

# Bahamas High School Diploma (BHSD)

## Criteria for Home Schooled Students

An **online form** should be completed by the parent practitioner on behalf of the home schooled student requesting the BHSD by **December 1st of the graduating year**. On the form the parent should identify whether they are selecting **Option 1, 2, or 3** in support of their child's academic record. This should also be accompanied by the following:

- Homeschool registration certificates for grades 10 - 12
- 4 BJC passes including Mathematics and English Language
- The academic record outlined in either Option 1, 2 or 3.
- A record of attendance.

All required documents should be submitted by the **30th June** of the graduating year.

### 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** (Biology, Health Science, Chemistry, Physics, Combined Science), **Bahamian Civics\***, **Social Science** (Religious Studies, Social Studies, History or Geography) as well as **Computer Studies\*\*** and at least **two other electives**. This means that the official transcript should show evidence of at least eight subjects being taken in grades 10-12. Grades should be of a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.00 or better on a 4 point scale or the equivalent. Before the child enters grade 10, it is advised that parents ensure that the chosen curriculum is recognized by the Department of Education.

### Option 2:

Students can complete an end of year test\*\*\* in the core subjects, that is, **English Language, Mathematics, Bahamian Civics, Science** (Biology, Health Science, Chemistry, Physics), **Social Science** (Religious Studies, Social Studies, History or Geography) as well as **Computer Studies and at least two other electives** at each grade level where an official transcript cannot be obtained. Students must achieve a C or above. Arrangements for such testing will need to be made through the Home Schooling Unit by **March 31st** of the year in which the testing is being requested.

### Option 3:

Students can achieve a grade of D or better on the BGCSE Examinations for the compulsory subjects **English Language, Mathematics, Science** (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), **Social Science** (History or Geography) **and one elective**. If **Civics** has not been completed as a course of study in school, then students will need to complete a **Civics exam** as well as show proof that a **Computer Studies** course was completed. Students selecting this option will not receive their diplomas until after the BGCSE results have been received.

### Other Must Haves:

- Completion of a **minimum of 900 hours of study per year**. A log detailing the time of instruction must be provided.
- 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.
- Completion of **20 hours of Ministry of Education's Job Readiness Training**.



\*Assessed by an end of year examination.

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

\*\*\*The cost of 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.