



Reasons to Notify with a Homeschooling Supportive Board, and Not the Government

You get a legal piece of paper at the end of the year, with a certified teacher's signature, assuring the world that your child is progressing (yes, every child progresses), and you are providing a satisfactory program (yes, every program is satisfactory because you don't have to cover the 22 SOLO – Schedule Of Learning Outcomes, until they are 20.) That paper is good for court disputes in divorces, for waving in front of the naysayer relatives' eyes, and even for entering high school from home education. It states that your child is educated!

Many parents like having a buffer (advocate) between them and the government. Notifying with a Homeschooling board means that the Government's Ministry of Education, will never contact you or ask you for funding back, or assessment of any of your kids, or any paperwork. Your board is your legal representative and will advocate to the government why you need 20 cases of sugar cubes reimbursed in order to build that fantastic castle your child wants to build. "I appreciate having someone on my side between me and the government."

A board will assign you a supportive, certified teacher to help you and support you. Support, encouragement, guidance, advice and shared experiences from your facilitator goes a long way to ease the possible stress. "Our facilitator is our #1 cheerleader and always encouraging us to do whatever works for us. He/she/they validate our choices and assure us that we are not going to mess up our child's future! I like the support from my facilitator in help in planning our year and finding resources." You can contact your facilitator at any time.

Some Homeschooling boards offers field trips, activity days, support groups, celebrations (Halloween and Christmas), book clubs, park days and opportunities for the kids to meet friends.

You receive \$901 funding per year per child in Grades 1-12 and \$450 for Kindergarten, for resources and activities reimbursement!

You get group discounts on purchasing resources.

Many homeschooling boards support unschooling and understand it. The government has no professional development training on the uniqueness of home education or unschooling.

When applying to post secondary schools, some colleges need a letter of reference from your facilitator.

Some homeschooling boards hold graduation ceremonies for high school grads. "We wanted that experience for our child."

Notifying with homeschooling boards keeps them in business because they get funding, and they can continue to advocate for home education rights.

Your child can stay on a home education program and earn credits towards a government high school diploma.

Be Aware of Your Rights Even When Notified with a Homeschooling Board on a Home Education Program!

Homeschooling boards can and do mess up sometimes! The key is knowing the regulation and your rights and responsibilities.

You have the right to use any resource, activity or education philosophy you desire. You are in the driver's seat!

If your facilitator is not supportive, you can request a change at any time of the year. They must be supportive of home education by regulation.

If you feel that something your board did was unfair, you can complain to the government and they will contact the board and advocate on your behalf if the board was incorrect in adhering to legislation. For example, I had a board take one child's funding to cover a government clawback from my other child's funding, which is not allowed by regulation! The Ministry of Education intervened on my behalf.

Your child can switch from meeting Home Education SOLO (Schedule Of Learning Outcomes) outcomes, to meeting Alberta Program of Studies Outcomes for High School in order to earn a Government of Alberta diploma. They do not have to do "online" or "classroom" or "correspondence" school

to earn a diploma. Many Homeschooling boards do not offer this, but it doesn't mean that others don't. Many Homeschooling boards will report credits for a diploma on Home Education programs.

You do not have to provide any written evaluation, assessment or report card for your child. That is the board's job!

There are no marks, or grades given by any Homeschooling Board.

Homeschooling boards can never, ever ask you for funding back, if the government claws back a reimbursement that they already paid you for.

You only have to provide 2 writing samples as "evidence of progress," for the year. You do not have to "produce" any other written work or curriculum.

If a child has a brain, they will learn, be educated and progress. No one can fail home education. Your child will always, always check off the 22 outcomes of SOLO by the time they are 20.