

Homeschool Portfolio Checklist Grades 1-6 (7th & 8th)

Here is a list of what is required in a Homeschool Portfolio:

- 1. **Reading Log**-*"A log, made contemporaneously with the instruction which designates by title the reading materials used..."*-this basically is a list of all curriculum, non-fiction, fiction, chapter books the child has read during the school year. (Book Log)

- 2. **Attendance Log**-*"A minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days of instruction OR nine hundred (900) hours of instruction per year at the elementary level, or nine hundred ninety (990) hours per year at the secondary level."*
A full year calendar with school days and field trips marked equaling 180 days of instruction is acceptable.

- 3. **Summary of Work in required Subjects and Samples of Each**- *"samples of any writings, worksheets, workbooks or creative materials used or developed by the student."*
You need enough work to demonstrate progress. Typically this would include a few samples from the beginning, middle and end of the year for each subject.
 - _____ Language Arts (Grammar, Spelling, Reading and Writing)
 - _____ Arithmetic
 - _____ Science
 - _____ Geography/History
 - _____ Safety Education (including prevention of fires)
 - _____ Health and Physiology
 - _____ Physical Education
 - _____ Music
 - _____ Art
 - _____ Other (Specify)
 - _____ Other (Specify)

- 4. **Standardized Test Scores and Records (grades 3, 5, & 8)**-*"and in grades three, five and eight results of nationally normed standardized achievement tests in reading/language arts and mathematics or the results of Statewide tests administered in these grade levels."* Check here for a list of approved standardized tests <http://www.askpauline.com/hs/homeschooltesting.html>

- 5. **Evaluator's Letter**-certifying that the student has received an appropriate education. (this gets handed into the school district after the evaluation of the portfolio)

NOTE: As of the October 2014 law change, you do NOT need to give your portfolio to the school district. You do NOT need to give them your log, any samples of work, or the results of 3rd/5th/8th grade standardized testing. **Only the evaluator's certification must be submitted.**

Here is a list of other items you may include in the portfolio (but are **NOT** required):

1. Title page
2. Pictures of Student's accomplishments-this could be on photo paper or just printed into a document with a brief description.
3. Physical Education Log-typically in the elementary grades, 36 physical education hours are required. You could put this in a detailed spreadsheet and include in the portfolio.
4. Art, Music Physical Education Evaluation Forms-If your child takes a sport, music lesson or art class, you could have the instructor fill out an evaluation/progress sheet to include in your portfolio. Also any programs from recitals or drama presentations.
5. Field Trip Summary Pages-a brief description of each field trip and activity from the school year.
6. Local Homeschool co-op description of classes, curriculum and activities taken outside of the home education program that count towards school requirements.
7. Course descriptions-an outline or brief description of each course the student took throughout the year.

Some of the classes taken in 7th and 8th grade can be put towards the Secondary Requirements for High School Graduation.

"At the elementary school level, the following courses shall be taught: English, to include spelling, reading and writing; arithmetic; science; geography; history of the United States and Pennsylvania; civics; safety education, including regular and continuous instruction in the dangers and prevention of fires; health and physiology; physical education; music; and art."

"At the secondary school level, the following courses shall be taught: English, to include language, literature, speech and composition; science; geography; social studies, to include civics, world history, history of the United States and Pennsylvania; mathematics, to include general mathematics, algebra and geometry; art; music; physical education; health; and safety education, including regular and continuous instruction in the dangers and prevention of fires. Such courses of study may include, at the discretion of the supervisor of the home education program, economics; biology; chemistry; foreign language; trigonometry; or other age-appropriate courses as contained in Chapter 5 (Curriculum Requirements) of the State Board of Education."

Homeschool Consulting: For those who are looking for personal homeschool consulting. This includes help with law wording, curriculum, forms, high school course & diploma guidance -- \$25 per kid.

Approval of Special Education Objectives: \$20 per student

Elementary/Middle School: \$25 per evaluation; family maximum of \$100.

High School: \$40 per evaluation.

If you aren't able to swing the fee, other arrangements can be made.

I will never turn a family away due to finances for an evaluation.

HAPPY HOMESCHOOLING!