



Athletic Participation Registration Form for Home Education Student for 2009-10 (Page 1 of 3)

Complete, sign in the presence of notary public and file with the school at which the student wishes to participate. All attachments are required and must be submitted with this form. The school will forward the form and attachments to the FHSAA Office for approval. The FHSAA Office must approve the form each year before the student can participate in practice sessions. Completed forms can be faxed to the FHSAA at 352.244.0232.

- 1. Name of student Birthdate Grade in school Home address Home phone number
2. Student resides in and is legally registered as a home education student in the County School District
3. Student wishes to participate in interscholastic athletics at {name of school}
4. Student was enrolled in the th grade during the previous school year at {check and complete the one that applies}:
5. Student first entered the 9th grade on {mm/dd/yy}

Has student maintained a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all subjects taken since entering 9th grade? Attach all transcripts for student since he/she entered the 9th grade. Transcripts must include all schools attended whether public, private, online, home education or other, and all grade-level promotions by public and private schools.

- 6. Student will enroll, or is currently enrolled, in the following courses for the 2009-2010 school year and in good academic standing.:

Table with 2 columns: Subject, Location and address where course is taken (public, private, online, home, other)

- 7. Is student receiving any form of educational services from any public school(s), any private school(s), any online school(s), or any other type of school(s) other than home education as defined in s. 1002.41, Florida Statutes? (Yes) (No)

If yes, answer the following:

- a. Name(s), address(es) and phone number(s) of school(s) providing student with these services:

Blank lines for providing school name, address, and phone number.

- b. Does the school(s) keep attendance records for this student? (Yes) (No)

- c. Does the school(s) keep transcript records for this student? (Yes) (No)

- d. Will this student be awarded a diploma upon successful completion of this program? (Yes) (No)

I/we understand that the school at which this student is registering to participate in interscholastic athletics is a member of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA). I/we, therefore, agree that this student will be subject to and abide by all FHSAA rules, as well as the regulations of the school, pertaining to interscholastic athletic participation.

For FHSAA use only

Signature of Student (must be signed in front of a notary public) Date

Printed Name of Student

Signature of Parent/Guardian (must be signed in front of a notary public) Date

Printed name of Parent/Guardian

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF

Sworn to or affirmed before me on {date}

[Notary Seal:]

Signature of Notary

Printed Name of Notary

NOTARY PUBLIC My commission expires: , 20



Notice of Intent to Participate in Interscholastic Athletics as a Home Education Student (Page 2 of 3)

SECTION 1: To be completed by the student

I, _____, hereby make intentions known to participate in interscholastic athletics at _____ on this _____ day of _____, _____ and I wish to participate in the sport(s) of _____

(name of student) (as per s. 1006.15,(3),(c),5 Florida Statutes, this must be before the start of the sport season, i.e. first day of practice) (name of school)

(date) (month) (year)

(list all sports for the school year in which you would like to participate)

(signature of student)

(signature of parent/guardian)

SECTION 2: To be completed by the school

I acknowledge that the above intentions to participate were made to me on the date indicated:

(name of school official)

(signature of school official)

(title or position)

(date)

(return fax #)



Verification of Student Registration With Public School District Home Education Office (Page 3 of 3)

Section A of the page must be completed by student's parent/guardian and Section B must be completed by the School District Home Education Office Coordinator and faxed to the FHSAA Office at 352.244.0232 by the principal of the FHSAA member school with Form EL7 and appropriate transcripts (students in grades 9-12) or annual evaluation (students in grades 6-8). **Do not send this statement without page 1 of the EL7 form and other required documentation. This document sent alone will not be processed.**

Section A: To Be Completed By Parent/Guardian (please print)

TO:	Florida High School Athletic Association Office of Compliance and Eligibility
FROM:	_____ County School District Home Education Office
DATE:	_____, 20____
RE:	Student {student's full name} _____ Student's Date of Birth {mm/dd/yy} ____ / ____ / ____ Home Address _____ <small>Street Apt # City Zip Code</small> Daytime Telephone Number (_____) _____

Section B: To Be Completed By District Home Education Office Staff

Our records reflect that this student has been registered with the Home Education Office in this school district since:

{date of registration} _____, 20____

This student's annual evaluations have been submitted in accordance with applicable statutes and guidelines and he/she remains on active status as of today's date. [___ Yes][___ No] Date: _____, 20____

If you have questions or need additional information concerning this matter, please call the School District Home Education Office at:

{telephone number} (_____) _____

Signature of District Home Education Coordinator / Date

Printed Name of District Home Education Coordinator

Explanation of the Home Education Foundation (HEF) FHSAA EL7 Form

1. The FHSAA is an enforcement/governing organization. Its job is to create a “level playing field” for all high school athletes, so that every student has an opportunity to play high school sports in a fair and competitive environment. If there were no Bylaws governing eligibility, recruiting would be rampant and there would be little opportunity for relatively good players to develop their skills on a high school athletic team. Schools that recruit players are penalized and fined for breaking the Bylaws.

The FHSAA Bylaws and the enforcement of them protect home education students and their teams. Having a level playing field allows students to develop their talents and have the opportunity to compete for state championships. Enforcement is difficult, and often misunderstood, but is necessary to protect the integrity of high school athletics.

The FHSAA has been criticized by some for its attempts to address recruiting. For example, the FHSAA passed a Bylaw in 2006 that would have restricted a student’s ability to transfer after 9th grade in order to more easily control recruiting. HEF, along with other parental choice advocates, felt that recruiting and transfers were totally different issues and that limiting a student’s rights to transfer to another school was in direct conflict with the state statute and parental choice. The Legislature agreed and created a Task Force to study recruiting.

As a result of the Task Force’s work, the Bylaw was repealed in January 2007, and the Task Force instructed the FHSAA to enforce the existing Bylaws in order to control recruiting. The FHSAA is conducting compliance audits of member public and private schools. They have found numerous violations by member schools so far. The FHSAA has had the authority to review these records for a long time, but has never exercised it. Because a few have violated the rules and continue to do so, all schools and students have come under closer scrutiny.

2. The FHSAA is trying to lessen the number of hours it takes to determine eligibility for each individual home education student. HEF spends quite a bit of time trying to help the FHSAA determine the eligibility of individual home education student-athletes. In each case, the FHSAA and HEF had to make calls to the parent, the educational service provider, schools and school districts to ferret out the facts. Various factors go into the determination of eligibility. The FHSAA asks for additional information to make those determinations easier. Some of the educational services or vendors that have been reviewed are listed in this document under question No. 7. It takes time to make these determinations on a fair and equitable basis. The EL7 form is not designed to require additional information from home education students, rather to simply the process and obtain enough information to verify their compliance with state statute and the FHSAA Bylaws

3. Participation in FHSAA athletics is a privilege, not a right, as determined by the courts. Home education students are given the opportunity to participate, but they must meet the same eligibility requirements as other students in public and private schools. As an example, any public, private or home education student who does not have the required GPA is ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities. All students have to comply with the Florida Statutes and the FHSAA Bylaws to be eligible to participate.

Guide for Completing the FHSAA EL7 Form
(Home Education Student Athletic Registration Form)

Please read this information very carefully and in its entirety. This is very important and needs to be done correctly for your child to participate in any FHSAA sport program even if they are in a Home Education Cooperative. All forms must be completed and the packet submitted to your Athletic Director/Principal, who will send them to the FHSAA for approval before the first official competition date or your child will be ineligible to participate for that sport season. It is crucial that your forms are completely filled out and turned in by the due date.

It is highly recommended that the student begin participating on the first day of practice to be conditioned, trained and ready to play. The FHSAA must approve your child's eligibility before he/she can participate in practice. You can locate date of the first practice and first official date of competition on the FHSAA Calendar (<http://www.fhsaa.org/rules/calendar>) for each sport.

With more and more home education students participating in athletics in public, private, or in Home Education Cooperatives, it has become a real challenge for the FHSAA to verify compliance. It is essential that parent(s) comply with the requirements in this form to facilitate an accurate and expeditious ruling on your child's eligibility.

Print out the EL7 form from the FHSAA web site at http://www.fhsaa.org/forms/pdf/EL07_home_reg.pdf. You will need one form for each child who is participating.

1 & 2. Give correct information including your child's current school grade. If you are registering at the beginning of a new school year, use the grade your student is entering. Refer to the Frequently Asked Questions document on the FHSAA web site:

http://www.fhsaa.org/compliance/files/home_ed.pdf

3. The school name or homeschool team name on which your child will be participating. List the sports that your child is interested in participating in this year.

4. If your child was registered in a home education program last year, select the second choice and provide the number for the Home Education Contact in the Superintendent's office in the county in which the child was registered. If your child attended a public or private school last year, select the first choice and give the requested information.

5. If your child is already in high school, enter the date he/she started 9th grade.

If a student is entering 9th grade, enter this year's beginning date.

If student is a middle schooler, leave this blank.

A student has only four (4) years of eligibility as a high schooler. The FHSAA Bylaws do not allow a student to be retained for any reason after 6th grade. And since no student is eligible for high school athletics upon becoming 19 years 9 months of age, retention most certainly will jeopardize the student's eligibility at the end of his school career.

Answer "yes" or "no" about maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above in all their subjects since entering 9th grade. If your student does not have a 2.0 or higher, he/she will be ineligible to participate.

6. List the subjects the student is or will be taking in the upcoming semester and where those courses will be taken.

7. Here is the link to s. 1002.41, Florida Statutes:

http://www.flhcf.org/index2.php?option=com_content&do_pdf=1&id=58

VERY IMPORTANT!!!!

If your child is taking half or more of their classes at a single school, public (except Florida Virtual School) or private, or if your records are being kept by any school, umbrella school, etc., that has a **Florida Private School number**, then your child is **not** a home education student. The child is a student of that school and is not eligible to participate in any FHSAA activities as a homeschooler. It is **not** based on whether the school supplies curriculum, but on whether they are keeping your records for attendance, transcripts, diplomas, **and** have a **Florida Private School number**.

Some families have made the decision to withdraw their students from programs that are “600, umbrella schools,” or schools that provide other services in order for their children to be able to continue in athletics.

If you are receiving Educational Services (not just curriculum) from any of the following programs, please answer ‘yes’ and provide the information requested for 7a.

- The Florida Virtual School as a Registered Home Education Student;
- A Beka Academy (a separate entity from their Florida Private School);
- Any out-of-state correspondence schools (e.g., American School, Calvert, Alpha Omega Academy, Bob Jones Academy);
- Dual enrollment through a community college or state university

For all these schools, the answer to 7b will be ‘no’ and 7c will be ‘yes’; and 7d will be ‘yes’ if you will be receiving a diploma from them.

Notarized Signatures: Both student and parent/guardian must have their signatures on the EL7 form notarized. Read this section carefully. Notice that when you sign, you are swearing that the information you are providing is accurate. Please read and correctly fill out everything on this form.

Documentation from school district: The official FHSAA Verification of Student Registration with District Home Education Office form can be downloaded from the FHSAA website along with the EL7 form. This form should be printed out by the parent and completed by the school district. Contact your District Home Education Contact to find out the quickest way to get this form completed (e.g., deliver it in person or fax it to them along with your request). However, you may need to send your request and the form by mail with a self-addressed stamped envelope for them to return the completed form to you. Be sure you get this form to them as soon as you know your child wants to participate in FHSAA athletics, so that you can meet the deadline for submission of the required forms.

Attachments:

- The information requested in No. 5 on Form EL7
- FHSAA Verification of Student Registration with District Home Education Office form
- Pre-participation Physical Evaluation – Form EL2 (do not send to FHSAA – kept on file at school)
- Consent and Release from Liability Certificate – Form EL3 (do not send to FHSAA – kept on file at school)

Transcripts:

A transcript contains a list of courses taken at a specific school, at certain grades levels, and the grade the students earned in that course.

Florida Statute 1006.15(3)(a)(1) does require a 2.0 GPA for all high school students participating in extracurricular activities in grades 9-12 and is tied to the requirements for high school graduation in s. 1003.43(1) for public school students. A GPA is calculated by converting all grades to a numerical system. The grading scale is set by s.1003.437, F.S., and the FHSAA is required to follow that statute. There is a GPA calculator online at

<http://www.back2college.com/gpa.htm>

Honors courses and dual enrollment, as well as AP courses are weighted grades, meaning that they count more than a regular course grade. For the purpose of this “transcript,” the regular grading system for home schoolers will probably be sufficient. There is a sample “transcript” at the end of this document. Make it neat and easy to read. You may also want to refer to the NCAA website for information regarding home education student eligibility requirements for college athletics:

http://www1.ncaa.org/membership/membership_svcs/eligibility-recruiting/faqs/homeschooling

Generally, the parent will give a grade in the subjects taught in a home education program, unless they use a curriculum or are taking classes through dual enrollment, a distant learning program or the FLVS, which provides grades. Most grading in traditional schools is subjective and comparative, except for math. To determine the standard for an “A,” the teacher generally has to read 5 to 10 papers or assignments. For an individual home educated student that is not possible. The parent usually knows whether the student is an A, B, or C student. If a student completes all assignments correctly and quickly, he is probably an “A” student. Students who get most of the assignment correct the first time are probably “B” students. If your child is struggling academically, perhaps he/she needs to spend their time on academics and not extracurricular activities. That is the legislative rationale behind requiring a 2.0 GPA for participation in high school athletics.

- If your child is already in high school, you will need to list the subjects for the 2009-2010 school year and where the courses are being taken in No. 6 on the EL7 form. You will need to attach their high school subjects, grades, and GPA for each grade level since the student entered the 9th grade as required in No.5. A cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required for juniors and seniors according to s. 1006.15(3)(a)(3) F.S.
- If your child has been in home education and is just entering the 9th grade or is currently in the 6th through 8th grades, the FHSAA only needs verification that your child has made annual progress commensurate with his ability for grades 6-8. You must submit the annual evaluation along with the completed and signed FHSAA Home Education Student Verification Form in order to prove that the student has not been held back during any one of those grade levels.
- If your child is new to homeschooling, you will need to attach a copy of the official transcript from the public or private school your child attended in any grade 6, 7 or 8.

District documentation must match the institution providing the transcript. For example, if courses were taken in a home education program, then the district documentation must confirm registration in a home education program for those grade levels. Official transcripts from a private or public school will document enrollment in those schools.

Sample Transcript Only

High School Record

If subjects were taken at an institution which provides transcripts, those transcripts must be provided.

Home Education student's full name: John Smith Date {mm/dd/yy}: 06/15/07

Address: 1234 Oak St. Anywhere 32333
Street Address Apt. # City Zip Code

Phone: (303) 123-4567

<u>Grade/Year</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Subject Grade</u>	<u>GPA</u>	
9th / 2004-05	English	A	4.0	
	Math	B	3.0	
	Science	B	3.0	
	History	C	2.0	
	Art	A	4.0	
				<u>Cum GPA: 3.20</u>

Where were subjects taken: ABC High School - Transcripts are attached

<u>Grade/Year</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Subject Grade</u>	<u>GPA</u>	
10th / 2005-06	English	A	4.0	
	Math	B	3.0	
	Science	B	3.0	
	History	B	3.0	
	Art	A	4.0	
				<u>Cum GPA: 3.40</u>

Where were subjects taken: Home

<u>Grade/Year</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Subject Grade</u>	<u>GPA</u>	
11th / 2006-07	English	B	3.0	
	Math	B	3.0	
	Science	B	3.0	
	History	C	2.0	
	Art	C	2.0	
				<u>Cum GPA: 2.60</u>

Where were subjects taken: Home

Signed: Molly Smith Date {mm/dd/yy}: 06/15/07
(Parent/Guardian signature)

