



# The Five W's of Homeschooling in Michigan WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, AND WHY?

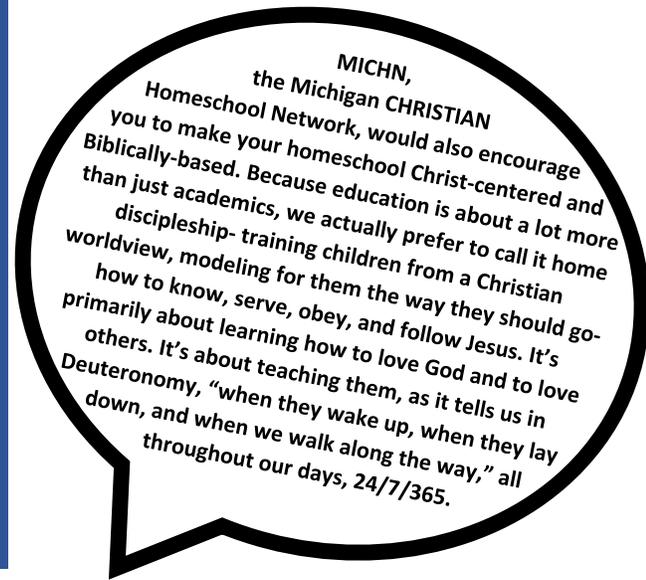
## 1. WHO can homeschool in Michigan?

Any parent or guardian willing to “own” their child’s education and provide what our state law requires: an “organized educational program” in these areas: language arts (reading, writing, spelling, grammar, & literature), math, science, history, and civics.

That’s the legal requirement in Michigan.  
(<https://michn.org/faq/michigan-law/>)

- No requirement for teacher certification
- No minimum requirement for parents’ educational level
- No registration, reporting, or mandatory testing

So who can homeschool? **YOU can!** As the parent, there is NO ONE who knows your child better or who cares more than YOU do!



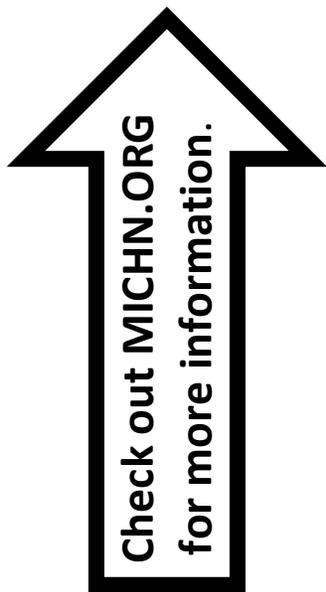
## 2. WHAT does homeschooling look like?

It's different in every household, but will have these things in common:

**Parent-directed** – That means parents are deciding what's being taught and how and when and by whom, not necessarily that the parent is doing all the instruction themselves, simply that they are orchestrating the plan and making sure all the bases are getting covered.

**Home-based** – This just means that a large percentage of the learning is probably taking place within the home. But that certainly doesn't mean ALL the learning happens there, by any means! All of life becomes a learning opportunity and MUCH learning takes place outdoors, on field trips, at co-operatives, classes, and other learning activities and events outside the home.

**Privately-funded** – Yep! That means the individual family is going to foot the bill for this instead of the government. But homeschooling certainly doesn't need to cost a lot! There is a plethora of free and inexpensive resources readily available!



## 3. WHEN should you consider homeschooling?

**NOW!** Today! At whatever age your children are! When your kids are little- toddlers, preschoolers & Kindergartners. When your kids are in their impressionable elementary years. When your kids are entering tween years/ middle school. When your kids are teens and in high school.

From birth through high school graduation, would be our recommendation! Every day, all day! But you can't let the immensity of that scare you—just one day at a time. One year at a time. Don't feel like you have to sign your life away. Just jump in and give it a try, whatever age your kids might be. Learn together, as God leads you to do what is best for your family and your individual children.



Get connected to a local support group and Regional Rep at [MICHN.org/find-support-group](http://MICHN.org/find-support-group)

#### 4. WHERE should you homeschool?

**In community locally** – NOT alone! Find a local community of other homeschoolers near you. You can't do it all by yourself! MICHN has a listing of support groups throughout the state on our website... we want to help you get connected to a group of like-minded homeschoolers in your area, who can offer you encouragement, resources, opportunities, and support.

**Plug in statewide** – MICHN has divided the state into 9 regions and we have regional representatives who act as our ambassadors, seeking to serve the homeschool community in that part of the state. You need to know what's going on in regards to homeschool legislation and threats to our homeschool freedoms here in Michigan... so we encourage you to join MICHN, get on our email list, follow us on social media, and come to our annual 'Day Under the Dome' and INCH Conference... usually the 3rd week of May in Lansing. Supporting and connecting to our statewide organization helps to protect our homeschool freedom!

**Connect nationally** – HSLDA, the Home School Legal Defense Association, fights for our homeschool freedoms on a national level (and even internationally), and we highly recommend that you also become a member of their organization, and be protected and informed about the bigger picture of what's happening in homeschooling.

So WHERE? Locally, statewide, and nationally... that's where you need to connect.

#### 5. WHY homeschool in Michigan?

Michigan is a GREAT place to homeschool! We have wonderful homeschooling freedom currently and there are SOOO many great reasons to homeschool here. We would argue that it's the best and most natural way for children to learn, the way God intended when he created families, and the way children have been educated throughout most of history: parents teaching and training their children. If we had to boil it down to five key reasons, they would be:

**DISCIPLESHIP** – To pass on your faith, morals, and beliefs

**RELATIONSHIP** – To strengthen family bonds and teach true 'socialization' instead of age segregation

**SCHOLARSHIP** – To provide an excellent, individualized education

**GUARDIANSHIP** – To protect your children

**APPRENTICESHIP** – To teach and model practical life skills through hands-on learning

HSLDA.org provides legal representation for its members in addition to offering a wealth of information to homeschool families.

#### So that's the 5 W's of Homeschooling in Michigan; The Who, What, When, Where, and Why.

Hopefully we've encouraged and inspired you at least a little bit to seriously consider homeschooling if you're just looking into the idea; or to "keep on keeping on," if you're already homeschooling! And we pray that we've also given you some clear answers and practical information about homeschooling in the mitten state.

This is just a brief overview of a fact-filled post shared by the leaders of MICHN. If you want to dig deeper into the 5 W's of Homeschooling in Michigan, head over to [MICHN.org/the-five-ws-of-homeschooling-in-michigan/](http://MICHN.org/the-five-ws-of-homeschooling-in-michigan/) for even more information and tips on how to get started!