



Tips and Responsibilities for the Homeschooling Parent

The Hawaii Department of Education (Department) supports all learners, including homeschoolers. The Department recognizes homeschooling as a valid alternative and wants to see you succeed. Here are some key responsibilities for your homeschooling journey:

Responsibilities:

- **Maintaining Records:** It's essential to keep good records of your child's homeschooling journey. Your records should include details like start and end dates, weekly instruction hours, subjects covered, how you assess learning, and a list of learning materials used.
- **Annual Progress Reporting:** By the end of the school year, submit a report to your designated school to update them on your child's progress. There are a few ways to do this:
 - A nationally normed standardized achievement test
 - A written evaluation by a certified teacher in Hawaii
 - A written evaluation by the parent - detailing your child's progress in each subject area, including samples of their works and tests
- **Standardized Testing:** Required by the state in grades 3, 5, 8, and 10, testing helps to gauge your child's academic standing over time. You can choose to participate in testing at your designated school or arrange for private testing at your own expense. These scores can also serve as a means for the annual progress report.
- **Notifications:** Submit a new notification of intent to homeschool to the school in your area when your child transitions from elementary to intermediate or intermediate to high school or if your family moves to a new school district. You must also notify the principal if you decide to stop homeschooling - this includes if your family moves to another state or enrolls in a private school.

Tips:

- **Research:** As a homeschooling parent, you'll design your child's entire educational program. Explore and review different programs, curricula, tests, articles, and reputable online resources. The more you research, the better equipped you'll be to discover the perfect fit for your child's learning style and your teaching approach. Visit our website to learn about [subject matter standards](#).
- **Enriching Activities:** Coordinating social and extracurricular activities like sports, clubs, or community programs can provide a well-rounded experience.
- **Build a Network:** Look for local homeschooling groups or online communities to connect with other homeschooling families. This can provide valuable resources, share experiences, and offer support.

For more information, visit Hawaiipublicschools.org or [Chapter 12, Hawaii Administrative Rules](#)