



County Superintendent of Schools

Callie Rech

August 24, 2023

TO: Home School Parents

RE : 2023-2024 Letter of Intent

Whether you are continuing the high calling of Home Schooling, or you have just begun, another school year within the journey of educating your child and forming a special bond about the education that you control is here! Congratulations! Enclosed are some forms that may assist you with this process and keep you compliant with Montana law 20-5-109.

Please provide your Home School Letter of Intent and return to this office by September 30th, 2023. You may e-mail your Letter of Intent back to me, return in person, or mail to the address listed below. I've had requests of stamping the letters with the Supt. of Schools stamp and signature and can do so for anyone with such a request. **Your letter must include the following: Parent Name(s), Physical Address, Student Name(s) and grade level(s).** Also, only if comfortable doing so, providing date(s) of birth(s) is helpful for me in passing on various educational opportunities that are specific age determined.

A copy of your child(ren)'s immunization record or the affidavit of exemption from immunization needs to be available upon request but is not required in your Letter of Intent.

As important is the Attendance Report, which you need to maintain throughout the year in your Home School and have available upon request, or, if so desired, return to me at the end of the school year. You are free to copy as needed for each student.

Also, for any of you that would like to keep a copy of your Home School file(s) at the Sweet Grass County Superintendent of School's office, I'm willing to do so. **This is obviously not a requirement, but your choice** as a precautionary measure for possible future needs. All files are kept in a fireproof, locked file and no information will be shared unless upon your request. Possible documents you may like to add to such a file (besides your letter of intent) are a copy of your child(ren)'s birth certificate, immunization records/exemption waiver, attendance reports, and/or lesson plans or any other documentation that you would like to be included as part of an offsite, county file that merely can serve as a backup and safeguard. Please know my intentions in this offer is only for the future benefit of you and your child(ren) as Home Schoolers of Sweet Grass County should any need arise.

Lastly, if you have not already taken advantage of our community library, you may also find it helpful to obtain a library card from the Carnegie Public Library as this will avail you access to free Internet and book exchanges which may aid you in the education of your child.

Be advised that according to Montana Law, you have now taken on the responsibility of educating your child(ren) and Sweet Grass County and your resident school district are in no way responsible for the proficiency or completion of such education. Be further advised that a student may not educate themselves but must follow a course of study overseen and decided upon by the parent or legal adult guardian, 20-5-111 MCA.

If you should have any questions, don't hesitate to call, or email me! I commend you for undergoing the huge responsibility of Home Schooling! Have a great year!

Regards,

P.O. Box 1310 • 515 Hooper • Big Timber, MT 59011

Phone: 406.932.5147 • Fax: 406.932.3017

Email: crech@sgcountymt.gov

www.sweetgrasscountymt.gov



Sweet Grass County Superintendent of Schools
 PO Box 1310 * 515 Hooper * Big Timber, MT 59011
crech@sgcountymt.gov; www.sweetgrasscountygov.com

HOMESCHOOL LETTER OF INTENT 2023-2024

For notification of your intention to home school your child(ren), the following form is provided for your convenience. Please return this form, or another form of your choice, to the Sweet Grass County Superintendent at the above address, or mail/email your Home School information. This will ensure compliance with Section 20-5-109(5) MCA.

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Student Name	Date of Birth	Grade
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<hr/> Parent Signature	<hr/> Physical Address	<hr/> Phone Number
<hr/> Mailing Address	<hr/> City/State/Zip	<hr/> Resident District
<hr/> E-mail	<hr/> Date	

_____ I do not wish to be informed of any federal programs (a complete list is available in County Supt. office).

_____ Enclosed please find my child's birth certificate and current immunization record.

_____ My child(ren)'s birth certificate(s) and immunization on file from the previous home school year.

_____ I understand graduation is my sole obligation as a home school parent and hold harmless Sweet Grass Co.

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Section 20-5-109 MCA Nonpublic school requirements for compulsory enrollment exemption.
 To qualify its students for exemption from compulsory enrollment under Section 20-5-102 MCA, a nonpublic or home school shall:

- 1) maintain records of pupil attendance and disease immunization and make the records available to the county superintendent of school upon request;
- 2) provide at least 180 days of pupil instruction or the equivalent in accordance with 20-1-301 and 20-1-302 MCA
- 3) be housed in a building that complies with applicable local health and safety regulations;
- 4) provide an organized course of study that includes instruction in the subjects required of public schools as a basic instruction program pursuant to 20-7-111 and
- 5) in the case of home schools, notify the county superintendent of schools, of the county in which the home school is located, in each school fiscal year of the student's attendance at the school.

/ = PRESENT X = ABSENT H = HOLIDAY

HOME SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REPORT																															
CHILD'S NAME _____							PARENT'S NAME _____												SCHOOL YEAR 20__-20__					TOTAL DAYS PRESENT							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
AUGUST																															
SEPTEMBER																															
OCTOBER																															
NOVEMBER																															
DECEMBER																															
JANUARY																															
FEBRUARY																															
MARCH																															
APRIL																															
MAY																															
JUNE																															
Monana Law suggests: 720 hrs instruction Gr. 1-3 approx. 144 5 hour days; 1080 hrs instruction Gr. 4-12 approx. 180 6 hour days																															



EdReady Montana for Home School Students

Hello Parents/Guardians! We are excited to share the EdReady Montana math & English program with ALL learners in Montana!

Who are we?

EdReady Montana is a project of the Montana Digital Academy. Our program is available at NO COST for any learner in Montana! Thanks to the Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation, EdReady has been FREE for Montana residents since 2014.

EdReady Montana is an online **supplemental** program for math (grades 4 - adult) & English (grades 8 - adult) and is currently being used by over 600 schools & programs in Montana! You can learn more about us here: EdReadyMontana.org

How do you get started?

To get a student account, follow this link: [How to Sign Up as an Individual](#) or go to our website, EdReadyMontana.org, and click on the Students & Parents tab, then click the link for the [Signup Page](#), choose the goal that makes sense for the student, & fill in the information. Once a student has finished the Initial Diagnostic, the program will build a study path based on the student's gaps. The student will work through the study path by using the built in resources to learn the material. When a student feels that they can master the material, they will test their knowledge. They can watch their score increase as they master more concepts.

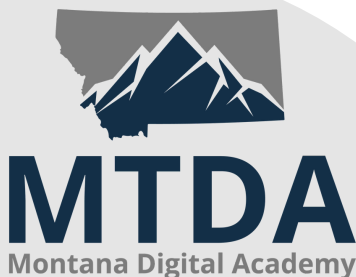
Tips for Success

Supplemental programs like EdReady need to be used correctly for best results. We need your help to make sure students are doing more than just clicking. Here are some resources that can help!

*Use the [Classroom Resources](#) from our website for note taking & tracking their work.

*Monitor the student's work in the program: [Monitoring EdReady for Student Success](#)

For technical issues or support, please reach out to Virg Hale, EdReady Montana Ambassador virg.hale@mtda.org, or use the support email support@montanadigitalacademy.org.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE :
WWW.EDREADYMONTANA.ORG

DENNIS & PHYLLIS
WASHINGTON
FOUNDATION