

What to Do to Begin Homeschooling

Every family is beautiful and unique. Discover how homeschooling gives you the freedom to do what's best for your child. (HSLDA website)

1. Find a local support group that can provide community and encouragement for you and your family. Check out CHEA (Christian Home Education Assn. of California, <https://www.cheafca.org/>) to find a directory of Christian groups in your area.
2. Join HSLDA (Home School Legal Defense Association, <https://hsllda.org/>). Read through the information on their home page about Getting Started on Your Homeschooling Journey.
3. If you are withdrawing your student(s) from a public or private school, download the California Letter of Withdrawal found on the HSLDA website, and follow all the suggested procedures. Please note that this form can only be accessed by HSLDA members.
4. Join CHEA and take advantage of the Getting Started help at <https://www.cheafca.org/getting-started/>. Downloadable forms, including a Letter of Withdrawal, are available at <https://www.cheafca.org/downloadable-forms/>.
5. Check out the videos on the SBCHI (Santa Barbara Christian Homesteaders, Inc.) website or from these links:
 - a. New to Homeschooling – <https://youtu.be/TP-i-Ds-PzU>
 - b. Homeschooling Methods Panel – <https://youtu.be/x7qYjPRhwFw>
 - c. Teaching Creatively – <https://youtu.be/pK-Ve0HDZOM>
6. Research types of homeschooling at <https://homeeducator.com/getting-started/types-of-homeschooling/>.
7. Begin reading Cathy Duffy's curriculum options at <https://cathyduffyreviews.com/>.
8. Pacific Justice Institute (<https://pacificjustice.org/>) has resources available for download on their website at <https://pacificjustice.org/resources/for-parents/>.
 - a. Public School Opt Out
 - b. Four Types of Church-Parent Homeschool Co-ops
9. As you begin your homeschool adventure, remember the following:
 - a. Discipleship is the goal—make sure your children are heaven bound
 - b. Expect great days and some hard ones, too
 - c. Ease in gradually and give yourself lots of grace
 - d. Sometimes even the best plans don't work; expect to make some changes
 - e. It may take a while to find your family's rhythm
 - f. Don't let comparison steal your joy or confidence
 - g. God has chosen YOU to parent and teach your children
 - h. You are enough!
10. Pray and ask the Lord to guide and bless you as you begin the exciting homeschooling journey!!