

Preparing Your Curriculum Grant Application

Because we offer Curriculum Grants to families in all US states and territories, we ask for a variety of documentation to be able to verify that families are homeschooling and meet the grant eligibility criteria.

***STOP* Before proceeding, make sure you are eligible to apply by reading through the eligibility qualifications at hslida.org/curriculumgrant.**

Checklist

Before beginning your application, gather the following information and electronic documentation, which are more fully explained over the next few pages:

- Contact information for two (2) character references
- List of materials you wish to purchase
- Documentation showing one month of all forms of income and/or financial support
- Evidence of homeschooling
- Diagnosis of child(ren)'s special needs, if applicable
- Spouse's death certificate, if applicable
- Evidence of military service, if applicable

Choose Character References

Select two people to serve as character references. Reapplicants may use the same references as in prior applications.

References should be able to vouch for your integrity, your general family situation, and the fact that you're homeschooling. They do **NOT** need to know detailed information about your financial circumstances.

Gather the following information for your two references:

- Full name
- Street address
- Phone number
- Current email address
Please type this carefully!

To avoid your application being delayed or closed:

- Type the correct email address for both references.
- Be sure to disclose your **full and accurate relationship** to your references.
- Be sure your references meet **ALL of the reference qualifications** detailed on hslida.org/curriculumgrant.
- Follow up with both references **AFTER** we notify you that we have contacted them. Make sure they both received our email and will complete their reference forms promptly.

Overview

Primary grant purpose: To help privately homeschooling families afford materials to teach core academics and/or address their children's special needs.

Grant size: Typically, a few hundred dollars per homeschooled child.

Application time: The online application takes approximately 1–2 hours to complete.

Use Chrome and NOT Safari as your browser when filling out the application.

Grant timeline: Applications take 4–8 weeks to process.

Grantee responsibility: After receiving a grant, recipients must submit receipts totaling the amount of the grant.

Reapplication: Families may reapply each year if they still meet all eligibility criteria and are members. Visit hslida.org/curriculumgrant for eligibility information.

Grant Usage Guidelines

Curriculum Grants are intended primarily to help fund core academic subjects and/or address special learning needs. We also recognize the important part that technology and electives play in many homeschools.

Any amount of your grant may be spent on:

- Curricula and materials for core academic subjects
- Academic tutoring
- Tuition for co-ops and classes, including online classes and dual enrollment
- Academic testing
- Diagnostic testing, educational therapies, and specialized materials for children who have special needs

Approximately half of your grant may be spent on:

- Educational technology and/or
- Electives

A small percentage of your grant may be spent on school supplies.

Other purchases may be permitted based on family circumstances and the availability of funds. **Usage guidelines will come with your check and will contain detailed instructions about how your specific grant may be spent.** For example, families recovering from home damage may often use a portion of their grant to replace essential household goods.

Listing Your Funding Request

The application will ask you to list the educational items you are planning to use your grant to buy or for items you recently purchased for which you would like to be reimbursed.

For each item or collection, list:

- Company/vendor
- Program/class
- Total cost

You will **NOT** need to itemize by **child**, by **grade**, or collections of **reading lists, school supplies, or additional fees**. For example, it is fine to list “school supplies, \$50” without further breakdown. See sidebar for details.

You **CAN** use your grant to purchase other items besides just those listed on your application, but your grant administrator may be able to provide you with special discounts or free materials based on what you list on the application. To see the vendor discounts that **MAY** be available to you if you are approved, scroll down towards the end of this document.

Ineligible purchases

Most grants may NOT be spent on the following:

- Extra-curriculars
- Furniture
- Household goods
- Bills
- Religious training materials
- Continuing education and/or technology for homeschooling parents

School supplies

The following items may be grouped under “school supplies” on your application and do NOT need to be itemized:

- Pencils and pens
- Pencil sharpeners
- Erasers
- Highlighters
- Crayons and markers
- Composition books
- Notebook paper
- Glue/tape
- Scissors
- Rulers
- Globe/maps/atlas
- Flash cards

Please itemize more significant materials like:

- Graphing calculator
- Geometry tools
- Dissection kit
- Microscope
- Laminator

Gather Your Documents

The application will ask you to attach a variety of documentation. Format the documents into a clear electronic or digital file (PDF or JPG) **before** beginning your application. To avoid your application being delayed:

- Be sure that each document, including photos and screenshots, is clear and readable.
- Remove any security codes required to open and access each digital file.
- Each file must NOT exceed 5MB, and your application's total attachment must NOT exceed 35MB.

Evidence of Homeschooling – Provide one of the following:

- **NOT** your “Notice of Intent”, but a dated letter, email, receipt, acceptance, or acknowledgement of the Notice of Intent you submitted to the:
 - State, county, school district, or superintendent
 - State, county, school district, or superintendent for religious exemption
 - Public or private school, withdrawing your child(ren)
 - School umbrella program, church/religious school, or accredited day/boarding school your child(ren) attend
- Official letter or invoice from the leader of your homeschool co-op or support group on letterhead (e.g., Classical Conversations, local co-op, hybrid co-op, etc.)
- End of year assessment or evaluation test results for each child, ages 6-19
- A month of lesson plans of academic subjects for each child, ages 6-19
- Current report card/transcript for each child, ages 6-19
- Writing sample AND a math test for each child, ages 6-19

To review the homeschool legal requirements in your state, click on [Homeschool Laws By State](#).

Financial Documentation – Provide all that apply:

- Copy of IRS Form 1040 (first 2 pages only) from your recently filed income tax return, if you were required to file
- One month of current paystubs*
- Social Security statements for survivor's benefits or disability (including children's benefits)
- Food stamps and housing assistance benefit letters
- Child support or alimony documentation
- Student aid loans
- Any other forms of financial support or benefits
- Any other forms of current income, including letters of church/pastoral or parental support

***If you are self-employed and do not have paystubs**, submit one of the following:

- Ledger which you keep for your records
- Three bank statements that show average monthly deposits
- QuickBooks/Microsoft Excel sheets
- Any other form/record which you use to keep track of your profit and loss

Other documents, if applicable

The following documentation only applies to specific circumstances. We may be able to grant more of your funding request if we have supporting documentation of your situation.

Diagnosis of special needs:

If you are requesting special needs curriculum or therapy for your child(ren), please provide a letter or statement from a medical professional, detailing his/her diagnosis. (Do not send the whole document, only the page with the diagnosis.) If a diagnosis is not available, provide a **statement of observation** explaining how your child(ren) would benefit from testing or evaluation.

Spouse's death certificate:

If you are a widow or widower, the application may ask you to provide your spouse's death certificate.

Military status:

If you have served in the military, you may be asked to provide documentation reflecting your current military

Discount Offers for Compassion Grant Applicants

Before you apply, we encourage you to research curriculum and explore materials that will best suit the needs of your family. Although we do not endorse any specific vendor or product on this list, HSLDA Compassion would like you to be aware of the many curriculum publishers and educational organizations who offer generous vendor discounts to our grant families. (If the discount is not listed next to the publisher, reference the seller of the curricula for the corresponding discount.)

If you would like to use a vendor below, list the **full price** of the curriculum on your application. We will calculate the discount on our end. If your grant is approved, you can avail yourself of these vendor discounts by showing them your grant award letter. These offers extend to **grant recipients only** and are valid one year from the date on your award letter.

Publisher/Organization	Discount
• A+ Tutor Soft, Inc. – Interactive Math	Pay what you can
• ACT Fee Waivers – for high school juniors and seniors	Free
• Alpha Omega Publications (AOP) -- All subjects (Monarch, LIFEPAK, and Horizons)	40%
• Apologia – Science, Bible, Worldview, etc.	40%
• Beautiful Feet Books – History, Literature, Geography	50%
• BiblioPlan—Classical History and Literature	30%
• Bob Jones University (BJU) Press – All subjects	20 - 40%
• Breaking The Barrier – Foreign language curriculum for Spanish and French	\$25 off Homeschool Pkg.
• Bridgeway Academy – Accredited Homeschool Academy	\$150 off Total Care Pkg.
• Bright Ideas Press – Multiple subjects	30%
• Christian Kids Explore Science – <i>sold by Bright Ideas Press</i>	40%
• Christian Light Publications – All subjects <i>Also called Christian Light Education</i>	40%
• Classical Conversations Bookstore	20%
• Covenant Eyes – Internet filtering services	3-12 months free
• CTCMath – All grades	50% and \$50 off family membership
• Daily GRAMS – <i>sold by Easy Grammar Systems</i>	50%
• Dyslexia Gold – Reading/Writing online program	40%
• Easy Grammar Systems <i>includes Daily GRAMS, Easy Grammar Ultimate Series</i>	30%
• Eden Hope Academy – Multiple subjects	Free Trial
• Elephant Learning – Math innovative learning	30%
• English Off the Pages -- Literature-based Language Arts <i>includes Total Language Plus</i>	50%
• Essentials in Literature – <i>sold by Essentials in Writing</i>	50%
• Essentials in Writing – English Language Arts <i>includes Essentials in Literature</i>	25%
• Heart Training – Bible	25 - 40%
• Home Science Tools – Curriculum and Store	25 - 40%



- Horizons – *sold by Alpha Omega Publications*
- HSLDA Online Academy – All classes 40%
- HSLDA Online Academy – SAT Prep Genius Free – limited space
- HSLDA Store 30%
- Institute for Excellence in Writing (IEW) – Language Arts 20 - 50%
- Journey Homeschool Academy – Video Science Curriculum 30%
- Lamplighter Ministries International – 17th-19th Century Literature for all ages 20 - 40%
- Lexercise Online Reading Therapy 40%
- LIFEPAC – *sold by Alpha Omega Publications*
- Math-U-See / Spelling You See 50%
- Memoria Press – Classical Christian curriculum includes *Memoria Press Online Academy* 15 - 40%
- Monarch – *sold by Alpha Omega Publications*
- My Father’s World – All subjects 50%
- Mystery of History – *sold by Bright Ideas Press*
- National Driver Training Institute – Driver’s Education Free
- Notgrass – History, Geography, Government, Economics 50%
- Pilgrim’s Rock – Christian Worldview College Prep Free
- Rachel Moon Speech Therapy – Services in VA and MD 35%
- Saxon Math – *sold by My Father’s World and Classical Conversations Bookstore*
- SchoolhouseTeachers.com – Self-paced online courses One free year
- Scripture Memory Fellowship – Bible, Literature, History 50%
- Seton – Catholic Home Study School \$30 off
- Singapore Math – *sold by My Father’s World*
- Sonlight – Christian curriculum, all subjects 25%
- Spelling You See / Math-U-See 50%
- Tapestry of Grace – History, Literature 40%
- Teaching Textbooks – Math curriculum (all digital subscriptions) 40%
- The 101 Series/Westfield Studios – High school-level Science on DVD 50%
- The Good and the Beautiful – All subjects 30%
- Timberdoodle – All subjects 10%
- Total Language Plus – *sold by English Off the Pages*
- WriteBonnieRose – Multiple subjects 50% off total over \$25

Start Your Application

You’re now ready to begin your application! Go to hsllda.org/curriculumgrant and scroll down to the application button.

We’re excited to partner with you to give your children a brighter homeschool experience.