When they brainstorm and come up with their own design, they are more likely to remember the information relating to the timeline figure/symbol when they review the timeline or when they need to pull from what they've learned in future learning and life situations.

The second reason I prefer the children making their own is, the pre-made pre-packaged versions do not always have all the people, places or things you are studying. When the children get use to making their own you will find that their creative talents will be sparked, widened and certainly enhanced. Often times you may end up with more than one timeline figure/symbol as they couldn't choose which one of their masterpieces that they liked best.

The third and final reason I prefer the homemade one's is expense. We could afford to buy them, don't get me wrong homeschoolers are very resourceful when it comes to getting the curriculum or resources that they need to homeschool. Most of the pre-packaged stuff is very pricey especially if you want some fancy ones, why pay someone else? If you really want to spend the money on timeline figures and symbols, spend it to buy treats for your creative artistic children that designed them for you!

Color Coding, Symbols & Borders

You can color code, make symbols and/or borders in several different ways if you choose to.

Here are a few ideas to spark your family's creative minds:

Person, Places, & Things could each have their own color, symbol or border.

Each Continent could have a different color, symbol, or border.

The United States could have its own color, symbol, or border.

Various types of people (rulers, explorers, artist, scientist, writers) could each have their own color, symbol, or border.

Tips for Making Your Figures

1. We like to draw maps when we are studying places, you can use colored glue and really make some exciting maps.
2. Don't limit yourselves to pencil and paper, incorporate all kinds of art supplies - colored pencils, crayons, pastels, charcoal, calligraphy pens, fine tip pens, colored markers, use scrap paper, colored paper, tracing paper, construction paper, crepe paper, tissue paper, and other specialty papers.
3. Burn your edges and dye in tea the historical documents drawn for your timeline.
4. Drawings of stick people are fine, however, I'm sure you'll see that with encouragement your children will be trying to draw more accurately.
5. Historical memorabilia from a field trip or family outing would be great to add to your timeline. If you go see the Alamo at the Imax you could put your ticket stub up with a drawn figure or picture.
6. Inexpensive border templates from a craft store or department store would be a quick help if you decide to use borders on any of your figures.
7. Have FUN!

Use a Pencil at First

*Write all numbers in on your timeline(s) with a pencil! After you have finished penciling in ALL timeline numbers, then you may use a pen, marker, or permanent marker to write over the pencil. Remember mistakes will be made, and it will be easier to fix them when they are in pencil.

****How do I make Colored Glue?**

Purchase inexpensive school glue from a dollar or department store. Put 5 to 12 drops of food coloring in each bottle. The more you put in the darker the color will be. By putting in less the color will be lighter. Make other colors by combining the primary colors. It's not usually a good idea to put more than 12 drops in the glue, as it will become too dark. Be careful when combining colors; you might need fewer drops of one color and more of another.

Yellow + Blue = Green

Blue + Red = Purple

Yellow + Red = Orange

Close the glue bottle tightly and place on a counter or windowsill where it's sunny and warm. The molecular action will spread the food coloring throughout the glue and you will be ready to make lots of neat things with your colored glue usually within 24 hours.

Portfolios

Q.What types of portfolios are there?

A.

Filing Cabinet or Box

3 Ring Binder

Scrapbooks

Portfolio Case

Filing Cabinet or Box-

This is an easy starting place, and can be as basic or as complex as you want it to be. You can either purchase a small cabinet at a department store, a milk crate, or use a cardboard box. Purchase a pack of hanging files with tabs and set up your portfolio's filing system.

Examples

Really Basic-

One folder per child with their name on it, where you would file all samples of paperwork, projects, photos, and other samples together.

More Complex-

One hanging folder per child with their name on it for semi-annual progress reports, attendance, journal, and One hanging folder behind the child's assessment folder for each of the basic curriculum requirements of 59-65-47. You would then put samples in each of the required areas. This makes it easy for you to see if you are lacking samples from a particular subject, or if you have too many of a particular subject.

Reading

Writing

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies (History)

Composition (additional requirement for grades 7th -12th)

Literature (additional requirement for grades 7th - 12th)

Add folders for your extra subjects, those subjects that you work on that are not included in 59-65-47.

Bible

Art

Sign Language

Foreign Languages

Typing

Home Economics
Field Trips

The great benefit of this system is that you can file everything that they do, and pull out the samples you want to keep at the end of the school year.

3 Ring Binder-

The easiest way to do a 3 ring binder to be inclusive of all the required subjects would be to use divider sheets with tabs. Set up one binder for each child and a divider sheet for each of the required subjects under 59-65-47. You can easily flip through the 3 Ring Binder periodically for each of your children to see what areas you need to add samples to.

Reading

Writing

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies (History)

Composition (additional requirement for grades 7th -12th)

Literature (additional requirement for grades 7th - 12th)

Then add additional divider sheets with tabs for your extra subjects.

Bible

Art

Sign Language

Foreign Languages

Typing

Home Economics

Field Trips

If you purchase the 3 Ring Binders with the plastic slip front and back covers, the children can design front and back pages for their covers. Most children will enjoy the individualized look it will have.

Scrapbooks-

The scrapbook would require more work and effort to put together; however, the children would have a great memory book to share with their children and grand children one day. Lots of photos of projects and activities would be a really big plus, so pull out your cameras and start documenting all the great things they are doing while homeschooling. One of the benefits of helping the child/ren to create their own scrapbook portfolio is that they will be journaling, or documenting all of the activities and samples that they are including in their scrapbook. This would be samplings of their writing!

Portfolio Case-

This can be a professional case from a department store or a homemade one like the Art Portfolio discussed below. This would be a great portfolio for the High School Student or the child that dreams of a business career or profession . Their very own portfolio case could be a great self esteem builder. Of course you would keep samples from each required area of 59-65-47 (reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, for grades 7th - 12th composition and literature). Samples from your extra subjects would have a nice home in a portfolio case too.

Q. Must I use just one type of portfolio?

A.

No, you may choose to use just one; however, you can do a combination of various techniques.

In the Miller home, we use several different types of portfolios. We do so much, and with so many chillies that we've chosen to do more than one.

We have the catch it all file cabinet that I put all of their extra stuff in. Later I can go back and pull out samples to keep, and throw away the rest when I have time (I usually do this at the end of each school year). This makes it easier on me for record keeping and housecleaning.

We have an ABC scrapbook of field trips and activities.

Each child has their own scrapbook too. They have all done very creative pages in them, we do these on a as time permits basis, so they are not considered our portfolios (as we would not be able to keep them maintained on a regular basis).

Each child has an Art Portfolio case that they made from white poster board. We used two large pieces for the front and back, and a piece cut about 1/3 to 1/2 lengthwise as a cover to close their portfolio case. The sides and bottom were made from the extra poster board pieces. The sides and bottom being about 2 inches wide times the length of the side or the bottom. We used wide tape to tape the sides and the bottom to the front and the back all together. They used acrylic paints to make their own unique designs, covering every inch of the outside (they liked doing that). Inside their Art Portfolios, they put all of their very best art. We put two brass brads on that they use string or yarn to loop and tie the cover closed. There's one on the closing cover and one below it on the front.

With the Life In America, we use the 3 ring binders for their portfolios. They've all got a good supply of the plastic sheet protectors, so they can put smaller than normal items in there. Lots of their cool paper science projects are placed in them. I've typed and printed up a weekly assignment sheet where they write the assignments/projects that they have chosen. They've made tabs by cutting colored index cards and taping them to the assignment sheets. On the tab they write what the lesson number and the lesson name is. There's a spot for mom or dad to initial when the task is completed. Behind the assignment sheet we put the outline of work and projects for the week. They place all of their assignments, projects, and reports behind the outline. We enjoy the extra structure and organization of this system as it makes it easier with so many children with special needs.

We also use 3 ring binder time lines, which help them to keep history straight and they have a record of what they've done in history all of their homeschooling years. Our time lines have gotten so big that they have two separate ones, one for the BC and one for the AD.

They've just started 3 ring binder Genealogy Books, and a 3 ring binder for Family Folklore.

They will be doing several 4-H projects in 3 ring binders this year- a feather collection, tree leaves, the folklore (recipes and other family stuff), and I'm not sure what else they'll talk me into.

Q. What can we put in the portfolio?

A.

Samples of academic work
Test grades
Grades
Summary of all courses
List of Books Read (including author and titles)
List of Films reviewed
Photos
Newspaper clippings
List of field trips and activities
Travel reports
Semi-annual reports
Evaluations from work
Volunteer Evaluations
Parental Evaluations
Apprenticeship Evaluations
Personal References
Recommendations
Articles/poems written
Audio tape recordings
Video tape recordings
Artwork-drawings
Paintings
Sketches
Slides taken of artwork
Science projects
Experiments
Classes/Seminars taken
Practical Skills List
Extracurricular activities-drama, yearbook, etc.
Autobiography
Resume
Transcript
Other

A portfolio is defined as a collection of drawings, photographs, etc., representative of a person's work.

Links-

Heart of Wisdom

<http://homeschoolunitstudies.com/TG/curriculum/portfolios.htm>

Answers to Your Questions About Homeschool Portfolios

<http://members.aol.com/cmslhomeschool/portfolio.html>

Collage Portfolio

<http://homeschool.lifetips.com/PPF/scid/62858/TipSC.asp>

Portfolios-

A to Z Home's Cool Homeschooling

<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/olderkids/Portfolios.htm>

Record Keeping for Homeschooling - Portfolios

<http://homeschooling.about.com/cs/recportfolios/>

New Homeschoolers

I. Homeschooling...

Homeschooling is a way of life for my family and me or in other words it's the lifestyle we feel convicted to lead. If you start out with this philosophy you will be much more successful in your homeschooling, because you will be looking at the long-term plan. Don't get me wrong; it's okay to go day by day when you're sick or going through a very trying time. However, you will make it through those day-by-day times by having that long term plan.

II. How do we begin homeschooling?

1. Seek the Lord.

a. Pray

b. Read your Bible

c. Are you and your spouse in agreement?

2. Learn about homeschooling.

a. The law

b. Read some books about homeschooling.

c. Talk to other homeschoolers.

3. Get information on your state and local homeschooling support groups.

a. Do they have workshops/conventions?

b. Do they offer field trips?

c. Do they offer other socials?

d. Are they like-minded with your homeschooling philosophy?

f. Attend at least one meeting to make your decision.

e. Join a support group that can offer you and your family what you need (also be open-minded to contributing your help).

4. Decide how you will comply with the state law and make arrangements to do so according to your convictions.

5. Decide teaching methods and materials you will use.

6. Obtain your curriculum.

7. Get your house in order.
 - a. Get it all organized - the whole house - you will have less time to cook, clean and do the normal routine stuff.
 - b. Set up or revise a chore chart for the house.
 - c. Will you have a certain room for school? - Get it organized.
 - d. Make sure you have all supplies needed - paper, pencils, books, encyclopedias, dictionaries, markers, crayons, etc.

8. Begin your record keeping.
 - a. Organize your record keeping into a filing system.
 - b. What is our philosophy of education?
 - c. Plan out a schedule for your school year.
 - d. Keep an attendance record.
 - e. Keep a daily record of subjects, pages, activities, and field trips.
 - f. What rules will we use during our school time?
 - g. Keep a list of curriculum texts (students & parents), resource books (students & parents), workbooks, etc.
 - h. Do at a minimum a semi-annual progress report (this does not have to be a report card but it can be one).
 - i. Keep a portfolio for each child with samples of their work. Place any standardized test scores in your child's portfolio.
 - j. Prepare lesson plans
 1. Plan at least one week ahead.
 2. Changes in the lesson plan will happen.
 3. List yearly, monthly and weekly goals.
 4. Make or buy a lesson plan to assist you.
 5. Review your lesson plan each evening before school to refresh your memory and to get all materials in order beforehand.

III. South Carolina Homeschooling Laws

SC Code of Laws 59-65-Attendance of Pupils-

Article 1. Compulsory Attendance

<http://www.lpittr.state.sc.us/code/t59c065.htm>

IV. SC State and Local Support Groups

State and local support groups can provide new homeschoolers with much needed hands on experience and a great deal of wisdom. There are all kinds of support groups in South Carolina, the leaders of today are there to assist those new homeschoolers and those seasoned ones as well. A support group should help to guide and aid you individually as a homeschooler, and additionally it should guide and aid the support group as a whole.

Support groups will help you and your children to establish a well grounded support system that will only grow larger the longer you participate with the group and the longer you homeschool. This support system will help you to aid others and to receive the aid you need. Get involved with at least one local support group today if you have not already joined one.

To find state and local support groups see the SC State and Local Support Groups section for the CHASE SC and NBHSA web site links.

V. Learning Styles/Modalities

See the Learning Styles/Modalities section for information on the visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and combination learning styles which is covered, by a family that has one or more types of learners in each category.

VI. Special Needs

See the Special Needs Homeschoolers section for information on resources including a special needs email loop for SC families, books to read, the SC Disabilities Collaborative Resource Center Library, and lots of special needs links.

VII. Curriculum

1. Before choosing a curriculum you should know:

- a. Do you want Christ-centered curriculum?
- b. Your learning style
- c. Your child's/children's learning style
- d. The amount of money you can reasonable spend
- e. Is my child college bound?
- f. Which subjects are each of your children's strengths?
- g. Which subjects are each of your children's weaknesses?
- h. What SC law says about curriculum Section 59-65-47 ©) the curriculum includes, but is not limited to, the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature.

Break down of the required subjects:

Elementary (grades 1-6)

Reading

Writing

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies (History)

Secondary (grades 7-12)

Reading

Writing

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies (History)

Composition (additional requirement for grades 7th -12th)

Literature (additional requirement for grades 7th - 12th)

2. Types of Curriculum (see also Types of Homeschooling)

- a. Self study-short paper-back booklets that are called "paces, units, or lifepacs". Little teacher preparation needed. Examples: ACE, Alpha Omega, and Christian Light.
- b. Textbooks-Lots of different curriculum companies offer textbooks. You can get either Christian or secular. More planning is needed from the parent. Examples: Abeka, Bob Jones, Rod and Staff, and Saxon.
- c. Unit studies- Also known as thematic studies. A study that incorporates lessons for all subjects into one theme. Very good for the hands-on learning and for several children in different grade levels. Almost all children prefer this approach. Unit studies require the most planning from a parent. Examples: Amanda Bennett, Greenleaf, Design A Study, Konos, and Weaver.
- d. Relaxed Homeschooling- Also known as Unschooling. A relaxed home atmosphere where the parents help guide their children with studying subjects that interest each different child. Generally more parental assistance is needed the younger the child and less parental assistance is needed as the child matures. Some believe that there is a fine line between relaxed homeschooling and unschooling.

The curriculum is there to assist you. DO NOT let it control you. If it is not working out perhaps some changes are in order. If your child is not understanding something perhaps they are not ready for the new subject matter, take a break and try it a week later (maybe even a month later).

VIII. Questions & Answers

See the Questions and Answers to the Most Commonly Asked Questions, New Homeschoolers section.

IX. Forms That May Be Helpful

See the Free Forms For Homeschoolers section.

High Schoolers Questions About Diplomas

What is a diploma?

Dictionary A

diploma 1. A document given by an educational institution conferring a degree or certifying the successful completion of a course of study. 2. a document conferring some honor or privilege.

Dictionary B

diploma - A document signed by competent authority, conferring some power, privilege, or honor, as that given to graduates of colleges and universities upon completion of graduation requirements; an official document.

Is a homeschool diploma legal?

Yes, in South Carolina it is. If you homeschool under 59-65-40, 59-65-45, or 59-65-47, the parent-teacher will issue the high school diploma if one is awarded. Some associations may issue one for you; however, this is one of the parent-teacher's rights and responsibilities. Nowhere in SC Law is there a provision that anyone other than the parent-teacher must award the high school graduate their diploma.

What is a homeschool diploma?

It's a document that is awarded by the homeschooling parents or parent-teacher that indicates the successful completion of your homeschool's course of study.

Who issues a homeschool diploma?

The parent-teacher will issue the high school diploma if one is awarded. Some associations may issue one for you; however, this is one of the parent-teacher's rights and responsibilities.

When should we issue our child's diploma?

A high school diploma should be issued when your homeschool's course of study has been successfully completed. You must teach and complete the requirements of 59-65-40, 59-65-45, or 59-65-47; however, your course of study may be significantly more. If your child is college bound you and he/she should consult several colleges that they are interested in to see what their minimum requirements are. You may also choose to complete the SC Public School Requirements, but you are not required to do so.

Will my child need a diploma to get into college?

Some colleges and even some employers may want a copy of the high school diploma to put in your child's file (generally a statement that you were homeschooled will be sufficient); however the transcript and the student's scores will be the primary concern of most colleges looking at a homeschooled student for entrance into their college.

Why issue a homeschool diploma?

Your child/ren has made a significant accomplishment in their life and homeschool, they should be recognized for their accomplishment.

What about a high school graduation ceremony?

There are lots of ways to participate in a high school graduation ceremony. You can check with your local support group, or SCHEA (the state support group) to see if they are having one. You can volunteer to coordinate one if there's not one already set up. Additionally, you could have your church and pastor recognize your graduate during the Sunday worship service. You and your spouse could award it to them during the service or ask the pastor to award the diploma to the graduate. If a small intimate family celebration is what you are looking for, then send out invitations to your family and friends and host a pot luck dinner and celebration party for the graduate.

Links with Information About Homeschool Diploma Issues

<http://www.home-ed-magazine.com>

http://www.homeschooloasis.com/art_diploma_question.htm

<http://www.homeschoolzone.com/hsz/cohen5.htm>

<http://www.homeschoolzone.com/hsz/callihan1.htm>

<http://www.homeschool.com>

Questions About GED

What is a GED?

The GED stands for General Educational Development. As listed at the State Department of Education's Office Of Adult And Community Education page located at <http://www.myscschools.com/offices/ace/>, "The mission of the GED Testing Program is to provide adults who have not graduated from high school a means by which they may earn a high school diploma, which may lead to entrance into higher education, increased opportunities for employment, or military enlistment. The GED Testing Program is designed to provide an alternative way to obtain a high school credential for people who have dropped out of high school and have not completed requirements for a high school diploma. The Test of General Educational Development (GED) is a group of five multiple choice tests that are designed to measure the general knowledge and thinking skills that it takes to earn a high school diploma. Anyone who is at least 17 years of age, not enrolled in school, and does not already have a high school diploma from an accredited school may take the GED tests."

Who issues the GED?

South Carolina Department of Education issues SC GEDs.

How do I apply to take the test?

Ordering the SC test schedule and an application

<http://www.sclrc.org/gedtestinglocations.htm#Ordering>

To have a GED application and testing schedule mailed to you, please provide the following information, and mail your request to the GED Testing Office address above.

You may also call in your request. Simply dial (803) 734-8347, choose option #3 and follow the prompts.

Name

Street Address or P. O. Box

City, State, and Zip Code

Where do I take the test?

2003 South Carolina testing dates by location

<http://www.sclrc.org/ged%20testing.htm>

Will my child need a GED to get into college?

Most colleges will accept a homeschool diploma and transcript. There are very few that will not, and those few may only accept a GED. If you decide to have your homeschool child take the GED test, please use it only as a last resort. Colleges, military and some others will treat the GED applicant differently than the homeschool diploma applicant. GED applicants are often put on probation for a minimum period when they enroll in a program; whereas, the homeschool high school diploma students are not.

When should they get a GED?

The only time your homeschool student should get a GED, is if they will be attending a college, that they know will not accept their homeschool diploma and transcript.

When should they not get a GED?

When the college the homeschooler will be attending does accept the homeschool diploma and transcript.

Where can a pretest be taken?

The official pre-test is available through the local adult education programs.

What courses are available to help me study for the test?

Local adult education programs have courses to aid you in studying for the test. Additionally, you can purchase a study guide from most major bookstores.

Is there a GED Graduation?

Most adult education programs have graduation ceremonies for GED graduates. If this is important to you or your homeschool student please ask beforehand. You may contact David Stout for additional information (the contact information is provided below).

Where can I write, email or call for additional information on the GED?

GED Testing Office
South Carolina Department of Education
402 Rutledge Building
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 734-8347
FAX (803)734-8336
dstout@sde.state.sc.us

If I do not have a GED or High School Diploma, and I want to homeschool what do I need to do?

You can take the next test for the GED, after you have passed you will be able to homeschool in SC.

Links to more GED information

GED Testing Service website home page

<http://www.acenet.edu/calec/ged/home.html>

Introduction to the GED and its history

<http://www.acenet.edu/calec/ged/intro-A.cfm>

South Carolina Literacy Resource Center

<http://www.sclrc.org/GED.htm>

Sample Practice Test

<http://www.gedpractice.com>

GEDonline Prepare for the GED test online!

<http://www.gedonline.org/>

General Educational Development

<http://amby.com/GED/>

School District of Greenville County

<http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/lifelong/aeged.htm>

Lexington County GED Classes

http://www.lexington1.net/adulted/high_school/ged_prep.htm

Batesburg-Leesville Lifelong Learning Center

<http://www.lex3.k12.sc.us/lc/lc.htm>

Steck-Vaughn Test Preparation

<http://www.steckvaughn.com>

Questions About Transcripts

What is a transcript?

Dictionary A

transcript - An official school report which includes a student's courses, grades, and credits.

Dictionary B

transcript - An official school report on the record of a student, listing subjects studied, grades received, etc.

Is a homeschool transcript legal?

Yes, in South Carolina it is. If you homeschool under 59-65-40, 59-65-45, or 59-65-47, the parent-teacher will issue the transcript if one is awarded. Some associations may issue one for you; however, this is one of the parent-teacher's rights and responsibilities. Nowhere in SC Law is there a provision that anyone other than the parent-teacher should prepare the high school transcript.

What is a homeschool transcript?

It's an official document that is prepared by the homeschooling parents or parent-teacher that indicates the student's homeschool course of study.

Who issues a homeschool transcript?

The parent-teacher will issue the transcript when needed. Some associations may issue one for you; however, this is one of the parent-teacher's rights and responsibilities.

When should we issue our child's transcript?

1) A high school transcript should be issued when the student's homeschool course of study has been successfully completed. You must teach and complete the requirements of 59-65-40, 59-65-45, or 59-65-47; however, your course of study may be significantly more. If your child is college bound you and he/she should consult several colleges that they are interested in to see what their minimum requirements are. You may also choose to complete the SC Public School Requirements, but you are not required to do so.

2) If you will be enrolling a child or children into a private or public school you should consider preparing a transcript for the years that you have homeschooled them. This will help to aid you, and your child/ren will have an easier transition into the school.

3) You may choose to update your student's transcript yearly. This would be very beneficial in maintaining an accurate transcript for them.

Will my child need a transcript to get into college?

Yes, the transcript and the student's test scores will be the primary concern of most colleges looking at a homeschooled student for entrance into their college.

Why issue a homeschool transcript?

You know best what your child has done each year that you have homeschooled him or her. Not only is it your right, but it is your responsibility to accurately prepare your child's transcript. Even if your child is not college bound, you need to prepare a transcript for them. File it when you are done, and give them a copy to file. They may decide to enter college in a year or two, or somewhere in the future; and you will have what they need, their homeschool transcript.

What about a high school graduation ceremony, will we need the transcript then?

No you do not need it for the ceremony, as you will award the High School Diploma at the graduation ceremony.

Secondary School Record Form

Once again CHASE SC is offering the Secondary School Records form to you. Please send \$1 per copy that you would like. Please note on your check or money order what the money is for. You may fill it out using the information provided below.

Instructions for using the Secondary School Record for your transcript (numbers correlate to the blocks on the form).

Please remember to type all information on your transcript forms.

1) Student Identification

Basic Information on the Student

2) School Identification

Basic Information on your home school

3) Student's Academic History

List the Grade & Year for Courses Taken (and special level where appropriate; example English 9, English 10 or English I, English II), marks and the credits earned. Use titles that are clearly understood.

A unit or credit is defined as five 45 minute periods each week for 36 weeks (basically 45 minutes for 180 days). Courses that were taken for 45 minutes for 18 weeks (or 45 minutes for 90 days) would be issued $\frac{1}{2}$ credit. Usually non academic courses such as Home Economics and/or Cooking would be the ones issued as $\frac{1}{2}$ credit.

Grades

A grading scale of A, B, C, D and F is the most common. An explanation of the grading scale would be beneficial. Example: A=95 100, B=85 94, etc.

It would not be wise to use a pass/fail system. A pass/fail system could hurt the rating given to your student by colleges.

4) Student's Academic Summary

List the GPA (grade point average), and mark the credits earned in the appropriate space. ***Make sure to give an Anticipated Graduation date or if the student is already finished with high school make sure to enter the actual graduation date. This is one of the most important sections.

5) Additional Student Information

- a.) Interests, activities, and achievements
- b.) Special features of student's program
- c.) Special problems or needs
- d.) Personal inventory or checklist
- e.) Written Comments
- f.) Other

6) Test Scores (Primarily Grades 10 12)

If the student is college bound you should have at a minimum a SAT and/or ACT test listed. Additionally, if they have taken any standardized tests (Iowa, BSAP, Stanford, CAT 5, etc.) in the 10th 12th grades these test scores should be included.

It is CHASE SC's recommendation for those students college bound to take the SAT or ACT at least once a year in the 9th 12th grades. Additionally, the PSAT should be taken in the 11th grade year. A repeat exam late in the 11th grade or up to the middle of the 12th grade may show a good raise in the students scores (especially if higher level studies were done along with studying a guide to prepare for the test.

7) Additional School Information

- a.) Accreditation information (N/A)
- b.) Method of computing GPA (grade point average)
- c.) Key to symbols and titles
- d.) Explanation of curriculum
- e.) Description of marking system
- f.) Frequency distribution
- g.) Other

8) Previous Secondary Schools Attended

List any High Schools the student attended for a period of at least ½ semester.

9) School Officials

- a.) School Principal You may either put N/A or list Dad as the principal.
- b.) Person to contact for additional information List Mom or Dad.
- c.) Signature of official certifying this transcript if you listed dad as the principal than he should sign here.

CHASE SC Transcript Forms

There are several transcript forms available at our Free Forms for Homeschoolers Page, <http://www.chasesc.com/forms.html> that you may use to make your transcripts. The information above will be helpful with the forms at our Free Forms for Homeschoolers Page too.

South Carolina Colleges

If you will be applying to a college in South Carolina and you would like to be considered for grant and scholarship money you should use the SC Letter grade scale during high school. You are not required by 59-65-47 to use this scale.

A 93 - 100

B 85 - 92

C 77 - 84

D 70 - 76

U 63 - 69 (Partial GPR Point Credit)

F 62 or Below (No GPR Point Credit)

For more information check out

<http://www.sde.state.sc.us/archive/educator/unigrad2.htm>

Figuring Grade pt. Average

Figure your Grade Point Average using a Spreadsheet Create your own GPA (grade point average) CALCULATOR in EXCEL. With the end of a grading period approaching, it comes in handy to have a way of easily figuring out your GPA or grade point average.

<http://www.themathlab.com/homework/algebrahomework/GPASTart.htm>

Apprenticeship +PLUS

Apprenticeship +PLUS by Inge and Ronald Cannon is available from their company Education PLUS 1 864 609 5411 stop by their web site for additional information, <http://www.edplus.com> , or email them at info@edplus.com to request a catalog.

Links

Sample High School Transcripts

<http://www.linger.com/brian/transcript.htm>

<http://ultimate1.8m.com/transcript.html>

<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/2026/transcrp.html>

<http://www.dataplus.biz/HER/trans.htm>

Sample Course Description

<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/2026/coursdesc.html>

Take a look at a partially prepared transcript at:

http://members.tripod.com/sc_new_beginnings/id39.htm

Sample Diploma's

<http://www.diplomaone.com/Samples.htm>

SAT, PSAT & ACT Testing

SC's homeschool code for the PSAT is 994199.

It is recommended that all high school students take the SAT or ACT at least once during the 9th or 10th grade, and once late in the 11th grade up until the middle of the 12th grade year. The more exposure to the test the better experienced the student will become with the tests. These tests are very important to homeschoolers that are college bound. If your student knows where he or she would like to go to college it is our suggestion to call the college and see which test they accept. There are study guides available at local libraries and book stores.

Please visit both web sites below for all information available on testing at:

ACT's web site <http://www.act.org>

SAT & PSAT's web site <http://www.collegeboard.org>

SC Colleges

The **CHASE SC - SC Colleges** List is available at:

<http://chasesc.com/colleges.html>

What About College?

Many homeschooling parents, have lots of questions about college and scholarships. That is why we have tried to answer commonly asked high school and college questions for the home educator on our site. Additionally, we have prepared this list of links to other homes-school informational college sites. We have also included non homeschool links that homeschoolers will find helpful.

College Links

American Universities

<http://www.clas.ufl.edu/CLAS/american-universities.html>

Bates College - Tips for a Great Application

<http://www.bates.edu/app-tips.xml>

Bible College Directory

<http://www.byfaith.co.uk/bcdirectory.htm>

Cafi Cohen's Homeschool Teens and College

<http://www.homeschoolteenscollege.net/>

Caron Family's Homeschool Homepage: High School and Beyond, The

<http://www.megalink.net/~caronfam/HighSchool.html>

Choosing a College

<http://www.guideforparents.com/choosing.htm>

College

<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/olderkids/College.htm>

College Admission Applications & Financial Aid

<http://www.xap.com/>

College and University Reviews - Homeschool Admission Policies

<http://www.eho.org/collrev.htm>

College and University Search - Degree and College Searches Online

<http://www.colleges-degrees-searches-online.org/>

collegeboard.com - For Parents - Plan for College - Choosing a College Major

<http://www.collegeboard.com/parents/article/0,3708,703-705-0-21289,00.html>

College Counseling - General College Searches

<http://www.andover.edu/cco/links1.htm>

CollegeLookup.com - Your Future is Looking Up!

<http://online-education.collegelookup.com/>

Colleges That Admit Homeschoolers FAQ

http://learninfreedom.org/colleges_4_hmsc.html

College Rankings Caution & Controversy

http://gateway.library.uiuc.edu/edx/rank_biblio.html

CollegeView - College Name Search

<http://www.collegeview.com/college/collegesearch/nameSearch.jsp>

College Years

<http://www.gomilpitas.com/homeschooling/olderkids/OlderKids.htm#College%20Years>

ColoradoMentor - Selecting a Campus - Consumer Guide

http://www.coloradomentor.org/Consumer_Guide/CG_General/apply.asp

Community-College.org - Community College Directory

<http://www.community-college.org/>

FAFSA on the Web - U.S. Department of Education

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

FastWeb - Free Scholarship and College Searches Plus Financial Aid Tools and More!

<http://www.fastweb.com/>

Getting Ready for College Early

<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/GettingReadyCollegeEarly/>

Helpful Links - High School and College -- Homeschool Christian.com

<http://www.homeschoolchristian.com/Links/HighSchool/>

Home School Friendly Colleges & Universities

<http://www.rsts.net/colleges/>

Homeschool World - Homeschool Mall - College Corner

<http://www.home-school.com/mall/college/>

How Homeschoolers Move From Family Room To College Campus

<http://csmweb2.emcweb.com/durable/1997/10/06/feat/learning.3.html>

IPEDS College Opportunities On-Line, Electronic Directory of Postsecondary Institutions
<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool/>

MyCollegeOptions.com - College Tips
www.mycollegeoptions.com/content/CollegeTips.asp

NewsDirectory - College Locator
<http://www.ecola.com/college/>

online college
<http://www.online-college.info/>

Online Courses
<http://www.online-college.info/>

Peterson's - Financing Education - College Admission Calendar
<http://www.petersons.com/resources/calendar.html>

Picking a College - Find Out What You Need to Know
<http://www.thebeehive.org/school/parents/picking-a-college.asp>

Picking a College - How Important Is Location?
<http://www.princetonreview.com/college/research/articles/find/location.asp>

Practical Bible College - Homeschool Students
<http://www.practical.edu/admissions/homeschool.html>

Preparing for College
<http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/mm/cc/info/prep.html>

PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR COLLEGE
<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/Prepare/>

Road To College
<http://www.roadtocollege.org/>

So, How Do Homeschoolers Apply?
<http://csmweb2.emcweb.com/durable/1997/10/06/feat/learning.4.html>

Specifics to Consider When Choosing a College
<http://embark.com/college/research/articles/find/specifics.asp>

usnews.com - America's Best Colleges 2003 - A-Z directory
http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/directory/alpha_dir/brief/index_brief.php

usnews.com - Education - College
<http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/cohome.htm>

Scholarship Information

Financial Aid Information

College Is Possible

<http://www.collegeispossible.org/>

College Financial Aid Report

<http://www.broker-referral.com/college.htm>

FinAid! - The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid

<http://www.finaid.org/>

Financial Aid Resource Center

<http://www.theoldschool.org/>

FinancialAidSuperSite.com

<http://www.financialaidsupersite.com/>

FAFSA- Free Application For Federal Student Aid

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Governmental Grants

<http://www.grants.governmentalgrants.com/>

Scholarship Search Engines, Guides & Other Helpful Information

Absolutely Scholarships - Free College Scholarship Search

<http://apps.absolutelyscholarships.com/exec/scholarship>

Collegeboard.com - Scholarship Search

http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp

Colleges.com

<http://www.colleges.com/>

Essay 4 College

<http://essay4college.com>

FastAid.com - Free College Scholarship Search and student loan info.

<http://www.fastaid.com/>

FastWeb - Free Scholarship and College Searches Plus Financial Aid Tools and More!

<http://www.fastweb.com/>

FreSch - The Free Scholarship Search and Information Service!

<http://www.freschinfo.com/>

Guaranteed Scholarships

<http://www.guaranteed-scholarships.com/>

Scholarships.com free college scholarship search & financial aid resource

<http://www.scholarships.com/>

Scholarship Page, The! - The free resource for scholarship listings

<http://www.scholarship-page.com/>

Scholarship News

<http://www.free-4u.com/>

SRN Express - Scholarship Resource Network Express

<http://www.srnexpress.com/index.cfm>

Super College - college admission and scholarship tips and strategies

<http://www.supercollege.com/>

SC Scholarship Links

Scholarships & tips

Scholarships sponsored by the S.C. Department of Education,

S.C. Tuition Grants Commission,

and the S.C. Commission of Higher Education

Robert C. Byrd Scholarship Program

<http://www.myscschools.com/tracks/parents/sch-ship.htm>

SC Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission

<http://www.sctuitiongrants.com/>

South Carolina Commission On Higher Education

on line application and resources

<http://www.che400.state.sc.us/>

SC Scholarship Information
(Coming Soon)

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program
(Coming Soon)

Need-based Grants
(Coming Soon)

LIFE Scholarship Program
(Coming Soon)

HOPE Scholarship Program
(Coming Soon)

Lottery Tuition Assistance Program
(Coming Soon)

Links for More Information

Questions About the
Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program,
Need-based Grants,
LIFE Scholarship Program,
South Carolina
South Carolina
HOPE Scholarship Program
HOPE Scholarship Program, and
Lottery Tuition Assistance Program

are covered in detail including the requirements and apply for each at:

<http://www.che400.state.sc.us/Finance/Chemis/ACIR/Scholarship Programs Fall 2002.pdf>

Available also in html compliments of google search engine.

<http://216.239.39.104/search?q=cache:RA0shTIKeCQJ:www.che400.state.sc.us/web/Chemis/ACIR/Scholarship%2520Programs%2520Fall%25202002.pdf+Palmetto+Fellows+Scholarship+Requirements&hl=en&ie=UTF-8>

The SC HOPE Scholarship Summary can be found at:

<http://www.che400.state.sc.us/web/Chemis/ACIR/SC HOPE Scholarship Summary.pdf>

Available also in html compliments of google search engine:

<http://216.239.39.104/search?q=cache:2w5iOb4MCgEJ:www.che400.state.sc.us/web/Chemis/ACIR/SC%2520HOPE%2520Scholarship%2520Summary.pdf++SC+HOPE+Scholarship+Summary&hl=en&ie=UTF-8>

Standardized Testing

Testing is required only under Section 59-65-40; therefore, testing is only required by state law if you homeschool through the school board of the district you reside in. However, each umbrella association decides whether testing is or is not required for their members. Most associations do not require testing. If you would like to test your children even though your association does not require testing you may contact the following for information on their testing programs:

1. HSLDA web site: <http://www.hslda.org/> email address: info@hslda.org Tests HSLDA members may rent from HSLDA-

The Woodcock-Johnson PsychoEducational Battery-Revised, Tests of Achievement: This individually administered test is useful for children who may not test well in a group setting. It must be administered by a special education teacher.

Brigance Diagnostic Inventories: These are tests that parents or professionals may administer to determine what skills a child has or has not mastered. These tests are used routinely in public and private schools to develop an IEP.

Inventory of Early Development (yellow) — birth through developmental age 7.

Inventory of Basic Skills (blue) — grades K-6.

Comprehensive Inventory of Basic Skills (green) — grades preK-9

Inventory of Essential Skills (red) — grades 6-adult.

You may purchase the Brigance Diagnostic Inventories from Curriculum Associates, Inc. at: <http://www.curricassoc.com/> .

2. Academic Therapy Publications <http://www.academictherapy.com/> 1-800-422-7249 - Offers a catalog of testing resources.
3. Bayside School Services <http://www.baysideschoolservices.com/> 1-800-723-3057 CAT/5 & TCS/2 - These test are administered at home by the parent.
4. Bob Jones University <http://www.bjup.com/services/testing/> 1-800-845-5731 Offering a variety of testing materials for the homeschool family.
5. Christian Liberty Academy <http://ebiz.netopia.com/clpress/pageoflinks/> 1-847-259-4444 CAT
6. Dr. Joe P. Sutton <http://www.edtesting.com/> editor of the book, Special Education: A Biblical Approach and co-author to, Strategies for Struggling Learners: A guide for the Teaching Parent, is a certified educational diagnostician and experienced special education teacher. He offers the following services to home educators: screening tests, disability evaluations, diagnostic skill evaluations, achievement tests, and special education consulting. Arrangements can be made for on-site testing in home school communities. 1-803-967-4729
7. (Retired) Dr. John Blanchard 1-425-822-2772 - 12721 NE 100 First Place Kirkland, Wash 98033 email: jblanchard3@cs.com Christian resources for Dyslexia and other learning disorders.
8. Family Learning Organization <http://www.familylearning.org/> 800-405-TEST CAT-5, Metropolitan & Non-Test Assessments
9. Hewitt Educational Resources <http://www.hewithhomeschooling.com/test/tmain.asp> 1-800-890-4097 - PASS Test for 3rd - 8th. This test is administered at home by the parent. It was designed for homeschoolers.
10. John Hopkins University's Institute for the Academic Advancement http://www.jhu.edu/gifted/edplan/dcc_sca2.htm 1-410 516-8301 - SCAT & STEP
11. Harcourt, Inc. <http://www.hbem.com/trophy/achvtest/index.htm> 1-800-211-8378 - Stanford 9 and 10 Achievement Test
12. Sycamore Tree <http://www.mailordercentral.com/sycamoretree/> 1-800-779-6750 CTSB

13. Thurber's Educational Assessments 400 Clayton Road Chapel Hill, NC, 27514 - California Achievement Tests (C.A.T./5) administered by the parent in the home. Discounts for families with 3 or more children testing and groups of at least 12.
14. Inland Empire Home School Center IEHSC P.O. Box 1750 Airway Heights, WA 99001 Phone: 509-299-3766 testing and assessments. They offer a mail-in assessment service that could fit your family's needs.
15. Nelson <http://www.nelson.com/nelson/assess/test-ind/stan-b5.html> Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales, Fifth Edition The Fifth Edition of the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales (SB5) includes comprehensive coverage of all five domains and the ability to compare verbal and nonverbal performance.
16. Nelson <http://www.nelson.com/nelson/assess/test-ind/dg-supp.html> Diagnostic Supplement to the WJ III Tests of Cognitive Abilities The Diagnostic Supplement (DS) expands on the Diagnostic capabilities of the WJ III Tests of Cognitive Abilities and provides a more complete evaluation of an individual's relative cognitive strengths and weaknesses.
17. Nelson <http://www.nelson.com/nelson/assess/test-ind/dean-w.html> Dean-Woodcock Neuropsychological Battery The Dean-Woodcock Neuropsychological Battery (DW) is a new comprehensive assessment of sensory-motor functioning that includes a structured interview and emotional status exam.
18. Nelson <http://www.nelson.com/nelson/assess/test-ind/bender.html> Bender-Gestalt II The Bender Visual-Motor Gestalt Test, Second Edition (Bender-Gestalt II) is a brief assessment of visual-motor integration that may provide interpretive information about an individual's development and neuropsychological functioning.
19. Nelson <http://www.nelson.com/nelson/assess/group/bear.html> Basic Early Assessment of Reading (BEAR) The Basic Early Assessment of Reading is a suite of four criterion-referenced assessments of beginning reading and language arts skills for Kindergarten through Grade 3 students; designed to work with your existing reading program.
20. Nelson <http://www.nelson.com/nelson/assess/aseba/aseba.html> ASEBA Child Behavior Checklists The Achenbach System of Empirically Based Assessment is available for Pre-School Age (ages 1.5-5), School-Age (ages 6-18).
21. Nelson <http://www.nelson.com/nelson/assess/gatb-crs.html> GATB 1-800-914-7776, ext. 331
22. Remember to check with your local support group to see if they will do any group testing.

Questions and Answers to the Most Commonly Asked Questions

General Information

Q. Who can homeschool?

A.

59-65-47 - “parents or guardians may teach their children at home”

This shows us who can homeschool their children at home.

Parents or guardians may teach their children at home if they have at least a high school diploma or the equivalent general educational development (GED) certificate.

Q. What about Co-Ops, Tutoring, and Educational Classes, can they teach my home school children?

A.

59-65-47 - “©) the curriculum includes, but is not limited to,”

You must teach at least the subjects listed, but you are not limited to teaching just those subjects.

59-65-47 - “the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies,”

The subjects required for all students are reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

The parent-teacher or guardian **is required** to teach reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Yes, a co-op, tutor, or educational class **may teach supplemental information, if the parent-teacher is teaching the basic instructional areas** of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Examples:

Solar Energy is taught in co-op and parent-teacher teaches Earth Science for the school year.

Tutor assists student with a division and the parent-teacher teaches other math skills.

Educational Class covers Physical Science and the parent- teacher or guardian teaches Basic Science.

Yes, a co-op, tutor, or educational class may teach **extra curricular classes**.

Examples:

Home Economics

Foreign Language

Sign Language

Art
PE
Cooking
Child Care

No, a co-op, tutor, or educational class **may not teach the homeschool student exclusively**, the parent-teacher or guardian must teach the homeschool student the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Yes, someone else may teach your homeschool student an advance math, science, or other subject. However, **you the parent-teacher or guardian must still cover the subject if it is in the area the basic instructional areas** of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Please consult your private attorney or HSLDA for further clarification.

Q. How many hours a day must I teach?

A.

If you homeschool under Section 59-65-47, neither Section 59-65-40 nor Section 59-65-45 apply to you. This means that you do not have to homeschool a certain number of hours. Each child and homeschool are unique. Each child has their own learning style and each home school utilizes the curriculum best suited for their homeschool. Each home school determines how long each school day is.

Q. Does my school year have to start and finish with the public school?

A.

Homeschoolers under the third option have the freedom to set up their school year in any manner they please, because the school year does not need to conform to the traditional school schedule of August-May.

For instance, if you wanted to school year round you could school 5 days a week for 3 weeks and take every fourth week off. This year round plan would still leave you with 4 extra weeks for Christmas and/or vacations.

There are 365 days in a year (366 on Leap Years). **You may choose to homeschool on any day of the year.**

However to help maintain records and close out files at the end of an instructional year each association has a year ending date in which you should have your 180 days completed by.

Homeschoolers moving to SC from out-of-state, year round homeschoolers, those with a personal crisis, or family emergencies usually can receive an extension on a case by case basis from their third

option association. You should present your situation to your association to receive any extension or exception.

Additionally, **each homeschool chooses the hours in which they will homeschool.** Some families prefer to school early in the morning, some in the afternoon, some in the evening, some do a split day schooling approach, and some will use a combination which will vary throughout the school year. Each homeschool, and the students that are within that homeschool are unique, we are lucky that **we can do what works best for our families.**

Q. What curriculum must I teach?

A.

According to 59-65-47, **“c) the curriculum includes, but is not limited to, the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature;”**

You must teach the minimum of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature. However, **you choose or can make the curriculum you want and need to accomplish the task.**

Q. Who must keep all of our home school records?

A.

According to 59-65-47, **“d) educational records shall be maintained by the parent-teacher”**

The law is very specific and clear here it doesn't say may, can or if you choose to it says shall be. The parent-teacher must maintain these records.

Q. What records must I keep?

A.

According to 59-65-47,

“(d) educational records shall be maintained by the parent-teacher and include:

(1) a plan book, diary, or other record indicating subjects taught and activities in which the student and parent-teacher engage;

(2) a portfolio of samples of the student's academic work; and

(3) a semi-annual progress report including **attendance records** and

Q. Do I have to give my child letter grades?

A. No, you are not required to give letter grades to any homeschool student, and that includes those homeschool students in high school.

According to 59-65-47, “**individualized documentation of the student's academic progress** in each of the basic instructional areas specified in item c) above.”

You the parent-teacher decide whether you will use notes, pass/fail system, satisfactory/unsatisfactory system, a letter grading system, or any other system you choose or design to provide that individualized documentation. Additionally you choose if you will or will not use the SC Letter grade scale during the high school years.

Q. What do I do when an official calls or comes to my door?

A.

Be Prepared for When An Official Calls You on the Phone...

1. Be a good listener - it is better to listen than to volunteer information.
2. Ask questions -

Why are you calling?

What is your name?

What is your telephone number and extension?

3. If they ask to see you in person, let them know that you will consult your 59-65-47, third option, accountability association, about their request. Or HSLDA, if you are a member.
4. Let them know that they may contact your association for verification of your membership.

Be Prepared for When An Official is at Your Door...

1. If you are a HSLDA member call them immediately. If you are not, then call your association immediately, and let us know that an official is at your door.
2. Ask if the official has a search warrant. If not, you **do not** have to **give permission to allow them in the house**. If a police officer states he is investigating an emergency situation, then they may enter without the search warrant.
3. Be a good listener - it is better to listen than to volunteer information.
4. Ask questions -

Why are you here?

What is your name?

What is your telephone number and extension?

5. If an official with a police officer insist on coming into your house, you tell them nice and calmly - "I am closing the door, it is not locked, **you do not have my permission to come in**. If you open the door and come in, I have not allowed you. You are doing so illegally; according to Calabretta V. Floyd, a Civil Rights Lawsuit, and I will seek legal action."

Q. Is testing required?

A.

Testing is required only under Section 59-65-40; therefore, testing is only required by state law if you go through the school board of the district you reside in. However, each umbrella association decides whether testing is or is not required. CHASE SC does not require testing. If an association requires testing they will tell you what kind and where you can have your child/children tested.

Q. I want to test my child, what testing resources are available?

A.

See the Standardized Testing section.

Q. Do we have to name our homeschool?

A.

No, you are not required by law or CHASE SC to name your homeschool. Some associations however, may require you to name your homeschool.

Q. Is there a limit on the number, or type of field trips that we complete each year?

A.

There is no limit on the amount or types of field trips. However, you should document their educational merit in your plan/record book.

Q. What special needs resources are there?

A.

See Special Needs/Resources section.

Q. Can you provide other forms on your web site?

A.

As time permits, we would be happy to serve you with as many forms as we can. Please email us and let us know what you'd like to see.

Q. How do I withdraw my child from school?

A.

1. If your child has not previously been enrolled in a school it is not necessary to contact your local school. However, you must comply with SC's homeschooling laws for accountability. See SC Homeschool Law.

2. Go to the school and let them know that you will be homeschooling and let them know whom you are enrolled with to homeschool (school district 59-65-40, SCIAHS 59-65-45, or the name of the umbrella association you are a member of 59-65-47). Take a copy of the law and proof of

membership with the umbrella association. Ask for a copy of your child's records.

OR

3. You may ask the district, or your umbrella association to send for your records if this service is available through them. If the school year has already started you must call and let the school know that you are homeschooling and the name of the district or umbrella association that will send for your records.

OR

4. You may send them a letter. See the To School or District sample letter.

Q. What must I do to put my child back into school?

A.

1. You should make sure the student takes a standardized test (most schools will accept these scores for elementary and middle school). Taking the test later in the year gives the student the advantage of more time to study and learn. However, be aware that it takes 6 - 8 weeks to receive the test scores.

2. Any parent of a High School student entering with (homeschooled) High School credits should contact the school district, public school, or private school and obtain in writing what criteria will be used to assess these credits. Some questions to have answered are: a) What credits will they accept; b) What standardized testing they require; c) What documentation you will have to provide.

3. The school may request from CHASE SC verification of membership. The parent-teacher will be responsible for all records/documentation for their children-student(s).

4. Gather together your records/documentation and organize it in an orderly fashion so you will be prepared to offer copies of any needed documentation.

Q. Is homeschooling my foster children legal?

A.

According to 59-65-46,

“Home schooling of foster child.

A foster parent may teach a foster child at home as provided in Sections 59-65-40, 59-65-45, or any other provision of law, if, in addition to any other requirements, home schooling of the child has been approved by the Department of Social Services or other agency having custody of the child.” **you may homeschool your foster children.**

However, you must have approval from the Department of Social Services or other agency having custody of the child/ren.

New Homeschoolers

Q. Do I have to inform the school district I am home schooling?

A.

No! You do not have to notify them; however, you may wish to obtain you child's complete transcript when you remove your student from public school. Please understand that you are not required to obtain the transcript; however, it is your personal right (if you choose to do so). Only you, the parent, decides if you want to obtain these records.

If you are removing your child from the public school system, you may choose to show them your students home school association membership letter, membership card, or certificate of membership so the school can contact the association if they should have further questions.

Avoiding unnecessary harassment by officials that are unaware of SC Law 59-65-47, avoiding a home visit from an official claiming you are in violation of SC's compulsory attendance law, and to make a smoother transition to homeschooling are a few of the reasons you may want to show the public school documentation of your membership from your association.

They do not need to make a copy of your document! This is an invasion of your privacy. However, again only you, the parent, decides if you will allow an official to make a copy of your document.

Q. Is homeschooling legal?

A.

Yes, take a look at SC Homeschooling Law page__.

Q. What about socialization?

A.

Socialize (v) as defined by New Webster's Dictionary-render social, as to suit something to the needs of society; participate in friendly interchange. We as homeschooling parents do not isolate our children from everyone else; however, we do get to provide times for socialization that fall within our own beliefs and eliminate most peer pressure. Many opportunities exist that you probably have not even thought of, such as: Sunday school, children and youth programs at church, Vacation Bible School, church social functions, support group field trips, park days, monthly support meetings, homeschooling co-op days, beach days, volunteering at hospitals, nursing homes, church and other places, team sports, gymnastics, PE, 4-H, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. With all the programs available through church, homeschooling and the community our children do learn to participate in friendly interchange.

Q. Are we qualified to teach our children?

A.

1. Yes, we are. In South Carolina a parent must have a High School Diploma or the GED. See III. The Law.
2. We are told to "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6. It is normal for us to question whether or not we can do this, but remember through God ALL things are possible. Make sure you keep homeschooling in your prayers everyday. It is a good idea to start your homeschooling day in prayer.
3. Workshops are available to help train and prepare you. SCHEA holds an annual workshop for homeschoolers and so do many support groups. To find out what else is available check with your local support group.

Q. How can we teach several children at one time?

A.

Self-Study Curriculum-

1. Consider having the children check their own or each others work. This will save you time in the biggest time consuming area with the self-study curriculum.
2. You can have the children record or check off the work as they complete it. You can use this for your record of what was done each day.
3. Have the children help with the goals for the week. This should be somewhat easy because each program is based on having so many pages completed within a certain time. If they need to do 4 pages a day they would write M pg 1-4, T pg 4- 8, W pg 9-12 and so on.

Textbooks-

1. Consider having the children check their own or each others work. This will save you time in the biggest time consuming area with the self-study curriculum.
2. You can have the children record or check off the work as they complete it. You can use this for your record of what was done each day.
3. If you divide the textbook up in some way days, months, quarter you can assign so many pages per day. If they know how many pages per day they can also record the upcoming weeks schedule.
4. If they are close to the same grade level many textbooks can be shared and taught together. Bible, History and Science are the easiest to do this with.

Unit Studies-

is a very good choice to incorporate shared learning. If you use a guide like Konos it lists activities for the younger, middle and older child. Generally they all can work on the same project, however, they each do it at a different level. Some of the same ideas listed under self study and textbooks could be used depending on how you do your unit study.

Relaxed Homeschooling -

ideas from all of the above could be used depending on how you do your relaxed homeschooling.

Q. What do the children do when mom/dad is sick?

A.

1. Art projects
2. Audio tapes
3. Computer games or writing project
4. Educational Games
5. Educational TV programs
6. Reading
7. Videotapes
8. Writing (have them do a rough draft and if they can a final copy on something they are interested in)

Q. What if the curriculum just isn't working?

A.

Did you consider all the information under Section VII Curriculum? Could it be that your child is not ready for the material? Could you show them the same information in another way? If you've tried everything and nothing seems to work and you want to change curriculum, then you probably should. Make sure you research really good before buying additional curriculum. If at all possible try to see the materials before you buy them!

Q. What is the compulsory attendance age in South Carolina?

A.

According to Section 59-65-10 your child must attend kindergarten somewhere (public, private, or homeschool) if they turn 5 before September 1st of that school year. Parents may sign a waiver excusing their child(ren) from kindergarten if the child does not turn 6 before September 1st of that year. Children must attend until their seventeenth birthday or until they graduate from high school.

High Schoolers

Q. How do I prepare my students transcript?

A.

See Questions About a Transcript section.

Q. What about a high school diploma?

A.

See Questions About a Diploma section.

Q. Does the law say that I have to use the Public School Diploma Requirements?

A.

No, it does not. It specifies what subjects you must include, c) the curriculum includes, but is limited to, the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature.

Please realize that as homeschooler you do not have to choose to follow the SC Public School Diploma Requirements. You may decide to teach only the required core subjects in 59-65-47 (plus the extras you already add to your homeschooling plan) or you may consult several colleges to aid you in formulating your requirements for high school graduation. Each college has it's own required subjects and standards, it is our job as homeschooling parents to research with our children the requirements for the college(s) that they want to attend.

However be aware that if your home school **elects to use the public school credit system for high school, you the parent-teacher are still required to teach the basic instructional areas** of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature each year as required under 59-65-47.

Q. If we use credits, must we still teach the required subjects of 59-65-47 each year?

A.

Yes, you the parent-teacher are still required to teach the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature each year as required under 59-65-47.

Q. What about the GED, should my students take it?

A.

That's a personal decision that you and your student will need to make. However, generally we would have to say NO, you should not have them take the GED. Students that enter college, the military, and specialized programs are often put on various types of probation when they enter as a GED recipient. Unless there's absolutely no way around it, then it would be better not to have them take it. You can get into college with your personal issued homeschool diploma, personal issued transcript and their test scores (SAT, ACT, or the college entrance exam).

Q. Will our children be able to go to college?

A.

More and more colleges are becoming homeschool friendly. They like the studying and learning abilities that homeschool students display. In addition they like their maturity, creativity and independent thinking skills.

Parents should prepare a high school transcript, award a diploma and specify an actual high school graduation date.

Have your child(ren) take the PSAT, SAT and/or ACT. These test can be taken more than one time. Colleges use the SAT, ACT and sometimes their own entrance exam.

High school students can enroll in a technical college and obtain college and high school credit for the courses (some colleges may not issue credit for the college credited courses if they were used for high school credit).

Many colleges offer nontraditional programs for off-campus study (or to us homeschoolers this would be college at home). Check into distance learning courses, electronic media, and CLEP testing.

Apprenticeship programs is another option for the homeschooler.

Q. Will my child be able to get into the military?

A.

Yes, HSLDA has many articles on homeschoolers and the military, stop by and take a look at a few.

Q. What are the SC Department of Education requirements for public high schoolers?

A.

South Carolina Public School Diploma Requirements

English/Language 4

Arts 4

Mathematics 4

Science 3

U.S. History and Constitution 1

Economics ½

U.S. Government ½

Other Social Studies

1 Computer Science (including Keyboarding)

1 P.E. (or Jr. ROTC) 1

Electives* 8

Total 24 Credits

For college prep one credit must be in a foreign language. For tech. prep. 4 credits must be occupational units.

However, please remember you as a homeschooler are not required to follow SC Public School Requirements. If you do, you the parent-teacher are still required to teach the basic instructional areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, and in grades seven through twelve, composition and literature each year as required under 59-65-47.

SC State and Local Support Groups

The **CHASE SC - SC State and Local Support Group List** is available at:
<http://chasesc.com/support.html>

and

The **NBHSA State and Local Support Group List** is available at:
<http://home.sc.rr.com/nbhsa/AssociationsandSupportgroups.html> .

SC Accountability Associations

The **CHASE SC 7 Star Rating Guide and Association List** is available at:
<http://www.chasesc.com/associations.html>

and

The **NBHSA 'Top 5' Home school Association List** is available at:
<http://home.sc.rr.com/nbhsa/AssociationsandSupportgroups.html> .

What Should You Look for in an Association?

SC homeschoolers have some very unique and helpful homeschooling accountability associations. Luckily for SC homeschoolers, there is a choice. What is right for you, is not right for everyone. When looking for a 59-65-47 accountability association you should start by asking questions of the associations and of your friends. Do your own research, don't rely upon what only one person says. Everyone's opinion, experiences, and needs are different.

Fees of 59-65-47 associations should not play a significant role in your decision making process, while doing your research to decide which association to join. However, if you realize that an associations fees are constantly changing, that would be a sign of instability and would need to be assessed as a negative indicator on your pros and cons assessment of associations. Other signs of instability would be changing policies, servers, and/or the data on a web site constantly or during the current school year. Be very cautious of associations that change their policies during the middle of a school year.

Questions to Ask an Association-

Who will have access to my information?

What is the confidentiality policy?

Does the director, homeschool currently?

Have they ever homeschooled?

How long have they homeschooled?

How long have the other board members homeschooled?

Is there a board of directors (officers or advisors)? If not, is this a business?

Who makes the decisions?

What are your requirements?
Do you require more than the complete requirements of 59-65-47?
What styles of homeschooling are you supportive of?
Is a certain curriculum required? If so, which one?
Are only certain curriculums accepted? If so, which ones?
What basic services do you provide?
What extra services do you provide?
Do you have a phone number that we can contact you in case of an emergency?
Do you review records for families when there is a DSS or State Dept. of Ed. issue?
Will you review my records to make sure that I am in compliance of 59-65-47, if I need your assistance?
In what cases do you notify DSS of our homeschool?
In what cases do you notify the Department of Education of our homeschool?
What experience do you have at dealing with the Department of Ed. and DSS?
How long have you been in operation?
If this is a new association, do they meet the 50 member minimum requirement?
Additionally, you need to find out when they will notify you, if they do not meet the 50 member minimum requirement
(you will want time to make arrangements to apply with another association before school starts).
If the new association does not meet the member minimum requirement you should get a refund.
However, it would be advisable to request that in writing.
How and why can my membership be terminated?
Do you work with the other associations to aid and help homeschoolers throughout South Carolina?
How do you work with the other associations?
What are your membership fees?

Questions to Ask Your Friends-

What is your association?
What is your experience with them?
Would you recommend for me to use them?
Have you ever had any problems with them?
How were they resolved?
Have you used another association before? If so, why did you change?
Which associations are respected by their members for their experience and leadership abilities?

Data to Look at or Request-

Review each association's web site.
Review the Membership Application online or request a copy of it.
Review all forms required by members of the association with the original application, throughout the school year, and/or at the completion of the school year.
Review the associations policies and guidelines.
Ask for the SC business license number for those associations operating as a business.
You may also check with the Better Business Bureau, to find out if there have ever been any complaints lodged against them.

BBB OnLine Complaint System
How to file a complaint - against a company or charity
<http://complaints.bbb.org/Welcome.asp>

Better Business Bureau, BBB National Web Site
<http://www.bbb.org/>

Review the bylaws and constitution (articles of incorporation) of those operating as a non-profit.

Questions to Ask Yourself-

Does the association operate in a professional manner?
Do I feel uncomfortable with any of the associations policies?
Do membership requirements and association policies change often
(this would be a sign of instability)? Why?
Which associations handle member problems and complaints in a professional manner?
If there is a web site-
Does it give helpful information?
Does it have a professional appearance?
Has the site changed servers often (that would be a sign of instability)?

Free Forms For Homeschoolers

CHASE SC's Most Popular Resource
You don't want to miss out on this great resource, there are nearly 200 Free Forms for you!
Stop by <http://www.chasesc.com/forms.html> today.

All types of home education will benefit from the wide range of forms; home schoolers, relaxed schooling, unschooling, and every type of home educator will find something they can use.

Be Prepared, Evaluations, Assessments, Report Cards, Planners, Goal Sheets, Sample Letters, Transcripts, High School Course Credit & Syllabus, Diplomas, Journals, Logs, Checklists, Traveling Through Time Timelines, Other Helps for the Homeschool, Postcards, and Getting Organized in Your Home are the categories you can choose from.

Homeschooling Across South Carolina Web Ring

Please consider joining the Homeschooling Across South Carolina web ring.
This ring includes support groups, associations, and home-schooling families across South Carolina, and was set up to unite home schoolers across SC.

The Homeschooling Across South Carolina web ring is uniting all homeschoolers and homeschooling groups in South Carolina! All web sites are required to have the web rings's html coding/banner on their home page. The only exception is for a large site with many subjects being covered, and then

the web rings's html coding/banner should be on their homeschooling main page. You can link up by visiting <http://www.chasesc.com/homeschooling.html> .

We hope you will join the Homeschooling Across South Carolina web ring, and unite with other SC homeschoolers today!

How to Start and Run an Association Under 59-65-47

Everything you need to know, want to know, and wish you knew!

By Ava Miller

May 23, 2003

<http://www.chasesc.com/startassociation.html> - The complete guide is available at this online page. The information provided on site is merely a guide to help you, it in no way covers all the information available for every subject listed.

I have tried to include a wide variety of topics for the benefit of new associations. Hopefully it will help you to prepare not only for your first year of operation, but will provide you with ideas for the future needs of your association too.

It is not legal advice, I am not an attorney and do not give legal advice. You should always contact your attorney or HSLDA for legal advice. SC homeschoolers have some very unique and helpful homeschooling accountability associations. Luckily for SC homeschoolers, there is a choice. What is right for you, is not right for everyone. If you are at the point of considering to start and run a SC homeschool accountability association under 59-65-47, you will most likely fall into one of these three categories:

- 1) your support group is desiring to go beyond the normal extent of support offered to support groups members, or
- 2) you have a unique service you wish to offer homeschoolers, or
- 3) you have decided to fill a need by offering services to a particular group of homeschoolers.

Everyone starting an association needs to realize that sacrifices of your personal time, time from you family, and other sacrifices will be made by the leaders of the group. The CEO, director, president or main leader of the association will make enormous sacrifices, more than any other officers in your association. If you are unsure of what these sacrifices may mean, please call other 59-65-47 association leaders and ask them. Most folks would actually be surprised at the costs our leaders have made, and continue to make daily. Not only for their members, but for homeschoolers all across SC.

It is also very important to remember that you as a leader will need to present yourself professionally in all aspects of managing the association and while doing any and all association business. You will be looked at by others as an example, both those homeschooling and those not homeschooling. Therefore, you and all board members need to remind yourselves frequently that the eyes of the public and the homeschooling community are upon you.

How to Start Your Own Support Group

Everything you need to know, want to know, and wish you knew!

By Ava Miller

May 12, 2003

<http://www.chasesc.com/supportgroup.html> - The complete guide is available at this online page.

The information provided on site is merely a guide to help you, it in no way covers all the information available for every subject listed.

It is not legal advice, I am not an attorney and do not give legal advice. You should always contact your attorney or HSLDA for legal advice. SC homeschoolers have some very unique and helpful homeschooling support groups. Luckily for SC homeschoolers, there are choices. What is right for you, is not necessarily right for me. Many areas will have several types of support groups and even if you belong to them all, you may still be longing and desiring something more for your children's education, something different. Well, you and your children can make it happen.

You, and perhaps some of your friends have one or more needs for support in homeschooling that are not being met. You have chosen to start your own play group, support group, co-op, 4-H or other educational and/or social groups to have more interaction with other homeschoolers and to enjoy a more diverse homeschooling experience. I say way to go Mom, way to go Dad, as your children will remember all of these great experiences for the rest of their lives, and so will you.

You will find that often times a parent or several parents will lead several different groups and activities, their desires and their children's desires have driven them to fulfill their dreams. Often times folks will wonder how in the world do they do it all, well for the biggest part they have the desire! They will either have very good organizational skills that help them to juggle many things at once, or their desire to do it all, and to give their children the best education possible will drive them to learn those organizational skills needed for the task, and to do it successfully.

I'm not trying to scare you off, but I'm giving you some fuel for thought, for down the road. Once you've figured out the type of group you and your children want now, you all are bound to find other desires that are not being met too. Therefore, you should try to encompass your desires and dreams of what a support group is suppose to be, in this one you are preparing to start. As it grows, and the needs become more diverse you will find others that are willing to help as they want to obtain their educational dreams and desires and those of their children.

However, if one day you look back and say, "hey I'm doing the juggling act that so and so always did (and I'm loving it), and I never could figure out how they manage to do it all, how did I get here?" You will know, it was you and your children's desires, and those desires drove you to fulfill theirs and your hearts dreams and longings.

Included on the website page is much more than most folks will ever need to start their support group, so don't let it scare you. There are personalities that want all their i's dotted and their t's crossed, and knowing this I have tried to supply everything they will want and need to get started. Please keep in

mind, you can make your group as simple and easy going as you'd like, or you can get all the i's and t's dotted, and then have fun. You and those helping you to organize your new group will decide how loose or defined the structure will be.