



Superintendent of Schools  
Mark Ranstrom

17 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street | P.O. Box 970 | Office (406) 322-8057 | Fax (406)322-1118 | [mrانstrom@stillwatercountymt.gov](mailto:mrانstrom@stillwatercountymt.gov)

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Dear Home School Parents:

You have made an important decision and a strong commitment to your child (children). Montana Law ([20-5-109](#)), allowing for compulsory school enrollment **exemption**, accommodates this family choice.

Many resources are available to home educators. Your children deserve and need the best education possible. For your understanding and guidance, pertinent laws are included on this website. Please read them carefully and let us know if you have any questions.

Your commitment to your child(children) includes an “organized course of study” required by law ([MCA 20-5-109 \[4\]](#)). In case of future entrance (or re-entrance) into a public school, elementary home school students are usually tested by the district for appropriate placement. The high schools in this region expect that a student has been following a fully accredited off-site educational program. Each high school has its own approach to accepting credits, so please **contact the high school counseling staff of your district to align your home school program or contact us for referral**. You may also refer to the Montana Office of Public Instruction website ([www.opi.state.mt.us](http://www.opi.state.mt.us)) which has numerous resources including the “Content Standards/Essential Learning Expectations” and a “Get Answers” tab to help you. An organized course of study is essential not only to enter public education, but to enter many vocational schools, colleges, universities or to join the military. Working together for the common good of each child is what we all want.

As a home school you are eligible to participate in federally-funded education programs. Your resident school district will notify you each spring of the offerings.

The mandatory information you need to provide to my office is a written notice (or filled out form on website) of intent to home school which must be submitted ANNUALLY in the fall. You are also to keep an attendance report that could be submitted yearly if requested. A sample attendance form has been attached for your convenience which validates the required aggregate hours of direct instruction. Thank you and have a good year. an attendance report that could be submitted yearly if requested.

Sincerely,

Stillwater County Superintendent of Schools