



Homeschool Options in Iowa

An Overview Chart

Options with no initial reporting and no public school services

Independent Private Instruction or Competent Private Instruction Option 2 with Opt-Out Reporting

Similarities

Differences

IPI

- No initial filing requirements.
- Can receive free testing at their resident public school.
- Eligible for Parent Taught Driver Education.
- Access to public school driver education without dual-enrollment.
- Access to one specific component of Senior Year Plus: concurrent enrollment classes at Iowa Community colleges.
- No AEA or public school services available for special needs students.

- Home educators operating under the IPI guidelines may instruct up to four unrelated students, although no payment may be received for the instruction. The instruction of unrelated students is not addressed under CPI.
- IPI: Parents must provide instruction in these 5 subjects: reading, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies, but there is no legally defined minimal number of instructional days.
- CPI Option 2 with Opt-Out: Has no required subjects but does require parents to provide at least 148 days of instruction per school year, with 37 days per school quarter.
- Follow-up Reporting: IPI parents are required to respond to a written request for information about IPI programs from the Iowa Department of Education or local school district superintendent. (*Visit our website for a form to help you respond to a request for this information.*) CPI Option 2 with Opt-Out has no initial or follow-up reporting requirements.

CPI

Option 2 with Opt-Out Reporting

Options with reporting and access to public school services

Competent Private Instruction Option 1 (with your chosen teacher or a HSAP* teacher) or Option 2 with Opt-In Reporting

Similarities

Differences

CPI

Option 1 w/ Teacher of your choice

- CPI Report Form A must be filed with your resident school district by Sept 1st or within 2 weeks of removing your child from school.
- Dual enrollment is permitted allowing students access to public school services, activities, classes, and materials as available from the school district and as the student meets the eligibility requirements. Dual enrolled CPI students must receive at least 1/4 of their instruction via Competent Private Instruction.
- AEA and public school services are available to special needs students educated under CPI guidelines through dual enrollment.
- Eligible for Parent Taught Driver Education.
- Parents must provide at least 148 days of instruction per school year, with 37 days per school quarter.

- CPI Option 1 with Teacher of Your Choice: You must retain a teacher with a valid Iowa teaching certificate or practitioner license appropriate to the grade level of your student and include that teacher's name and folder number on the CPI Report Form A. Teachers must meet with the student and parents at least twice every 45 days of instruction and one out of every two visits must be face-to-face.
- CPI Option 1 with HSAP* Teacher: Students must be enrolled in the HSAP then the public school will assign a HSAP supervising teacher. The HSAP teacher must meet with the student and parent at least four times every 45 days of instruction and one out of every two visits must be face-to-face.
- CPI Option 2, with Opt-In Reporting: Annual assessment must be completed by May 1 and the results filed by June 30th. Acceptable assessments are listed on our website.

*Public School Home School Assistance Program





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A Side-By-Side Comparison Chart

	CHOICE #1	CHOICE #2	CHOICE #3	CHOICE #4	CHOICE #5
LABEL USED BY THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	IPI (Independent Private Instruction)	CPI Option 2 with Opt-Out Reporting	CPI Option 2 with Opt-In Reporting	CPI Option 1 Supervising Teacher You Select	CPI Option 1 Public School HSAP Supervising Teacher
Is filing of CPI Form A required?	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes, but only items 1, 3, 5 required
For what age child is Form A filing required?	Not applicable	Not applicable	Age 6-15, inclusive, with age determined on September 15	Age 6-15, inclusive, with age determined on September 15	Age 6-15, inclusive, with age determined on September 15
Is anything other than Form A filing required?	No Form A filing, but school can request, in writing, answers to four specific questions	No	Yes, an additional annual assessment results report is required	No	The school can request additional information reporting
Is the teaching of any subjects required by law?	Math, science, social studies, reading & language arts	No	No	No	The school can impose required subjects
Can school request proof that subjects are being taught?	No	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	The school can request proof that subjects are being taught
Are licensed teacher visits required?	No	No	No	Yes. Two times per quarter	Yes. Four times per quarter
Is an annual assessment required?	No	No	Yes, with results reported by June 30	No	The school can impose required assessments
What subjects must be assessed?	Not applicable	Not applicable	1st-5th: Reading, language arts, math 6th+: The above and social studies & science	Not applicable	The school can determine this
What assessment tools can be used?	Not applicable	Not applicable	Standardized testing, portfolio assessment, OR a report from an accredited correspondence school	Not applicable	The school can determine this
Is no-cost testing available at school?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can school classes, activities and programs be accessed through dual enrollment?	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes, HSAP enrollment alone is not sufficient – dual enrollment is also required
Can PSEO courses be accessed?	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes, HSAP enrollment alone is not sufficient – dual enrollment is also required
Can community college concurrent enrollment classes be accessed?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can a child who requires special education be taught?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is permission required to teach a child who needs special education?	No	No	Yes, but only if public school special education services are used	Yes, but only if public school special education services are used	Yes, but only if public school special education services are used
Can public school drivers education be accessed?	Yes, and dual enrollment is not required	Yes, and dual enrollment is not required	Yes, and dual enrollment is not required	Yes, and dual enrollment is not required	Yes, and dual enrollment is not required
Can parent-taught drivers education be accessed?	Yes, the DOT accepts applications for students under IPI	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does the law specifically state that unrelated children can be instructed?	Yes, the law states up to four unrelated children can be instructed, but this is not required to use this option	No	No	No	No