

# Homeschool Options



## What is homeschooling?

Homeschooling is the practice of opting to teach one's own children at home via parents, tutors, or virtual programs instead (or in lieu) of sending them to school.

## Do I have to register somewhere?

Children of US military and DOD civilian personnel overseas are not subject to US state mandatory attendance statutes while in another country. Children of US military and DOD civilian personnel overseas are not subject to the school laws in Italy. DoDEA does not require families register with them, but registering as a homeschooler with DoDEA is an option.

## Can I receive any financial assistance?

No financial support is available through the Non-DoD Schools Program (NDSP) to attend schools other than the DoDEA schools on the Support Site.

## How much does homeschooling cost?

\$100 to \$500+ per month per student.

**Cheapest approach (\$100-300):** Consider finding services for free or exchange your services with someone else.

**Moderate approach (\$300-500):** Includes a few paid extras like co-ops, tutors, online courses, or extracurricular classes like art or music.

**Most expensive approach (\$500+):** Includes paying for tutors, online classes, video courses, correspondence schools, or all-inclusive curriculum packages.

**Budget-friendly ways to source your curriculum:** Borrow or rent, library check-out, sales, reusable or multi-level options, apply for grants, online used book sources and free websites.

NSA Naples School Liaison  
Contact Info

[NaplesSLP@us.navy.mil](mailto:NaplesSLP@us.navy.mil)

DSN 629-6549

COMM 081-811-6549

Youth Programs Building (Bldg.  
2072), Support Site

[Naples School Liaison webpage](#)  
(Navy MWR Naples)

[Naples CYP Facebook page](#) (Naples  
Child and Youth Programs)

### Tips

Find tips listed throughout this  
guide in **green**.

### Stay Connected!

The Naples School Liaison provides  
events, opportunities and  
resources throughout the year.

### Disclaimer

Hyperlinks do not constitute Navy  
endorsement.

Resource lists may not be fully  
inclusive.

Parents/guardians are responsible  
for the education of their child.

## Types of Curriculum

Look for complete curriculum packages (a.k.a. “boxed curriculum”), online courses, subject-based curriculum and integrated studies/unit studies.

Also compare whether or not curriculum is:

- Student-paced or program-paced
- Comprehensive or supplemental
- Independent learning or teacher-led
- Online or textbook/workbook
- Automated grading or manual grading

When you find a homeschool curriculum provider that you think may work, find out if you can access the material on a trial basis.

## Educational Approach

There are many approaches to homeschooling: Classical, Charlotte Mason, Deschooling, Eclectic Montessori, Flexi-schooling, Roadschooling, School-at-Home, Unit Studies, Unschooling, Waldorf Education, and Worldschooling methods. Make sure to research the pros and cons of each.

## Learning Styles

Generally seven styles which include: visual (spatial), aural (auditory-musical), verbal (linguistic), physical (kinesthetic), logical (mathematical), social (interpersonal) and solitary (intrapersonal). Make sure to research the details of each to know how to best support your student.

Through online searches, there are several websites that offer quizzes to help assess your student’s style.

## What are learning groups?

Learning groups consist of: informal co-ops, formal co-ops or resource centers; hybrid, cottage or university-model schools; and online courses, which can be either live or self-paced classes.

Some high school students may also opt for dual-enrollment courses (college level).

## What is an “Umbrella School”?

An umbrella school is an alternative education school that serves to oversee the homeschooling of children to fulfill government educational requirements.

Umbrella schools vary greatly in what they offer and cost. Some offer group classes, a defined curriculum, sports, field trips, standardized testing, and more. Others exist only to meet the minimum legal requirements, allowing parents choose their curriculum and methods of teaching, as well as freedom from an annual evaluation or testing requirements. Additionally, some umbrella schools follow a specific faith, while others are secular.

## What does “Accreditation” mean?

It means that the homeschool has been inspected by an outside, independent agency who has determined it to meet accepted standards for schools. These standards include the seriousness of the course of studies, the managing of academic records, accounting practices, and business practices.

Third-party accreditation companies can include:

Accreditation International (Ai)

Cognia

Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA-CESS)

The National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA)

New England Association for Schools and Colleges (NEASC)

North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI)

Northwest Association of Accredited Schools

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) approved

The National Association of Private Schools

\_\_ {insert state} \_\_ State Department of Education

Southern Association of Colleges & School Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI)

Western Association of Schools and Colleges

**Accreditation is not a guarantee that public schools will accept credits.**

## Well-used accredited homeschool programs

Acellus Academy	Florida Virtual School	Liberty University Online Academy
Bridgeway Academy	Forest Trail Academy	Oak Meadow
BYU Online High School	K12	Pearson Academy
Calvert Education	The Keystone School	UC-Scout
Connections Academy	Laurel Spring School	

## Well-used non-accredited curriculum or enrichment

A2Z Homeschool Directory Online	Classical Connections	Sonlight
Abeka	Easy Peasy	Teachers Pay Teachers
ABC Mouse	Homeschool Buyer’s Co-op	Time4Learning
Alpha Omega Publications	iXL Learning	
Blossom and Root	Monarch Online	
Bob Jones’ Curriculum	Power Homeschool	
BJU Homeschooling	Saxon Math	

## What if I want short-term homeschooling?

Focus on the four major subjects: Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies

Look for local homeschool groups/co-ops

Look for short-term curriculum websites

Consider a boxed curriculum

Research public schools online

Purchase workbooks

Download printables

Take advantage of enrichment websites

Ask the local librarian about local groups, resources, events and activities

Ask for current and upcoming school lesson plan calendars from teachers

[Review DoDEA curriculum standards and course sequencing](#)

Review grade level curriculum and standards on State education websites

Review State learning benchmarks on State education websites

[Review Common Core standards](#)

[Research reading level benchmarks through comparison charts](#)

[Reach out to the local military branch School Liaison Officer for local and current insight](#)

**TIP:** If you believe you will be returning to a classroom setting, consider choosing options with “standards based curriculum” to stay on target with current learning objectives and timelines.

## Well-used standardized testing options (IQ and Achievement)

ACT (Essay Optional)

BASI

Brigance

CAT

CLT

CLT3-8

CLT10

IOWA (ITBS)

Kaufman Test of Educational Achievement (KTEA)

MAP

PASS

Peabody Individual Achievement Test (PIAT-R)

SAT

Stanford

Terra Nova

Test Point

Wechsler Individual Achievement Test (WIAT )

Wide Range Achievement Test (WRAT-5)

Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement (WJ)

Want to more? [Read this series!](#)

## What are the options for keeping records?

Record keeping tools: binders, photo albums, file folders, homeschool planners, online recordkeeping services or software, etc. **TIP: Many families keep course descriptions too.**

Online/charter school teacher

Private companies

Free online templates

[HSLDA's fee-based Transcript Service](#)

[HSLDA's free high school transcript template](#)

[How to grade high school assignments](#)

[How to calculate a GPA](#)

## General homeschool resources

[Homeschool Legal Defense Association \(HSLDA\)](#)

[Homeschool.com](#)

[U.S. Department of Education "Learning at Home"](#)

## General curriculum, course and tutor supports

[4-H Discover Curriculum from Utah State University \(free\)](#)

[Cathy Duff Reviews](#)

[Common Core Curriculum](#)

[DoD MWR Digital Library \(free for all active duty, DoD and dependents\)](#)

[Homeschool Curriculum](#)

[HSLDA High School Course Tutorial](#)

[Khan Academy](#)

[National Education Association—Read Across America "Free Materials" resource list](#)

[Outschool](#)

[Rainbow Resource Center](#)

[Sesame Street "Learning and Working at Home"](#)

[Tutor.com/military \(free for all active duty, DoD and dependents\)](#)

[Varsity Tutors](#)

[YouTube](#)

## Military-connected group supports

[Military Families Homeschool \(Facebook group\)](#)

[Military Homeschool Family Network \(Facebook group\)](#)

[Military Homeschoolers Group \(Facebook group\)](#)

## Naples-connected group supports

[Connect the Tots \(Facebook group\)](#)

[Homeschooling in Naples Italy \(Facebook group\)](#)

[ItaliansRUs](#)

[Naples Christian Homeschoolers \(Facebook group\)](#)

[Travel for Kids](#)

## What if I have a child with special needs?

Consider asking the following questions when reviewing and comparing your opportunities:

How are special education services provided?

How do Teachers/Learning Coaches/Parents contribute to the Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 process?

How is it determined that a student is eligible to receive special education?

Does the charter/academy belong to Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)? Do the charter SELPA partners develop policies and procedures, distribute federal and state special education funds, and provide a range of professional development relating to special education?

Will I need to find my own local Special Education Professional?

Will I need to create my own Student Education Plan (SEP)?

Are activities clearly organized?

Are concepts repeated, reviewed, and summarized?

Can a student work at their own pace in the assessment tests and in the learning activities?

Do activities teach concepts through songs, graphics and videos?

Are there visual enhancements for contrast (i.e., font, font size, spacing or color)?

Are graphics and pictures add to practice sheets and tests?

Do activities use different intelligences?

Are activities broken up into manageable units?

## Homeschooling with special needs information

[Understood.org pros and cons and state laws](#)

[National School Choice Week IEP and enrollment information](#)

[Responsible homeschooling research and policies](#)

## What do other parents recommend if I'm overwhelmed?

Breathe.

Reset.

Try again.

Ask questions. (No question is too small.)

Connect with other parents.

Search for answers on Facebook groups.

## Registering as a homeschooler with DoDEA

### Am I eligible to homeschool and use DoDEA services?

DoD dependent students who are educated in a home-school setting but are eligible to enroll in DoDEA-Europe and live within the commuting distance of the DoDEA school are entitled to use or receive the specified auxiliary services without being required either to enroll in or register for a minimum number of courses offered by the school.

### What are auxiliary services?

Auxiliary services include access to academic resources, access to the school information center (i.e., library), after-hours use of school facilities, and participation in music, sports, and other extra-curricular activities and interscholastic activities. These services may be subject to appropriate supervision and availability. Auxiliary services do not include participation in DoDEA commencement ceremonies. Academic resources do not include consumables, calculators, pens, paper, or other supplies normally provided by a parent. Items, such as textbooks and workbooks, may be limited to use within the school based on resource availability.

### What special education services can I access with DoDEA?

Eligible DoD dependent home-school students may access DoDEA special education services and related services (e.g., occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, clinical psychology, etc.) if he or she meets the eligibility criteria for receipt of special education and related services. Each DoDEA school has a copy of the eligibility criteria for special education and related services. Special education and related services (including transportation arrangements) will be provided in accordance with applicable regulations (i.e., DoDEA Regulation 1342.13 and DoDI/DoDM 1342.12). Special education services may include initial testing and development of an Individual Education Plan (IEP) (if the student is found eligible for services). Eligible DoD dependent home-school students who need initial testing and/or development of an IEP, but are not enrolled in a DoDEA school or course, should be registered under the Child Find code. Sponsors of home-school dependents eligible to receive special education services at a DoDEA school must complete a registration form and comply with other registry procedures and requirements of the school.

### How do I register with DoDEA?

Please note that registering with DoDEA is not the same as enrolling. You may create an account and register with Naples Elementary School or Naples Middle High School at <https://www.dodea.edu/registration>. After completing the online portion, reach out to the school site register to inform on status and to work towards selecting classes and services.

More information is available at <https://www.dodea.edu/home-schooling>.

Also, check out [DoDEA Curriculum and Instruction](#).

And, check out [DoDEA Administrative Instruction \(AI\) 1375.01 "Home School Students"](#)