

## Considering homeschooling?

Relax! Connecticut homeschoolers are fortunate to live in a homeschool friendly state that supports the rights of parents to educate their children.

There is an experienced community of homeschoolers willing to answer your questions and address your concerns. Within Connecticut, there is a network of homeschoolers who are involved in community activities with their families, and there are diverse opportunities for homeschoolers to join together for classes, co-ops, field trips, and many social events.

## Why some families choose to homeschool:

- To honor a child's individual needs, desires, and abilities.
- To take responsibility for their own education.
- Because it allows for flexibility.
- Because a child might have a specific talent they wish to cultivate.
- Because a child might have special needs that are not being met in the classroom setting.
- Because the family might travel or move often (employment/military affiliation).
- To provide themselves with an education that adheres to a faith-based philosophy.

## Visit our website:

At [www.CTHomeschoolNetwork.org](http://www.CTHomeschoolNetwork.org) you will find:

- Connecticut laws and policy.
- More information on CT guidelines.
- A membership form.
- Connections to local support groups.
- Calendar of events
- Message boards
- Resources

## CHN member benefits:

Becoming a member is simple, and all CT homeschoolers may join free of charge.

Benefits include:

- Access to legal counsel.
- Membership cards that can provide discounted admission to museums and other venues around the state, as well as discounts in many stores.
- An online newsletter.
- Message boards to connect with other homeschoolers throughout the state.
- Discounts for CHN conferences.

To learn more or to become a member, visit:

[www.CTHomeschoolNetwork.org](http://www.CTHomeschoolNetwork.org)



**CT Homeschool Network, Inc.**

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**CT Homeschool Network (CHN) is Connecticut's statewide information and support network.**

We are an independent, online-based, nonprofit, homeschooling organization that serves to inform, empower, and foster community among home educators in the state of Connecticut. CHN is completely inclusive, welcoming everyone of all races, religions, lifestyles, abilities and disabilities, and learning methodologies.

# FAQ's

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## **Is homeschooling legal?**

Yes. Homeschooling is legal in all 50 states. Here in Connecticut, parents are given the responsibility to provide instruction for their children in Connecticut General Statute 10-184, Duties of Parents.

## **Do I have to be a certified teacher to homeschool my children?**

No certification is necessary. You teach your children from the moment they're born, and homeschooling is a natural extension of that relationship.

## **How do I get connected?**

Visit the CHN website and join the Facebook and Yahoo groups.

## **How do I get started?**

You are already doing the most important task: educating yourself about homeschooling. Continue to do so by reading through our website and contacting a local support group, which should be able to get you tapped into your local homeschool community.

## **When should I start homeschooling?**

Anytime! You have been homeschooling since your child was born. You have been teaching your child throughout their childhood, and your decision to keep them home from school will allow that to naturally continue.

## **Do I have to wait until September to withdraw my child from school?**

No. You can start homeschooling as soon as you are ready to do so. There are no waiting periods or time constraints of any sort.

## **Will the state provide me with a curriculum?**

No. Every homeschooling family must decide for themselves what educational materials and experiences they feel would work best for them in order to comply with CGS 10-184. This is one of the beauties of homeschooling in CT; you have the freedom to do what works best for each of your individual children.

## **Will my children have to be tested?**

No. CT does not have mandatory testing for homeschoolers. Children learn at different paces. You can purchase tests to administer if and when you feel a need to do so.

## **What about socialization?**

Webster's defines socialization as "the adoption of the behavior patterns of the surrounding culture." Homeschool children are socialized in the real world, which broadens their "surrounding culture" to include people of varied ages and experiences. They also have many opportunities to interact with other children through classes, sports, activity groups, park days, etc.

Studies show that homeschool children have excellent self-esteem and are less aggressive and more mature than non-homeschooled children. They are far more likely than the average American to be civic-minded and engaged in their local communities.

In addition, homeschool graduates rate as "more content" compared to others, and a whopping 95% of homeschool graduates were glad they were taught at home.

## **Where can I find more information?**

[www.CTHomeschoolNetwork.org](http://www.CTHomeschoolNetwork.org)