

June 2021

Dear SC TOP Member,

Welcome to homeschooling accountability with us. Refer to the handbook at <https://sc-top.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/SC-TOP-Handbook-2021.pdf> . If you are new to SC TOP, please inform the previous association or school that you are registered with SC TOP now.

Find the email with your membership certificate. That is for your records to prove your legal status as homeschoolers. **Keep that document in your records** for your reference and legal purposes. Carry the wallet card with you to help obtain retail discounts for teachers/homeschoolers. *DMV letters and Dual enrollment letters are issued upon request, anytime during the year. Please give us at least 24 hours notice via email: [director@sc-top.org](mailto:director@sc-top.org)*

We also want to clarify some policies that SC TOP requires for homeschooling under the “3<sup>rd</sup> option” law, Section 59-65-47. Your school year must be at least 180 days long. **Mid-year registrants will include the days earned in previous school/program toward the 180-day total for the year.** *Online forms will be available to submit a 180-day report by June 5<sup>th</sup>.* These report forms are kept on file should you need us to vouch for you in the future. SC TOP also requires High School courses and grades to be submitted as transcript assistance is already included in your registration fees.

- Your curriculum must include, but not limited to, the areas of reading, writing, math, science and social studies, and for grades seven and above, composition and literature. *You may use curriculum packages from specific publishers; an eclectic approach – pick and choose among many different publishers for your curriculum; or unschooling/student-directed learning approach with library and internet materials.*
- You must keep records. The records must include:
  - a plan book, diary, or other record indicating subjects taught and activities in which the student and parent-teacher engage;
  - and a portfolio of samples of student’s academic work;
  - and a semiannual progress report including attendance records and individualized documentation of the student’s progress in each of the required academic areas.*You may also use your own format of record keeping: teacher planning books, notebooks for diary narratives (a different book for each child), or record keeping software. The portfolio is a sampling of work, not every paper. Keep these in your files; do not send to SC TOP.*

SC TOP supports the parent’s responsibility to educate their children and the parent’s right to choose the methods that suit their family best. We are happy to offer encouragement, advice, or information whenever you need. Let me know how we can assist you. Feel free to contact me at [director@sc-top.org](mailto:director@sc-top.org) or call/text 803-307-4880 or find me on SC TOP Member’s Facebook group. I’m happy to help.

We believe interpersonal connection helps bring homeschooling success. I recommend the SC Homeschooling Connection (<https://www.homeschoolingsc.org/>) as a free resource to help you get find curriculum resources, field trip ideas and local support groups. I’m also actively involved at Cola City Homeschoolers (<https://www.colacityhomeschoolers.com/>) where you can find events and interest clubs for online and in person meet-ups.

See you online!

Kim Andrysczyk, SC TOP director