



HOME SCHOOL EDUCATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Information collected from [Butler County Educational Service Center](#), [Lakota Board Policy \(po9270\)](#), [Lakota Administrative Guidelines \(ag9270, ag9270a, and ag9270b\)](#) and [ODE's FAQ About Home Schooling](#)

What is Home School Education?

Home School Education is an educational delivery that is directed by the parent or guardian of a child who has been excused from attending school. Under this option, the parent/guardian selects the curriculum and education materials and takes responsibility for educating the child.

How many students are homeschooled in Lakota?

Lakota currently has around 300 students in the district that participate in home school education. Lakota has around 16,000 students.

If I home school, will my child be considered truant?

In Ohio, a parent/guardian interested in educating his/her child of compulsory school age at home may request that the child be excused from compulsory school attendance (under section 3321.04 (A)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code) for home education purposes. Parents/guardians can request excusal from compulsory school attendance by successfully following the registration process for Home School Education as outlined by their district of residence.

What is compulsory school age?

Ohio law requires all children between the ages of 6 and 18 attend school.

What is the registration process for home school education?

The Butler County Educational Service Center (BCESC) assists the Lakota Local School District in processing home education notifications. Parents/guardians should visit www.bcesc.org/page/home-school for the actual paperwork and process. Parents/guardians submit the paperwork directly to BCESC for processing. BCESC will secure approval and signature from Lakota's superintendent.

Why do I have to go through Butler County Educational Service Center?

Because Lakota is classified as a "local" school district (not "city" or "exempted village"), it is under the supervision of the county school board. Therefore, Lakota's homeschooling paperwork goes through the Butler County Educational Service Center.

What is part-time enrollment?

Part-time enrollment is when a student is homeschooled for the majority of the day, but chooses to attend Lakota for a limited number of classes as outlined here..

Part-time enrollment is permitted in Grades K-6 in a maximum of two special subject areas (art, music, technology, or physical education only).



Part-time enrollment is permitted in Grades 7-12 in a maximum of two regularly scheduled or credit-generating courses. For courses normally requiring a prerequisite, part-time enrolling students are asked to provide the most recent assessment report pertinent to the area in which enrollment is sought.

Consideration for part-time enrollment is subject to the building capacity and class or program size and limitations.

How do I enroll part-time?

To enroll part-time, please go to the Lakota Welcome Center. You will complete the regular enrollment process. The Welcome Center will work with the building to determine schedule availability.

How do I register my homeschooled student for sports or extracurriculars at Lakota?

A student who is educated at home is permitted to participate in any extracurricular activity offered in the school district to which the student would otherwise be assigned during the school year. If the district operates more than one school that serves the student's grade level (as determined by the student's age and academic performance), the student shall be permitted to participate in the extracurricular activities at the school to which the student would be assigned by the superintendent. If the student elects to participate in an extracurricular activity offered by the district, the student is not allowed to participate in that activity at another school or school district to which the student is not entitled to attend.

Contact the building your child would attend for specific information on extracurriculars offered and registration procedures.

How can I stay connected with my building or with Lakota, even though my student is being homeschooled full-time?

Go to www.lakotaonline.com and click "Communication Sign Up" from the Quick Links list on the left. There, you are able to enter your information and customize the communication you receive from the district and/or specific buildings.

In addition, Lakota's Teaching and Learning Department puts out a monthly blog of educational topics. This blog can be accessed at <https://www.lakotaonline.com/blog/One.aspx?portalId=11869440>.

What do I do if I believe my homeschooled student needs to be evaluated for Special Education or on an IEP (Individualized Education Plan)?

The district is obligated to identify students that reside within its borders who have a disability. Anyone can refer a student for an evaluation. These referrals go directly through the a school psychologist. Please contact the school psychologist at the building your child would attend if he/she were enrolled to request an evaluation.

Can my child receive special education services if he/she is homeschooled?

If the student is homeschooled full-time, the only way to receive special education services would be through the Jon Peterson or Autism Scholarships. If the student is enrolled part-time, the child's IEP team will discuss and develop appropriate services during the part-time enrollment.



Can my child be homeschooled and access the Jon Peterson or Autism Scholarship?

Yes. To access the Jon Peterson or Autism Scholarship, a student must have an active IEP (Individualized Education Plan) from Lakota. Parents can provide education through home education and use the scholarship for other services, such as speech therapy or occupational therapy. For questions about the Jon Peterson or Autism Scholarship, please contact Lakota’s Special Services Department at 513-644-1212.

What do I do if I want to enroll my homeschooled student in the Lakota School District?

If a parent wishes to have his/her child return or enroll, she/he must follow normal enrollment guidelines. The number of the Lakota Welcome Center is 513-682-4120.

If I enroll my student full time in Lakota, how will they determine my child’s grade-level placement and schedule?

The building administration will review the child’s progress and determine grade-level placement. The parent should provide the annual academic assessment reports for the years that the child was educated at home to assist grade-level placement. Enrollment in advanced coursework will be based on evidence of academic achievement.

In grades 9-12, if the student wishes to enroll, the parent must provide an academic assessment report for each class taken at home. In addition, the school will need the grades from the last public or private school attended. Athletic eligibility will be determined by OHSAA guidelines and district athletic policy. All home-based, private education courses will be given a grade of P/F (Pass/Fail), and transcripts will denote “home-education, private education” with “P/F grades” and “credits” assigned.

If I plan to enroll my student so that they can graduate with a Lakota diploma, how do I best document his/her educational progress to be sure he/she receives appropriate credit and is placed in the appropriate courses?

If you are planning to enroll your child fulltime with the intent of receiving a Lakota diploma, please contact the Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction to review your documentation. The Director will provide guidance as to what documentation is necessary to ensure appropriate grade/class placement.

How can my homeschooler receive a high school diploma?

Recent changes to Ohio law may allow some students to receive high school diplomas. Please see [section 3313.6110](#) of the Ohio Revised Code.

If a student enrolls in grades 9-12 and wishes to graduate, he/she must meet the requirements specified in Board Policy 5460 and graduation guidelines. To be eligible for awards such as Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Distinguished Scholar, Ohio Academic Scholarship, National Honor Society, etc., the student must be enrolled for three, consecutive semesters prior to the second semester of the senior year and must have a total of seven semesters at the high school.

Where can I find the high school Program of Study?

[Junior High Program of Study](#)

[High School Program of Study](#)



Can my homeschooled high schooler participate in College Credit Plus (CCP)?

Yes, here are the options for a homeschooled student to participate in CCP:

1. Enroll in CCP through the homeschooling option and apply for funding through homeschooling, paying the cost of textbooks.
 - a. Refer to this site for more information:
<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Quality-School-Choice/Home-Schooling/College-Credit-Plus-for-Home-School-Families>.
2. Enroll part-time in Lakota for up to 2 credit-bearing courses. These can be CCP courses and would be covered under Lakota's CCP program. Courses would be transcribed by Lakota for high school credit, in addition to the college credit.
 - a. Courses would still need to be reviewed and approved by Lakota.
 - b. Non-secular courses will not be approved.
 - c. Parents would need to contact ODE to find out how part-time enrollment impacts homeschooling CCP applications and funding.
3. Enroll full-time in Lakota and access CCP through Lakota's CCP program.
 - a. Refer to this site for more information:
https://www.lakotaonline.com/district_info/curriculum_instruction/secondary_education_7-12/college_credit_plus.

What is the difference between homeschooling and online schools?

Ohio public eSchools are online community schools and are not the same as homeschooling. Even though students participate in eSchools from home, the online schools are responsible for providing curriculum and educational resources. Under Ohio law, they are recognized as public schools, and students cannot be enrolled in multiple public schools at one time.

What testing is my homeschooler required to take?

The parent must provide the Butler County Educational Service Center with an annual academic assessment report, including information related to the assessment used and the performance results of his/her child that confirm that the student has mastered the content of the course. This assessment report should include one the following:

- A written narrative indicating that a portfolio of work done by the child has been reviewed and that the child's academic progress for the year is in accordance with the child's abilities;
- Standardized test scores demonstrating the student's ability; and
- An alternative academic assessment of the child's proficiency mutually agreed upon by the parent and the Butler County Educational Service Center.

In what other testing could my homeschooler participate?

The home-schooled student will be permitted to take achievement/ability tests normally given at each grade by the district. This is to be done cost-free but must be done during the regular testing cycle as outlined by the Ohio Department of Education. It is the parent's responsibility to make the appropriate arrangements with the school principal. The student may take tests such as the PSAT, ACT, etc. normally given at the high school at the same cost charged to enrolled students.

