



HOMESCHOOL QUICK REFERENCE

Can I homeschool my child?

- Yes. You can teach without a teaching degree or license. Attendance generally applies from 5 to under 18; permitted kindergarten deferral may apply.

Can I choose what to teach?

- Choose your curriculum. Provide language arts and math, including mastery of English. You can add the other subjects your family chooses.

Can I choose my schedule?

- You choose the calendar. Alternative instruction has no fixed state day or hour minimum.

How do I get started?

- File the Alternative Instruction Notification with DOE or your resident district before beginning. No annual renewal.
- Report relevant school-setting or district-residency changes within 30 days. One instructor may teach no more than 22 students.

Is testing required?

- Your child does not have to take a state-required annual test; that former rule ended in 2021. Academic records are for your own use.

How Faith Schooling Makes It Easier

- [Faith Readers](#) supports K–5 reading and phonics; [Grammar Garden](#) supports language and writing; [Building Number Sense](#) provides K–5 mathematics.
- Use the programs for the required language arts and math, then add other learning your family values. [HARVEST](#) offers an optional reading check; the [Homeschool Rhythm Builder](#) supports your chosen schedule.

Official sources — click the underlined links

[Official homeschool guidance](#)

[South Dakota alternative-instruction law](#)



Official

Reviewed October 8, 2026 • School year 2026–2027

Faith Schooling | FaithSchooling.com