



Homeschool and Online schools are not one in the same—There is a lot of confusion around Homeschool and Online Schools as evidenced by the phone calls from districts and parents. Homeschool rules have never changed. Parents are allowed to enroll students after the district has released them, as always. Online schools have new guidance by ODE. They are not to enroll new students beyond March 27th. This came from a March 26th letter from Colt Gill, Director of the ODE and Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Guidance Regarding Virtual Public Charter Schools (An excerpt from Colt Gill's March 26th letter):

Virtual public charter schools may not enroll new students or withdraw existing students during the period of school closure. Additionally, State School Fund allocations for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year will be based on the virtual public charter school's ADM in the 2nd period ADM data collection as of December 31, 2019. Changes to ADM and resulting weighting (ADMw) for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year will be adjusted in the State School Fund reconciliation in May 2021. Virtual public charter schools will receive State School Funds pursuant to state law, their charter agreement and if they are in compliance with the Executive Order 20-08 and ODE guidance. Where there is a conflict between state law or their charter agreement and an Executive Order of the Governor, the Executive Order prevails pursuant to the Governor's emergency powers. The whole letter can be found at: [ODE Online School guidance during COVID-19](#)

Q: Is it possible to home school my child during the school closure?

(From—[ODE FAQ Homeschool under "Navigating Impacts on Instruction"](#))

A: Under current statewide school closures, we know some families may be considering educational alternatives, including home schooling as an option. If a home schooling option will be temporary (less than 18 months), the home school testing requirement will not apply. However, for students who need to maintain eligibility to participate in athletics, there may be additional requirements on behalf of the OSAA (*guidance on this forthcoming*).

For high school seniors, home schooling has slightly different implications. Most importantly, there is not a home school diploma. For students who have plans to attend a college or university, check with the institution's registrar and verify admission requirements. One option for home schooled students is to [take the GED test](#) as four-year institutions accept GED scores for admission; local testing centers can offer details regarding availability.

The following information is intended to help guide parents and guardians considering home schooling:

- Communicate with your school district and let them know of your plans to home school temporarily
- Notify your local [Education Service District \(ESD\)](#) of your intent to home school temporarily. Most ESDs have an electronic form on their Home School webpage. ORS 339.035(2)
- Consider connecting with other parents in your community who are home schooling or connect to a home school network such as [Oregon Home Education Network \(OHEN\)](#)
- Review [Oregon's academic content standards](#) for the appropriate grade(s) to ensure your child(ren) stays on track to graduate
- Maintain communication with your child(ren)'s neighborhood school