



TEXAS ALTERNATIVE HOME SCHOOL

STATE LAW COMPLIANT

The Texas Alternative- Home School is not accredited by TEA or TEPSAC. However, **The Texas Alternative- Home School is “Texas state law” compliant.** The Texas Alternative - Home School files and is recognized by the state of Texas as a nontraditional, nonprofit, secondary education "home" school and files to the federal government as a 501c3. Our graduates are considered "equivalent" as public high school and GED graduates per Texas state law. Per Texas state law, **The Texas Alternative- Home School is not required to be governed or accredited by TEA or TEPSAC and our graduates should not be discriminated because they are nontraditional, nonprofit, private, secondary education "home" school graduates.** The Texas Alternative- Home School is "State Law" Compliant and our graduates must be respected and treated as any other public high school or GED graduate. In the state of Texas, our High School Diploma and Official transcript are equivalent as a public high school diploma & transcript or GED. Each TAHS student meets all state requirements and credits by completing our curriculum (Accelerated Christian Education) to graduate, and upon successful completion, students have the right to enroll into a higher educational institution, enlist in any military branch, as well as participate in other opportunities throughout the United States.

TEXAS STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS REGARDING HOME SCHOOLING

To home school legally in Texas, you must follow three state law requirements:

- a. The instruction must be bona fide.

[Our home school programs are facilitated and monitored at our state law compliant home school settings throughout the state of Texas.]

- b. The curriculum must be in visual form (i.e.- workbooks, video monitor, etc.)

[TAHS students must complete curriculum (Accelerated Christian Education & Money Smart for Small Business curriculum) in order to receive full credit.]

- c. The curriculum must include the five basic subjects of reading, spelling, grammar, mathematics, and good citizenship.

[TAHS students are required to complete and earn all core credits- Math, English, Science, Social Studies, and good citizenship. Upon completion of the program, each student is issued an official high school transcript and diploma This includes the credits that were legally transferred from their previous public school and credits earned from TAHS..]

CURRICULUM

TAHS utilizes several curriculums such as Money Smart for Small Business (MSSB) however often uses ACE (Accelerated Christian Education), who has maintained high Biblical academic standard, and remains committed to setting individuals on a path for success. Our goal, as is ACE's, is to prepare individuals for today's world, and provide academic and spiritual tools necessary to achieve their God-given potential. Based on these principles, ACE curriculum assures parents of:

- A solid, mastery-based, back-to-basics education for their student.
- A course of study diagnostically individualized to meet a student's specific learning needs and capabilities.
- A program incorporating Scripture, Godly character building, and wisdom principles.

ACCELERATED CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Core Curriculum

Core curriculum provides students with academics, skill building, reading practice, character and wisdom training, and knowledge of God and His Word. This complete package begins with reading development and progresses through high school, giving students a solid foundation for pursuing their life goals.

Students who are more skilled may progress at a faster rate or may accelerate in the areas of their academic strengths. Slower students are encouraged to do their best but are able to work at their levels of proficiency and proceed as they are capable.

Each core subject consists of 12 PACEs ([Packet of Accelerated Christian Education](#)) per [level](#).

Typical students work daily on one PACE in each subject and may be performing at varying levels. The [diagnostic test](#) results help to identify academic weaknesses and prescribe a path to help students catch up. Most students complete at least 70 PACEs per year while maintaining academic balance by completing about the same number of PACEs in each assigned subject.

Packet of Accelerated Christian Education (PACE®)

Accelerated Christian Education® has taken the conventional style textbook and divided it into bite-sized, achievable worktexts called PACEs. Each PACE is similar to a unit in a textbook. Each level consists of [12 PACEs in each subject](#). PACEs integrate Godly character-building lessons into the academic content, and self-instructional activities are carefully designed to develop thinking skills and create mastery learning.

A.C.E. stands out from other curriculum providers with its individualized, self-instructional, mastery-based approach. With minimal assistance, PACEs allow students to absorb subject material according to their own learning ability rather than being pushed forward or held back by their age. For instance, a student placed in the fifth grade by a conventional school may be taking PACEs in Level 4 math, Level 5 science, and Level 5 English in the A.C.E. program. Students may move ahead in some subject areas and proceed at a slower pace in others. What's

Inside

- Students begin their PACE work by noting their [goals](#), the concepts they will learn, a

Bible verse, and a corresponding character trait. From the beginning of each PACE, they know what is expected and assume the responsibility for their own learning!

- Throughout the curriculum, the introduction of new vocabulary words is computer controlled so that no new vocabulary word is used without the student first learning its meaning and pronunciation. Also, these words are repeated to ensure mastery.
- Explanations and illustrations add excitement to each lesson, and innovative learning activities reinforce the text material.
- Each PACE contains several Checkups, which are quizzes covering a section of the PACE. If mastery in an area is not achieved, the Checkup will reveal that weak area. Students can then take the time necessary to review and learn those concepts before proceeding to the next section.
- Upon completion of the activities and Checkups, students prepare to take the Self Test. Here students evaluate themselves, and a supervisor/tutor determines readiness for the final PACE Test. When the Self Test is successfully completed, the student turns in the PACE and takes the PACE Test the next school morning. The PACE Test objectively measures student mastery of the material.

The A.C.E. Program

Since 1970, A.C.E. PACEs have proven to be effective tools for goal setting and for achieving academic excellence. The A.C.E. Program is indeed [more than just a PACE](#). A.C.E. provides a wide variety of student programs and staff training opportunities at locations around the world. See how A.C.E. can take education at your school or homeschool far beyond academics.

For more detail about The A.C.E. Program & Curriculum, go to
<https://www.aceministries.com/curriculum>

TAHS' GRADUATES ENROLL INTO COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES AS HOME SCHOOL GRADUATES

The Texas Alternative- Home School graduates can successfully enroll and apply for FAFSA throughout the state of Texas at colleges and universities without hesitation or discrimination. As you should know, our graduates should not be discriminated for being nontraditional, nonprofit, secondary education "home" school graduates and should be considered "equivalent" as public high school or GED graduates. The Texas Alternative- Home School graduates can successfully enroll and apply for FAFSA at any college or university in the state of Texas as nontraditional, nonprofit, private, secondary education "home" school graduates. There should be no reason whatsoever that our graduates should be discriminated by any college or university by not being allowed to enroll and apply for FAFSA just as any other public high school or GED graduate.

TAHS' GRADUATES APPLY FOR FAFSA AT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES AS HOME SCHOOL GRADUATES

The FAFSA general requirements are the following:

**“show you’re qualified to obtain a college or career school education by
having a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent such as a General Educational
Development (GED) certificate or
completing a high school education in a homeschool setting approved under state law.”**

The Texas Alternative- Home School graduates are qualified to obtain a college or career school and able to apply for FAFSA because they have a High School Diploma that is “equivalent” to a GED or public high school diploma per Texas state law as well as also completing a high school education in a home school setting also approved under Texas state law. TAHS is recognized by and files in the state of Texas as a nonprofit, nontraditional, private, secondary "home" school. We do not have an CETC code, and do not need one for our graduates to enroll into college/ university or apply for FAFSA as a nontraditional, secondary "home" school graduate. Graduates may apply for financial aid at www.fafsa.gov as a “Home School” graduate. The Federal Student Aid general eligibility requirements state, “show you’re qualified to obtain a college or career school education by having a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent such as a GED or completing a high school education in a home school setting approved under state law”, therefore, each of our graduates has the right to apply for financial aid.

MILITARY

TAHS graduates have the right to enlist in any US military branch, pending the successful completion of 15 college credit hours at any college of your choice. Courses taken must be categorized as “1000” level courses, to qualify as credible hours. Graduates are also required to successfully complete the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test. Available military resources may also be found at www.March2Success.com.

DACA

Texas Alternative Home School exceeds the DACA Education Guidelines below as a Texas state law compliant, nontraditional, private, secondary school. When students enroll, they are issued an VOE (Verification Of Enrollment) declaring that they are currently enrolled. Go to <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian-parole/consideration-of-deferred-action-for-childhood-arrivals-daca> for further detail, but here is a few highlights.

What Is DACA

On June 15, 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that certain people who came to the United States as children and meet several guidelines may request consideration of deferred action for a period of two years, subject to renewal. They are also eligible for work authorization. Deferred action is a use of prosecutorial discretion to defer removal action against an individual for a certain period of time. Deferred action does not provide lawful status.

Guidelines

You may request DACA if you:

1. Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
2. Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
3. Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
4. Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
5. Had no lawful status on June 15, 2012;
6. Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a general education development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and
7. Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

EDUCATION AND MILITARY SERVICE GUIDELINES

Your school or military status at the time of requesting DACA

**Meet education or
military service
guidelines for DACA**

I graduated from:

- Public or private high school; or
 - Secondary school.
- Or
- I have obtained a GED.

Yes

I am currently enrolled in school.

Yes

See the [Education section](#) of the FAQs for a full explanation of who is considered currently in school.

I was in school but dropped out and did not graduate. I am not currently in school and am not an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the U.S.

No

I am an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the U.S.

Yes

EDUCATION CODE ON NON- DISCRIMINATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION

Texas Education Code Section § 51.9241 - Admission of Student with Nontraditional Secondary Education

(a) In this section:

- (1) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.
- (2) "Nontraditional secondary education" means a course of study at the secondary school level in a non-accredited private school setting, including a home school.

(b) Because the State of Texas considers successful completion of a nontraditional secondary education to be equivalent to graduation from a public high school, an institution of higher education must treat an applicant for admission to the institution as an undergraduate student who presents evidence that the person has successfully completed a nontraditional secondary education according to the same general standards as other applicants for undergraduate admission who have graduated from a public high school.

(c) An institution of higher education may not require an applicant for admission to the institution as an undergraduate student who presents evidence that the person has successfully completed a nontraditional secondary education to:

- (1) obtain or submit evidence that the person has obtained a general education development certificate, certificate of high school equivalency, or the credentials equivalent to a public high school degree or
- (2) take an examination or comply with any other application or admission requirement not generally applicable to other applicants for undergraduate admission to the institution.

Added by Acts 2003. 78th Leg., ch. 232. § 1, eff. Sept 1, 2003.

Additionally, the Texas Education Code Section 51.9241 (2) (b) also states “the state of Texas considers successful completion of a nontraditional secondary education to be equivalent to graduation from a public high school, an institution of higher education must treat an applicant for admission to the institution as an undergraduate student who presents evidence that the person has successfully completed a nontraditional secondary education to the same general standards as other applicants for undergraduate admission who have graduated from a public high school”. As each graduate has to the right to enroll into a higher educational institute, per choice, they are given an official high school transcript along with their diploma. Below is a summary of both laws protecting home school students.

Summary of Higher Education Legislation by Topic 78th Texas Legislature

“Persons with nontraditional secondary education, prohibits a public institution of higher education from having different admissions requirements for students who have completed a nontraditional secondary education. An institution may not require these students to obtain or submit a GED certificate of an equivalency to a public high school degree to take an examination or comply with any other application admission

requirement that is not applicable to other applicants.” Effective date of Act is September 1, 2003, and applies to admissions on or after this date.

TAHS COMPLIES WITH THE TEXAS EDUCATION CODE SECTION 51.9241

TAHS offers a non-traditional secondary education. The Texas Education Code Section 51.9241 (2) states “Nontraditional secondary education” means a course of study at the secondary level in a non-accredited private school setting, including a home school. The Texas Education Code Section 51.9241 (2) (b) states “the state of Texas considers successful completing of a nontraditional secondary education to be equivalent to graduation from a public high school”. Therefore, if a high school diploma is required for any reason, students can obtain their diploma through TAHS, which is equivalent to a public high school diploma.

The Texas Alternative- Home School’s graduates are qualified to obtain a college or career and able to apply for FAFSA because they have a High School Diploma that is “equivalent” to a GED or public high school diploma per Texas state law as well as also completing a high school education in a home school setting also approved under Texas state law.

<http://www.thsc.org/homeschooling-in-texas/the-history-of-home-education-in-texas/explanation-of-the-leeper-decision/>

In the final ruling, the Supreme Court reviewed the decision issued originally by the district court, which stated that *“a school-age child: residing in the State of Texas who is pursuing under the direction of a parent or parents or one standing in parental authority in or through the child’s home in a bona fide (good faith, not a sham or subterfuge) manner, a curriculum consisting of books, workbooks, other written materials, including that which appears on an electronic screen of either a computer or video tape monitor, or any combination of the preceding from either (1) of a private or parochial school which exists apart from the child’s home or (2) which has been developed or obtained from any source, said curriculum designed to meet basic education goals of reading, spelling, grammar, mathematics and a study of good citizenship, is in attendance upon a private or parochial school within the meaning of Section 21.033(a)(1) of the Texas Education Code and exempt from the requirements of compulsory attendance at a public school.”*

The Texas Alternative- Home School is *“any combination of the preceding from either (1) of a private or parochial school which exists apart from the child’s home or (2) which has been developed or obtained from any source, said curriculum designed to meet basic education goals of reading, spelling, grammar, mathematics and a study of good citizenship, is in attendance upon a private or parochial school within the meaning of Section 21.033(a)(1) of the Texas Education Code and exempt from the requirements of compulsory attendance at a public school.”*

