

New Life Home Education
Umbrella Program

*Train a child in the way he should go, and when
he is old he will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6-6*

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Introduction

Welcome to New Life Home Education Umbrella Program, an educational ministry of New Life Church and an approved home school oversight umbrella of the Maryland State Department of Education.

The primary purposes of this program are:

- ~ to assist parents in providing their children with an appropriate education in compliance with Maryland Law
- ~ to ensure that each family's educational program is properly documented in the event of legal inquiry by county government officials
- ~ to advise, support, and encourage parents in their role as educators

Mission Statement

The purpose of New Life Community Church is to serve Christ as a body of believers who:

Glorify God

Reach out to the lost

are Authentic in worship

Care for the needs of others and

Encourage Spiritual Growth

To Serve Christ - NLCC is not here to serve ourselves, or even the church itself, but rather Christ. (Eph 4:11-13; Col 3:24)

A Body of Believers - We are serving Christ together - working as one body, as a family. When one part of the body is in need, the rest are to come along side and help. When one part of the body succeeds, the rest rejoice together. (Rom 12:5, 1 Cor 12:12-31)

Glorify God speaks to the motivation and focus of all we do. It is to bring Glory to our God. (1 Cor 10:31)

Reach out to the lost speaks of evangelism, both locally and globally (Matt 28:19-20). Jesus came to save sinners, and that description fits all of us. May we never lose our passion to reach others as Christ was passionate enough to die for us. At NLCC we want to reach out not only to our neighbors across the street, but also those across town and around the world.

are Authentic in Worship reflects the fact that we are called to come together to praise and worship God for who He is and all He has done. We are to do this in Spirit and in truth. It is not simply a time of getting pumped up, but rather it is a real and genuine communion with God. Where we humble ourselves before the Lord our God. The intimacy we sense together in corporate worship will help us also to worship God in the quietness of our own hearts throughout the week. (John 4:23-24)

Care for the needs of others talks about the fact that as a body of believers we are going to take care of each others needs, bear one another's burdens and simply encourage one another. It includes all aspects of "fellowship" and more. The statement is not limited to what we can do for "in-reach," but also includes outreach. We are to work together in order to show the love of Christ by caring for the needs of others outside our local Church and outside the Body of Christ to bring others to the saving knowledge of Christ (Phil 2:4, James 1:27).

Encourage Spiritual Growth talks of discipleship. Jesus commanded us to go and make disciples. In coming together as a body of believers, we are to be growing in Christ. We are to know Him and His word better through our fellowship, study of the word, and demonstrations of faith in action. (Matt 28:19-20; Eph 4:11-14)

Summary of Maryland's Homeschool Law

The law to which you submit by filing the Assurance of Consent form requires that children "5 years old* or older and under 16" receive a home instruction program which will:

1. "provide regular, thorough instruction in the studies usually taught in the public schools to children of the same age,"
2. "include instruction in English, mathematics, science, social studies, art, music, health and physical education," and
3. "take place on a regular basis during the school year program and be of sufficient duration to implement the instruction program."

The Assurance of Consent form must be submitted to the officials of the county in which you live at least 15 days prior to beginning a home instruction program. This form may be obtained by contacting the office for monitoring home instruction in your county:

Baltimore City	410-396-8646	Baltimore County	410-887-4211
Howard County	410-313-6687	Carroll County	410-848-8280
Anne Arundel Co.	410-222-5413		

On this form you will designate New Life Home Education Umbrella as the "nonpublic school" providing you with "correspondence courses" at this address:

P.O. Box 2871, Columbia, Maryland 21045

Contact person: Laurie Reichard
410-489-9296

Parents must only complete this form initially. As long as you stay with New Life Umbrella, the reviewer will contact the county annually to inform them of your participation in the program.

As your legal oversight umbrella, New Life Home Education Program offers:

1. Annual Educational Reviews
 - a. August/September - to review curriculum, materials and overall plans of the home instruction program for the year. *This review is held via a phone conversation or email.*
 - b. May/June/July Review - to review the success of the home instruction program, to review samples of student work throughout the year.
2. Mid-year Phone Contact/Review (if needed)
 - a. January/February - to review progress of home instruction in accordance to the curriculum plan. *This review is typically done via phone conversation or email.*
3. Review of Progress Reports
 - a. To help New Life ensure that each child under its umbrella is receiving "regular, thorough instruction" in appropriate studies, parents will have the option of completing a quarterly progress report (for quarters 1, 2 & 3 only) for each child listing content covered in each subject area and parent's evaluation of student's progress in those areas. *While submission of progress reports are not mandatory, it is recommended.*

b. Please make a copy of your Progress Reports and keep them with your child(ren)'s educational files.

4. Oversight of High School Students

Refer to New Life Home Education High School Program

Parent Responsibilities:

1. Obtain and submit an Assurance of Consent form to county officials. This is only required initially. After the first year, the Umbrella will inform the county of participation in the program.

2. Complete Application for Enrollment and Course of Study (for each student).

3. Provide "regular, thorough instruction in the studies usually taught in the public schools to children of the same age."

The following subjects need to be taught (on an appropriate grade level) for each K-8th grade student:

English/Language Arts ~

Grammar,

Reading (readers or literature book and novels)

Composition (creative writing, topical reports, book reports)

Spelling (optional with middle school grades)

Penmanship (" " ")

Mathematics

Science

History/Social Studies

Bible/Devotional

Health, Art, Music, Physical Ed. (these subjects may be covered on a weekly basis)

4. Complete and return Quarterly Progress Reports for each child in the home instruction program in a timely manner.

5. Meet with reviewer yearly for evaluation of home instruction program.

6. Correct any deficiencies in program as noted by reviewer within a designated period of time. *

* Whereas assistance will be provided as needed, it is the parent's ultimate responsibility to make corrections where necessary. New Life Home Education

Umbrella Program reserves the right to remove the legal umbrella from families who are unable or unwilling to respond to recommendations given.

7. Keep detailed and accurate records of:

a. Attendance

Attendance records may be incorporated into lesson plans or kept in a separate log. An optional form will be provided for your use that may also serve as a reminder concerning the Quarterly Progress Reports. Dating daily work also serves as a record of attendance.

For your information: the requirement for the number of days for public schools are 180 and private schools are 170.

b. Course of Study Record

Please make and keep a copy of this form before returning it with your application for enrollment.

c. Lesson Plans

Your lesson plans should clearly state the objectives to be mastered as well as the assignment or activity. Lesson planning can be done "after-the-fact" or in advance, daily, weekly or unit plans or plans provided by the curriculum you are using.

d. Work Samples

Types of work samples include reading lists, tests, quizzes, daily exercises, workbook pages, writing samples (stories, essays, reports, etc.), photographs of projects, field trips, etc.

Choose several samples of work from each quarter of the school year to present to your reviewer. You may want to compile these samples into a portfolio of each student's work that can be added to from year to year.

For non-academic classes (PE, Art, Music, etc. taught by an instructor other than the parent, please have the instructor (coach) complete a "Coursework Evaluation" form which can be obtained from your reviewer. Note: It is a good idea to store work samples and educational records for at least three years, after which time there is little chance of a legal inquiry.

e. Quarterly Progress Reports

Please make a copy for your own records before returning these completed forms to your reviewer.

- f. Record of Field Trips
Including place or event, date of trip.
 - g. Record of Books Read
Including title, author, date completed and reading level, if known.
8. New Life Home Education Umbrella Program provides legal oversight coverage only. Although it's not required, it is encouraged that families join a local homeschoolers' support group.
9. You are also strongly encouraged (but not required) to become a member of the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA). Membership serves as "legal insurance" and supports the work of the HSLDA in less tolerant states.
- For more information, you can contact the *HSLDA office* at P.O. Box 3000, Purcellville, VA 20134-9000; phone (540) 338-5600 or visit their website at www.hslda.org.