

Home-based Education Written Education Plan

Policy

The intent of the written educational plan is for the parents to demonstrate that they have a positive and constructive approach to the education of their children before commencing their home-based education program.

Each written educational plan shall be:

- not inconsistent with the official *Goals of Education* for Saskatchewan; and,
- not inappropriate for the age and ability of the students on the program.

The written educational plan shall contain a statement or a description of:

- the reason for and the philosophical approach of the home-based education program;
- the areas of study and learning outcomes for each student on the home-based education program for the coming school year;
- the educational activities, the instructional methods, and the learning resource materials which the parents expect to utilize in order to achieve the learning outcomes for each student during the coming school year; and,
- the means of assessing and recording the educational progress of each student on the program.

Since home-based education is, by its very nature, less structured and more experiential than instruction normally provided in a school or registered independent school, the written educational plan is not required to contain a scope and sequence of content to be taught throughout the school year.

Parents shall not be required to include in their written educational plan any concept, topic, or practice in conflict with their conscientious beliefs, or to exclude from their written educational plan any concept, topic, or practice consistent with their conscientious beliefs.

Parents may make curricular and instructional adjustments to their home-based educational program during a school year in accordance with the educational needs and progress of each student on the program, as long as these adjustments are consistent with their educational plan.

Parents may make amendments to their written educational plan during a school year, as long as the amendments are acceptable to the registering authority.

Instructions

The written educational plan outlines the home-based education program.

As long as the written educational plan contains the four elements listed to the left, parents have the freedom to structure their plan in accordance with the philosophical approach of their program.

Parents are required to attach only one writing educational plan to their notification form, no matter how many students are receiving instruction on their home-based education program. While some elements such as the philosophical approach will be common to the entire program, other elements such as the learning outcomes should be specific to each student on the program.

Areas of study refer to subject areas including language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Learning outcomes refer to the understanding and abilities which parents intend students to develop during a school year on a registered home-based education program.

In the case of a student with intensive needs on a home-based education program, the learning outcomes must account for the special needs and abilities of the student.

Since the *Goals of Education for Saskatchewan* are intended to accommodate both the aspirations of all parents for their children, and the needs and abilities of all students enrolled in schools, home-based education programs:

- are not required or expected to provide learning opportunities to achieve all the Goals of Education for Saskatchewan, and,
- may be focused on the achievement of a select number of goals.

Where applicable, the written educational plan should include reference to the major supplier, if any, of learning resource materials for the home-based education program, such as a distance education school or an extension school.

The written educational plan may be self-generated, with or without the help of a home-based education support group, or commercially generated by a supplier of home-based education criteria.

The written educational plan should contain adequate information for the registering authority to have a fair opportunity to determine whether the plan is not inconsistent with the *Goals of Education for Saskatchewan* and not inappropriate for the age and ability of each student on the program