A home education program as defined in s.1002.01 (1) is in compliance, provided that at least one of the following conditions is met:

(a) The parent holds a valid regular Florida Certificate to teach the subjects or grades in which instruction is given and complies with any other requirements prescribed by laws or rules of the state board; or

(b) The parent does not hold a valid regular Florida Certificate to teach and complies with the following requirements:

1. Notifies the superintendent of schools of the county in which the parent resides with a written Letter of Intent to establish and maintain a home education program. The notice shall be in writing, signed by the parent and shall include the names, addresses and birth dates of all children who shall be enrolled as students in the home education program. The notice shall be filed in the Student Services Department within 30 days of establishment of the home education program. A written Letter of Termination of the home education program shall be filed in the Student Services Department within 30 days of said termination.

2. Maintain a portfolio of records and materials. The portfolio shall consist of a log, which designates by the title the reading materials used and samples of any writing worksheets, workbooks and creative materials used or developed by the student. The portfolio shall be preserved by the parent for 2 years and shall be made available for inspection by the superintendent or his/her designee upon 15 days written notice.

3. Provides for an Annual Educational Evaluation in which is documented the student’s demonstration of educational progress at a level commensurate with his/her ability. A copy of the evaluation shall be filed annually with the Student Services Department in the county in which the student resides. The annual educational evaluation shall consist of one of the following:

   a. A teacher selected by the parent shall evaluate the student’s educational progress upon review of the portfolio and discussion with the student. Such teacher shall hold a valid regular Florida certificate to teach academic subjects at the elementary or secondary level. The teacher shall submit a written evaluation to the Coordinator of Student Services.

   b. The student shall take any nationally known student achievement test used by the district and administered by a certified teacher. Such test results shall be reported to the Coordinator of Student Services.

   c. The student shall take a high school competency test. Such test results shall be reported to the Coordinator of Student Services.

   d. The student shall be evaluated by an individual holding a valid active license pursuant to the provisions of s.490.003 (3) or (4). Such results shall be reported to the Coordinator of Student Services.

   e. The student shall be evaluated with any other valid measurement tool as mutually agreed upon by the school superintendent of the district in which the student resides along with the parent or guardian. Such results shall be reported to the Coordinator of Student Services for review. If the student does not demonstrate educational progress at a level commensurate with his or her ability, the Coordinator of Student Services shall notify the parent in writing that such progress has not been achieved. The parent shall have 1 year from the date of receipt of the written notification to provide remedial instruction to the student. At the end of the 1 year probationary period, the student shall be reevaluated. Continuation in a home education program shall be contingent upon the student demonstration educational progress commensurate with his/her ability at the end of the probationary period.

(FSA) Florida Standards Assessment

The school district will provide home education students with the opportunity to participate in the annual evaluation option “c” Florida Assessment Test (FSA), at a selected school site. If option “c” (FSA) is selected, you should contact the public school that your child would attend, if he/she were enrolled on or before December 15, to begin to schedule the FSA evaluation. FSA testing begins in February so it is essential that your local school receive notice of your intent to participate in FSA testing in a timely fashion.