



Colorado Homeschool & Homeschool Enrichment Program (HSE) Guide for Families

What is a Homeschool Enrichment Program?

A Homeschool Enrichment Program (HSE) provides classes, enrichment, and educational opportunities for homeschooled students designed to supplement the student's core academic curriculum.

Important: *Enrollment in an HSE does not establish your child's legal educational status. Families must maintain a separate legal pathway that satisfies Colorado's compulsory attendance law. In other words, participation in an HSE can provide educational opportunities as part of a student's overall educational experience, but HSE enrollment alone does not satisfy compulsory attendance.*

Students participating in an HSE may come from different educational pathways, including:

1. Home-Based Education

Families may homeschool under Colorado's home-based education law and use an HSE to supplement their child's education.

Families remain responsible for:

- Filing a Notice of Intent (NOI)
- Meeting the required instructional days and hours
- Maintaining records
- Completing required assessments or evaluations

2. Private/Independent

Students enrolled in a private or independent school may also participate in an HSE through the following stipulation:

If the private school **does not provide enough instruction to satisfy Colorado's compulsory attendance requirement (i.e less than 172 days of instruction averaging 4 hours per day)**, the student may participate in an HSE. In such scenario, the family may need to establish another legal educational pathway, such as filing an NOI and operating a home-based education program.





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Option 1: Home-Based Education

Filing a Notice of Intent (NOI)

Families choosing to homeschool under Colorado's home-based education law must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to ANY public school district in Colorado at least 14 days before beginning their home-based education program, and annually thereafter.

ERBOCES recommends submitting an NOI to:

- Lewis-Palmer School District 38 (D38)
- Falcon School District 49 (D49)

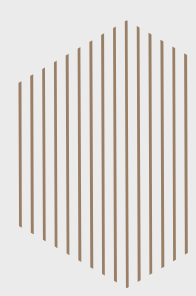
The NOI must include:

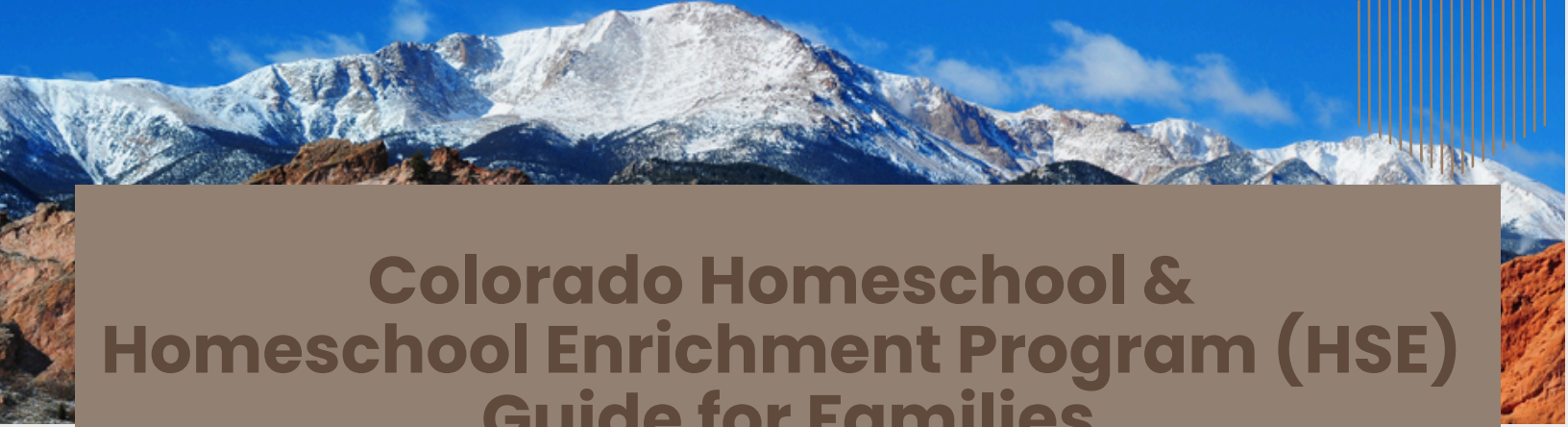
- Parent or legal guardian's printed name and signature
- Residential address
- Student's name
- Student's age
- Planned number of hours of attendance of each child enrolled in said program

ERBOCES has provided an NOI sample for families to utilize

Home-Based Education Instruction Requirements:

- 172 days of instruction each year with an average of 4 instructional hours per day
- Teach required subjects (Reading, Writing, Speaking, Mathematics, History, Civics, Literature, Science, and The United States Constitution)
- Maintain required homeschool records.
- Complete a nationally standardized achievement test or professional evaluation in grades 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11.
 - Submit assessment results to the district that received the NOI





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Option 2: Private or Independent School Enrollment

Students may satisfy Colorado’s compulsory attendance requirements (172+ days) by enrolling in a private or independent school. The private school establishes its own educational program, including its calendar, attendance expectations, curriculum, and academic requirements.

Private School Meets Compulsory Attendance Requirements:

If a student receives their required education through a private or independent school, they remain a private school student, and they may NOT participate in a HSE as a supplemental educational opportunity.

Private School Does NOT Meet Compulsory Attendance Requirements:

Some families choose a private school model that does not provide the full 172 days of instruction required to satisfy compulsory attendance. In this situation:

- Students may still participate in an HSE to satisfy compulsory attendance requirements.
- Families must file a Notice of Intent (NOI)
 - Provide 172 days of instruction averaging four hours per day.
 - Maintain required homeschool records.
 - Complete a nationally standardized achievement test or professional evaluation in grades 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11.
 - Submit assessment results to the district that received the NOI (or an independent/parochial school in Colorado, while notifying the NOI district where results were submitted)





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Required Assessments & Evaluations

Students homeschooling under the NOI pathway must complete an assessment in grades 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11.

Families may choose one of the following options for Assessments and Evaluations:

Option A: Nationally Standardized Achievement Test

Examples of nationally recognized assessments may include:

- Iowa Assessments
- Stanford Achievement Test (Stanford 10)
- California Achievement Test (CAT)
- TerraNova

Please note: School accountability assessments such as CMAS or internal HSE assessments do not automatically satisfy Colorado's homeschool assessment requirement.

Option B: Professional Evaluation by a Qualified Person

A qualified evaluator may include:

- A Colorado-certified teacher
- A teacher employed by a private school
- A licensed psychologist
- A person with a master's degree in education

The evaluator reviews the student's academic progress and provides a written determination regarding whether the student is making educational progress according to their abilities.

Assessment results must be submitted to:

- The school district that received the NOI, OR an independent or parochial school in Colorado

ERBOCES Assessment Opportunities

ERBOCES is currently exploring opportunities to provide families with an accessible pathway to complete required homeschool assessments.

A family survey will be distributed to determine interest in:

- Nationally standardized achievement testing opportunities
- Professional evaluation options through qualified individuals

More information will be shared with families as options become available.





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Records and Questions to Consider

Records Families Should Keep

Maintain the following records for at least two years:

- Notice of Intent (NOI)
- Attendance records
- Immunization or exemption records
- Curriculum, textbooks, and workbooks used
- Samples of student work
- Test or evaluation results
- Communication with school officials



Questions to Consider

- What legal educational pathway is my child using?
 - *ERBOCES has provided a flowchart on page 6 for families to utilize*
- If I am homeschooling under an NOI, have I:
 - Filed my NOI?
 - Planned for 172 days of instruction?
 - Scheduled required assessments or evaluations?
- If my child attends a private school, does the private school satisfy Colorado's compulsory attendance requirements?
- How does my HSE fit into my child's overall educational plan?

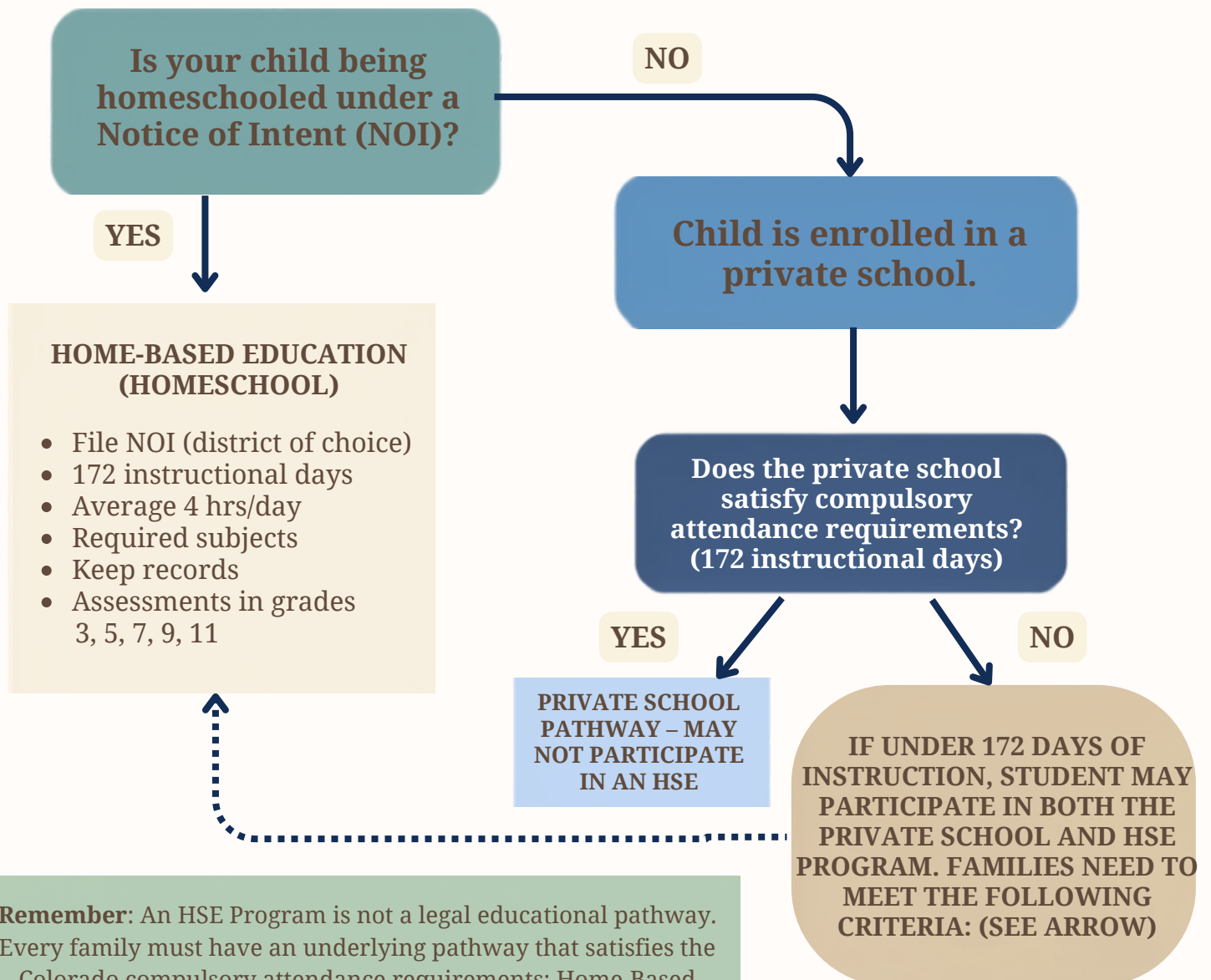
Remember: Families remain responsible for ensuring their child's legal educational pathway complies with Colorado law.



Which Educational Pathway Applies to My Family?

START: Your child is enrolled in a HSE Program (Homeschool Enrichment Program)

Note: HSE enrollment does NOT determine legal school status.



Remember: An HSE Program is not a legal educational pathway. Every family must have an underlying pathway that satisfies the Colorado compulsory attendance requirements: Home-Based Education (NOI), Private School Enrollment, or Licensed Teacher Exemption. HSE participation supplements these pathways.

