

Standardized Tests

Reference: 24 PS 13-1327.1

What Does the Law Say?

“The portfolio shall consist of a log, ... samples ... and in grades three, five and eight results of nationally normed standardized achievement tests in reading/language arts and mathematics or the results of Statewide tests administered in these grade levels. The department shall establish a list, with a minimum of five tests, of nationally normed standardized tests from which the supervisor of the home education program shall select a test to be administered if the supervisor does not choose the Statewide tests. At the discretion of the supervisor, the portfolio may include the results of nationally normed standardized achievement tests for other subject areas or grade levels. The supervisor shall ensure that the nationally normed standardized tests or the Statewide tests shall not be administered by the child’s parent or guardian.”

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has approved the following nationally normed standardized tests for use by home education programs <https://www.education.pa.gov/Policy-Funding/BECS/Purdons/Pages/HomeEducationProgram.aspx>:

1. California Achievement Test
2. Comprehensive Testing Program (CTPIV)
3. Iowa Test of Basic Skills
4. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)
5. Metropolitan Achievement Test
6. Peabody Achievement Individual Test – Revised Version
7. Stanford Achievement Test
8. Terra Nova
9. Woodcock-Johnson Revised Tests of Achievement III
10. Woodcock-Johnson IV
11. Wechsler Individual Achievement Test III (WIAT-III)

The California Achievement Test (CAT) is used by many homeschool families, in print or online, timed or untimed. Read more about it here:

Read more about it here: <https://cathyduffyreviews.com/homeschool-extras/testing-and-special-needs/standardized-and-special-needs-testing-products/california-achievement-test-online#>

Order it from Christian Liberty: <https://www.shopchristianliberty.com/special-service/>

Or Academic Excellence: <https://www.academicexcellence.com/complete-online-california-achievement-test-not-timed/>

Free printable practice CAT/5 tests: <https://www.familylearning.org/testing/cat5>

The law says: “The supervisor shall ensure that the nationally normed standardized tests or the Statewide tests shall not be administered by the child’s parent or guardian” in grades 3, 5 & 8. If you purchase the online CAT, the computer is considered to be administering the test. If you purchase the printed CAT, anyone other than the supervisor and the supervisor’s spouse may administer it. Consider grandparents, other homeschool parents, even an older sibling, but make sure to choose someone your child likes and respects, and who will follow directions and not help your child answer the test questions.