

Policy 3010: Home Schooling (New Title: Home-Based Education and Education Savings Account Students)

Status: DRAFT - 1st Reading

Original Adopted Date: 05/11/2016 | **Last Revised Date:** 01/10/2018 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 10/14/2026

I. Purpose

- A. Albany County School District #1 recognizes the right of parents and legal guardians to direct the education of their children through home-based educational programs and other educational options authorized by Wyoming law. This policy establishes the District's procedures concerning home-based educational programs and students participating in Wyoming's Education Savings Account ("ESA") program.
- B. Home-based educational programs and the ESA program are separate educational options governed by different provisions of Wyoming law. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to treat an ESA student as participating in a home-based educational program when Wyoming law provides otherwise.

II. Home-Based Education Programs

A. Definition

1. A home-based educational program is a program of educational instruction provided to a child by the child's parent or legal guardian, or by a person designated by the parent or legal guardian, in accordance with Wyoming law.

B. Educational Requirements

1. A home-based educational program shall provide a basic academic educational program consisting of a sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, civics, history, literature, and science.
2. Nothing in these curriculum requirements requires a home-based educational program to include any concept, topic, or practice in conflict with its religious doctrines or to exclude any concept, topic, or practice consistent with its religious doctrines.
3. The person administering a home-based educational program is responsible for ensuring that the curriculum administered to the student complies with Wyoming law.

C. Curriculum Submission

1. A parent, legal guardian, or other person administering a home-based educational program is not required to submit the program's curriculum to the District or Board of Trustees.

D. Withdrawal from District Enrollment

1. A parent or legal guardian withdrawing a student who is currently enrolled in the District for purposes of participating in a home-based educational program shall comply with applicable withdrawal and compulsory attendance requirements under Wyoming law.

III. Education Savings Account Students

A. Separate Education Status

1. Participation in the Wyoming ESA program is distinct from participation in a home-based educational program. An ESA student receiving individualized instruction in a nonschool setting shall not be considered a student participating in a home-based educational program solely because the student receives instruction outside a school setting.

B. Annual Notice to the District

1. The parent or legal guardian of a school-age ESA student residing within the District shall annually provide the District written notice of the student's intent to participate in the ESA program as required by Wyoming law.
2. The District may require sufficient identifying and program information to document the student's ESA participation, administer compulsory attendance requirements, determine the District's obligations to the student, and comply with applicable state and federal law.

C. ESA Eligibility and Administration

1. Eligibility for and administration of the ESA program are determined by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Except as otherwise authorized by law, the District shall not determine a student's eligibility for an ESA or impose additional requirements upon participation in the ESA program.
2. An ESA student shall not be considered enrolled as a full-time District student while receiving an ESA. The District may provide services to an ESA student and may charge the student's ESA for services to the extent authorized by Wyoming law.

IV. Statewide Assessment for ESA Students

A. Assessment Requirement

1. Wyoming law requires applicable ESA students to participate in either the statewide assessment administered pursuant to Wyoming law or a nationally normed achievement examination. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for determining how the student's assessment requirement will be satisfied.

B. District Administration of Statewide Assessment

1. The District shall make the applicable Wyoming statewide assessment available to resident ESA students who elect to satisfy the ESA assessment requirement through participation in the statewide assessment, consistent with applicable law and direction from the Wyoming Department of Education.
2. Participation in statewide assessment administered by the District shall not, by itself, constitute enrollment in the District.

C. Request for District Testing

1. Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, a parent or legal guardian seeking to have an ESA student participate in statewide assessment through the District shall submit a written request to the District no later than the first Friday of November of the school year in which the assessment will be administered.
2. The request shall contain information reasonably required by the District to identify the student, verify the student's ESA participation, determine the assessments applicable to the student, register the student for testing, and make necessary testing arrangements.

D. Requests Received After Deadline

1. The first Friday in November deadline is established to permit the District to plan for staffing, facilities, materials, student registration, accommodations, test security, and other requirements associated with administration of the statewide assessment.
2. A request received after the deadline may be denied when the District determines that the student cannot reasonably be incorporated into the District's testing administration after the deadline. Nothing in this provision alters the parent or legal guardian's responsibility to ensure that the ESA student satisfies applicable assessment requirements through another means authorized by Wyoming law.
3. The Superintendent or designee may waive the deadline when required by law or when extraordinary circumstances warrant an exception and the District can reasonably

accommodate the student's participation.

V. **District Materials and Services**

A. **Review of District Materials**

1. District textbooks, instructional materials, and standardized assessments shall be available for review by parents or legal guardians administering a home-based educational program to the extent required by law. Copies of District-owned materials shall not be provided unless required by law or separately authorized by the District.

B. **Educational Services**

1. A home-based educational student or ESA student may receive classes, programs, educational services, or other District resources only to the extent required by law or separately approved or contracted for by the District.
2. For ESA students, the District may provide educational services as an education service provider and may charge the student's ESA for such services to the extent authorized by Wyoming law.

C. **Costs**

1. Except as otherwise required by law or expressly agreed to by the District, the District shall not bear the costs associated with a student's home-based educational program or ESA educational program.

VI. **Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities**

A. **Participation**

1. A resident school-age student who is not enrolled as a full-time student in the District shall be permitted to participate in District cocurricular and extracurricular activities to the extent required by W.S. 21-4-506 and other applicable law.
2. Nothing in this policy creates a right to participate in any District activity beyond that required by law.

B. **Eligibility and Participation Requirements**

1. As a condition of participation, a student who is not enrolled full-time in the District shall comply with all District, school, team, activity, and applicable activities-association rules and requirements that may lawfully be applied to participating students.
2. Requirements may include, as applicable, rules concerning eligibility, academic requirements, age and grade eligibility, attendance at practices and events, physical examinations, insurance, conduct, discipline, tryouts, auditions, selection, participation, training, safety, transportation, deadlines, forms, and other requirements applicable to the activity.
3. Permission to participate or try out does not guarantee selection for a team, activity, position, performance, competition, or other opportunity.

C. **Fees and Costs**

1. The District may require a student who is not enrolled full-time to pay participation fees to the maximum extent permitted by Wyoming law.
2. The District shall not charge tuition or impose any fee or charge prohibited by W.S. 21-4-506.
3. Except as otherwise required by law, participation does not entitle a student to District-funded equipment, transportation, supplies, services, or benefits beyond those ordinarily

provided to participants in the activity.

D. WHSAA Activities

1. Participation in an activity sanctioned by the Wyoming High School Activities Association ("WHSAA") shall be subject to applicable Wyoming law, WHSAA rules, District policies, and all lawful eligibility and participation requirements.

VII. Enrollment or Return to District Schools

A. Enrollment

1. A student entering or returning to the District after participating in a home-based educational program or ESA program shall be enrolled in accordance with Wyoming law and applicable District enrollment procedures.

B. Grade and Course Placement

1. The District shall determine appropriate grade and course placement based upon the student's educational records, prior instruction, academic achievement, age, assessment results, and other relevant educational information.
2. The District may administer appropriate assessments when reasonably necessary to determine grade placement, course placement, credit, or appropriate educational programming. Grade or course placement in a home-based educational program, ESA program, private school, or other educational setting does not automatically determine placement within the District.

C. Credit

1. The District shall determine whether and to what extent instruction or coursework completed outside the District qualifies for District credit in accordance with applicable law and District policy.

Home Schooling The Board of Education recognizes the right of parents or their designees to teach their own children at home in accordance with the Wyoming Home Schooling Law (W.S. 21-4-101 and 21-4-102). The Home Schooling law states that a home-based educational program means a program of educational instruction to a child by a child's parent or legal guardian or by a person designated by the parent or legal guardian. An instructional program provided to more than one (1) family unit does not constitute a home-based educational program. A "basic academic educational program" is one that provides a sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, civics, history, literature, and science. These curriculum requirements do not require any home-based educational program to include in its curriculum any concept, topic, or practice in conflict with its religious doctrines or to exclude from its curriculum any concept, topic, or practice consistent with its religious doctrines. A home-based educational program shall meet the requirements of a basic academic educational program pursuant to W.S. 21-4-101(a)(vi). It shall be the responsibility of every person administering a home-based educational program to submit a curriculum to the local Board of Trustees each year showing that the program complies with the requirements of this subsection. District textbooks, materials, and standardized tests shall be available for review to the home-school parent or guardian. Copies shall not be provided by the District. No expenses of the home-school program will be borne by the District. Participation in public school extracurricular activities or other school-sponsored activities shall be permitted. Home school students may participate in Wyoming High School Activities Association (WHSAA) sanctioned activities by registering with WHSAA, executing a combination school agreement and meeting all other District and WHSAA eligibility requirements without enrolling in the public schools. Placement in the public schools of a child from a home-based program will be treated as from any other school, and appropriate testing of the child shall be required for placement in the public schools. The grade level may or may not be the same as the child had achieved in the home-based program. In order to graduate from Laramie High School, Whiting High School, or Rock River High School, the child must meet the District's graduation requirements.

