

Current Georgia State Law (as of 2014-2015)

As taken from <http://www.ghea.org/pages/resources/stateLaw.php>

- Compulsory Attendance Ages: "between 6th and 16th birthdays." Official Code of Georgia Annotated 20-2-690.1. However, if a child is under 6 and has attended more than 20 days in a public school, he is then subject to the compulsory attendance laws. 20-2-150(C).
- Required Days of Instruction: 180 days. Ga. Code Ann. 20-2-690(c)(5).
- Required Subjects: A basic academic educational program that includes, but is not limited to, reading, language arts, math, social studies, and science. Ga. Code Ann. 20-2-690(c)(4).

Home School Statutes: Ga. Code Ann. 20-2-690(c).

1. Parents must submit a declaration of intent to home study to the State Department of Education thirty days after the establishment of the home study program and by Sept. 1 every year thereafter. This declaration must include the names and ages of students, the location of the home school, and the time the parents designate as their school year. Ga. Code Ann. 20-2-690(c)(2).
2. The home school must provide "a basic academic educational program." Ga. Code Ann. 20-2-690(c)(4). (see "subjects" above).
3. Each school day must consist of four and one-half hours. Ga. Code Ann. 20-2-690(c)(5).
4. Attendance records must be kept with your records for a minimum of three years. GHEA recommends you keep every year. The records will "not be used for any purpose except providing necessary attendance information." in accordance with HB283.
5. Parent must write an annual progress report and retain it for three years. Ga. Code Ann. 20-2-690(c)(8).
6. "Parents or guardians may teach only their own children in the home study program... but the parents or guardians may employ a tutor who holds at least a high school diploma or GED to teach such children." 20-2-690(c)(3). No specific amount of hours required for tutor to teach.
7. According to the Attorney General of Georgia, the local superintendent does not have the authority to require parents to affirmatively produce evidence of their continuing compliance with the law in the operation of home study programs or require the production of documents. Although the superintendent has the authority to "request" such materials, he cannot require parents to submit them. 1986 Op. Att'y. Gen. No. U86-19.

Teacher Qualifications: The "teaching parent" must have at least a high school diploma or a GED. Or the parents may employ a private tutor who has a high school diploma or GED.

Standardized Tests: Children must take a national standardized achievement test every three years beginning at the end of the third grade. "Test scores are not required to be submitted to public school authorities." Ga. Code Ann. 20-2-690(c)(7). Parent must write an annual progress report and retain it for three years.

Taken from Ga. Department of Education website:

<https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Pages/Home-Schools.aspx>

- If your child/children are enrolled in Georgia Cyber Academy, Georgia Connections Academy, or Provost Academy your child/children are NOT considered home school students. These are state board approved on-line charter schools. You must communicate with these schools for any documents you may need.
- The Georgia Department of Education has a very limited role related to home school. The Georgia Department of Education is only responsible for maintaining the Declaration of Intent records.