

CRITERIA for HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

A letter should be submitted by the parent practitioner on behalf of the home schooled student to the Director of Education requesting the BHSD along with proof of the following:

1. registration with the Home School Unit of the Ministry of Education.
2. attainment of four subjects, with a minimum of grade D, in The Bahamas Junior Certificate (BJC) Examinations including **Mathematics, English Language, a Science, Social Studies or Career and Technical Education subject.**
3. academic record

Below are three options that parent practitioners can choose to fulfill the requirement for grades. It should be noted that in the case of Option 1, **only official transcripts** will be accepted. If official transcripts cannot be provided, parents should choose from the second or third options.

Option 1

Grades that have been awarded by an approved authority recognized by the Department of Education and which reflect work completed in grades 10-12 are to be submitted. It is expected that students would have studied the six core subjects namely: **English Language, Mathematics, Science, Bahamian Civics¹, Social Science** (Social Studies, History or Geography) as well as **Computer Studies²** and at least **two other electives**. Grades should be of a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or better on a 4 point scale or the equivalent. **Before the child enters grade 10, it is advised that you ensure that the chosen curriculum is recognized by the Department of Education.**

OR

Option 2

Students can participate in an end of year test in the core subjects at each grade level. Students must achieve a C or above. Arrangements for such testing will need to be made through the Home Schooling Unit by March of the year in which the testing is being requested.

OR

Option 3

¹ Assessed by an end of year examination.

² A Computer Examination from an externally recognized agency such as City and Guilds or Pitman that show student proficiency in computing software such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, and Power Point or a portfolio demonstrating work completed in these areas might be substituted.

Students can achieve a grade of D or better on the BGCSE Examinations for the compulsory subjects. Students selecting this option will **not** receive their diplomas until after the BGCSE results have been received.

Please note that the decision to follow one of these options should be made at the time of renewal of registration for grade 10 or first time registration for grades 10, 11 or 12.

4. completion of a minimum of 900 hours of study per year. A log detailing the time of instruction must be provided.
5. completion of 30 hours of unpaid Community Service during the tenth and eleventh grades. The community service should occur outside of the instructional period at a site that has been pre-approved by the Home Schooling Unit.
6. completion of 20 hours of Ministry of Education's Job Readiness Training which is available at any local government high school.

The cost of any extra services that are provided for the facilitation of the High School Diploma will be borne by the individuals making application. These services may include the administration of examinations.

