

South Carolina Home School Law

§59-65-40 (Option 1: Home schooling through School District)

§59-65-45 (Option 2: Home schooling through SCAIHS.org)

§59-65-47 (Option 3: Home schooling through an independent Home School Association of your choosing)

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. 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 (c) 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.

SECTION §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.

SECTION §59-29-35 Home School Awareness Week

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.