History
University Church Christian Academy (UCCA) was established in 2008 as a church school ministry under the authority and oversight of University Church of Christ. UCCA believes our loving God gives parents authority over the spiritual, emotional, and academic education of their children and that these crucial facets of a child’s education should not be compartmentalized. The apostle Paul proclaimed, “I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another.” God has given discerning parents the necessary aptitude to educate their children, and parents should be afforded the opportunity to teach their children in a safe, loving, home-based environment. UCCA was founded to make this well-balanced and comprehensive method of education available to families in our church and our community.

Mission Statement
University Church Christian Academy endeavors to provide an encouraging and enduring system of support to families who make the decision to educate their children in a home-based environment. Discerning parents can be entrusted to make this important educational choice as it is the parents who are ultimately responsible for the emotional, spiritual, and academic education of their children. In this mission as in all others, we strive to glorify Jesus, our loving King, and by doing so promote unity in his kingdom.

Home Education in Alabama
- Children in the state of Alabama are required to attend a school (public, private, church, or competent private tutor) from the ages of 6 to 17 although there is an option to opt out of school until 7 years of age.¹
- Home education through a church school was officially recognized by the Alabama legislature as a legal form of education in 2014 and no public two-year or four-year post-secondary institution can deny admission against a qualified student because they were homeschooled. ²
- Church schools are not regulated by the Department of Education, the State Board of Education, or the State Superintendent of Education, but there are two requirements for enrollment as defined in the Code of Alabama.
  - If and when the student is of compulsory attendance age, parents must notify the appropriate superintendent of education that their child is enrolled in a church school.³
    - UCCA will forward the signed form to the superintendent of behalf of the parents after signatures are obtained and enrollment approved.
  - The church school must notify the appropriate superintendent of education if a student withdraws.⁴
    - UCCA has its parents give prior consent to notify the superintendent of the student’s withdrawal.
- Home education is also legal through a private school or competent private tutor.⁵ Unlike church schools, private schools and private tutors are not exempt from the reporting requirements listed in Section 16-28-7 of the Code of Alabama although the State Superintendent of Education has ruled that parents do not have to follow these regulations. See the State Department of Education website for more information.
- Each church school with a homeschool ministry develops its own policies and accountability standards. UCCA’s are listed herein.

UCCA Structure
- Operations of the church school ministry are managed by the Director who serves at the pleasure
of the UCC Eldership. The Director may be a volunteer or serve as an independent contractor.

- The Director is assisted by a board comprised of three members who voluntarily serve three year terms with one member ideally rotating from the board every year.

- Responsibilities of the school board include:
  - Attend three board meetings per year which are tentatively scheduled in September, February, and June.
  - Review, revise, and adopt policies as needed to remain consistent with state law and the UCC’s resolution to establish a church school.
  - Nominate new board members and submit candidates to the board for approval.
  - Oversee activities of the school director and provide support as necessary.
  - Assist the Eldership in recruiting a replacement director when needed.

- University Church Christian Academy and University Church of Christ will in no way assume responsibility, financial or otherwise, for the defense of legal action that may be taken against any family affiliated or enrolled with UCCA; therefore, membership in the Home School Legal Defense Association is recommended.
  - UCCA is a participating group discount member. See www.hslda.org for current fee structure and payment options. The discount number is 299263.

- Parents are considered administrators of their home schools, and they are required to meet certain requirements in order to maintain their affiliation with UCCA. These requirements are listed herein.

General Enrollment Information

- Students transferring from another public, private, or church school must be in good behavioral, academic, and attendance standing at their current school.

- UCCA affiliates with administrators and enrolls students of any race, color, and national and ethnic origins to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities accorded or made available to administrators and students of the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of any of its policies.

- UCCA serves families residing in Tuscaloosa County and surrounding areas up to a maximum driving distance of 50 miles from University Church of Christ.

- The UCCA Director reserves the right to limit the overall number of students enrolled in UCCA.

- The Director has the authority to deny enrollment for the following reasons and any other reason that helps maintain the integrity of UCCA and University Church of Christ.
  - A student is truant.
  - A student has violated Alabama law or has a history of failing to comply with the policies of other schools unless the student and parent can show that home education is being used as a means to positively redirect and structure the life of the student.
  - A student residing in the Tuscaloosa area is past the age of compulsory attendance.
    - Students who are beyond compulsory attendance age who are moving into Tuscaloosa area and wish to continue their previous home education may be admitted at the discretion of the Director.
  - A student is attempting to enroll in order to secure documentation to obtain a driver’s license.
  - The custodial parent(s) has pending charges of educational neglect.
  - Enrollment would adversely affect UCCA and UCC families.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5
UCCA FEES AND OTHER COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment Period</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early</td>
<td>April – May</td>
<td>$100 annual family enrollment fee + $25 per student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>June – July</td>
<td>$125 annual family enrollment fee + $25 per student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late</td>
<td>August - February</td>
<td>$150 annual family enrollment fee + $25 per student</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Student fees are capped at $100.  
  - *University Church of Christ members are not required to pay the student fee(s).*
- The family enrollment fee is determined by the date forms are submitted.
- Administrators are responsible for the cost of the curriculum they choose to use.
- Standardized testing of the administrator’s choosing is required by the end of 3rd grade and every other year thereafter. Administrators are responsible for scheduling the tests and for any costs involved. See the UCCA website for testing options.
- There are costs associated with the graduation ceremony for seniors.

NEW FAMILY ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

- Complete and Submit the Parent-Teacher Affiliation Request and Release of Liability (printable forms are on website)
  - The release of liability form must be notarized, signed by all parents/legal guardians, and submitted with the affiliation request.
  - If the administrator shares custody with someone other than his/her current spouse, the other parent/legal guardian must give written consent affirming his/her desire to have the student homeschooled through UCCA. This written consent should be submitted with the administrator affiliation request.
  - If the administrator shares custody with someone other than his/her current spouse but has been granted sole authority to make all educational decisions by the court, a written statement to that effect should be submitted with the administrator affiliation request.

- Upon Review of the Affiliation Request, the Director will either schedule an interview with the parent or decline the request.
  - Parent should bring the following to the interview.
    - Completed student enrollment forms for each student
    - Student Enrollment Request and Record
    - Public School Notification of Church School Enrollment
    - Payment. Online option will be available at the interview.
  - If students are transferring from another school, bring the following.
    - Request for School Records
    - A current report card for elementary and middle school students. The most recent standardized test results would also be helpful.
    - If a student is earning high school credits, the parent must bring a copy of their current transcript for credit review.
  - The parent should be prepared to discuss the types of curriculum they might like to use.
  - After the interview, the student(s) will be admitted if both parties agree to it.
  - Only the primary teacher/administrator is required to attend this interview, but family members are always welcome.
FAMILY RE-ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

- Obtain standardized test results (if required that year).
- When grading is finished for the year, add second semester/final grades to the Curriculum and Grade Report.
  - Be sure to include days of attendance and any updates to curriculum used.
  - Be sure to award high school credits for each high school subject. (1 or 0.5)
- Complete the Family Re-Enrollment Request. (fillable form on website)
  - Add all students who are re-enrolling to the “students requesting re-enrollment in UCCA” section.
  - If you have students who are enrolling in UCCA for the first time, add them to the “NEW students enrolling in UCCA” section and gather the following information.
    - Complete the New Student Enrollment forms. (fillable forms are on website)
    - If the elementary or middle school student is transferring from another school, include recent report cards and standardized test results.
    - If the student has earned high school credit from another school, include the final transcript from the grade they just completed.
- Submit all of the above documentation at one time along with payment. Do not submit anything until you have all of the required documentation.
  - Payment can be made on UCCA’s website under the GIVE tab. Select the UCCA fund. You can also text uctuscaloosa to 77977.
    - If you pay online, make a note of it on your reenrollment form. If you pay online, you can submit your paperwork by email.
    - Payment can also be made by cash, or checks made payable to UCCA.
    - Family enrollment fee is determined by the date all required forms are submitted. See above table for dates and amounts.
    - Limited scholarships are available on a need basis. Contact Director for information.
- If any students are transferring to another school, complete the Transfer Notification form.
- If the required forms and fees are not received by August 1, UCCA will terminate affiliation and the superintendent of education will be notified of the students’ withdrawal.

LIST OF REPORTS AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Curriculum and Grade Report (fillable forms on website)
  - For each student, use ONE Curriculum and Grade Report form for the entire year and update it as needed.
  - Save the report to your hard drive before you enter in any information. Save it as the student’s Last Name, First Name. Close the file and reopen before adding information.
  - Take care in filling out these forms as these will be used by the Director to evaluate the student’s education and prepare the student’s transcript. It is important documentation for you to keep at home for your own records as well.
  - Submit a copy and keep the original for your records. You can email report or send a paper copy.
- Attendance Record (printable form on website)
  - 170 school days are required anytime between June 1 and May 31.
  - Do not submit this form but use it to complete the total number of school days on the final submission of the curriculum and grade report. It’s important to have a record of days attended.
- High School Plan (fillable form on website)
- Developing a plan before a student begins to earn high school credits is highly recommended.
- The Director is available upon request to assist in the development of this plan. Submit a copy and keep the original for your records.

MANDATORY MEETINGS AND REPORTING TIMELINE

- **SEPTEMBER | ORIENTATION AND CURRICULUM LOG**
  - Fill in curriculum being used and submit to Director by orientation in September.
    - Curriculum used is at the discretion of the administrator with input from Director if needed.
    - If admitted after orientation, submit curriculum log within two weeks of admission.

- **JANUARY | PARENT-TEACHER INSERVICE AND FIRST SEMESTER GRADES**
  - Submit 1st semester grades by **January 15**. Email or submit a paper copy.

- **SPRING TESTING**
  - Standardized testing (such as the Stanford 10, PASS, IOWA, ACT, PSAT, SAT) is required by the end of third grade and every other year thereafter. The administrator is responsible for the scheduling and cost of the testing.
  - Tests can be scheduled at any time during the year. Spring is the most popular time to test.
  - If a high school student achieves the following scores on each of these ACT subsets, they are no longer required to submit standardized tests as these are considered college ready benchmarks.
    - English Subset 18
    - Math Subset 22
    - Reading Subset 22
    - Science Subset 23
  - Students do not have to achieve these scores to graduate from UCCA. These scores simply exempt them from further testing.

- **APRIL - JULY**
  - Once all grading is completed for the year, submit re-enrollment or transfer forms along with final grade reports and standardized testing results if required that year. Fees depend on submission dates. All required documentation should be submitted at once.

- **MAY 31**
  - Curriculum that has been borrowed from the UCCA lending library should be returned by the end of May.
  - If books are needed for another year for another student, email the Director with the number on the label and a description.

- **JUNE**
  - If either orientation or a parent-teacher inservice in January was missed, administrators are required to attend this meeting. If both of the other meetings were attended, administrators are exempt from the June meeting.
GRADING PROCEDURES

UCCA Grade Scale | Point Value Is For High School Use Only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>grade value = 4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>grade value = 3 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>grade value = 2 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory</td>
<td>grade value = 1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failing</td>
<td>grade value = 0 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elementary and Middle School Grading

- The Curriculum and Grade Report form is used to report academic progress. Only semester grades are reported. Average the semester grades to get the final grade.
- Elementary and middle school students can use a letter grade, a percentage grade, or both. A letter grade will be used on the official school transcript prepared by the Director.
- If a middle school student is earning any high school credits, the high school curriculum and grade report form should be used for all subjects even if the student isn’t earning high school credit for all subjects.
- If the administrator chooses to measure academic progress subjectively, choose the letter grade which best corresponds to the student’s progress. See grade scale above.
- All elementary and middle school courses of study should fall under one of these subjects: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Sciences, Sciences, Health Education, Physical Education, Technology Education, Biblical Studies, Foreign Language, and Arts Education.
- Average the grades received for each course studied under one subject to determine the subject grade.
  - For example:
    - The courses of spelling, grammar, handwriting, and reading would be averaged together for the English Language Arts grade.
    - Logic courses would be averaged with the arithmetic and mathematics courses.
    - The courses of American History, Geography, and Civics would be averaged together for the Social Sciences grade.
- The curriculum section will show the resources used in individual courses, but the grade section should reflect the student’s progress in the subject as a whole.
- Any private lessons, sports teams, etc., which are used to help determine a grade in a particular subject should be added to the Curriculum Log.
- The Activities/Achievements/Recurring Community Service section of the Curriculum and Grade Report form is optional, but it can be used to track resources used to enrich a student’s education.

Middle School Students Earning High School Credits

- If a middle school student is earning any high school credits, the High School Curriculum and Grade Report form must be used for all subjects even if the student doesn’t earn a high school credit for every subject. If the course is not for high school credit, simply leave the high school credit section blank.
- Grades earned in middle school for high school level courses will be used in the calculation of the student’s cumulative high school GPA.
High School Credits
- UCCA will award one high school unit of credit for the following academic achievements:
  - Completion of a high school level course designated as a one-credit course by a credible publisher with a grade of “D” or better.
  - Completion of a minimum of 140 hours of instruction, research, and/or study for a given high school level subject with a grade of “D” or better.
  - Completion of a 3+ hour college course with a grade of “C” or better.
- UCCA will award one half-unit of high school credit for the following academic achievements:
  - Completion of a high school level course designated as a half-credit course by a credible publisher with a grade of “D” or better.
  - Completion of a minimum of 70 hours of instruction, research, and/or study for a given high school level subject with a grade of “D” or better.
- Administrator and students should keep track of hours spent in courses developed by the administrator. It takes 140 hours to earn one credit and 70 hours to earn a half credit.
- High school level work is defined as course work on the level of grades 9-12 using grade appropriate curriculums or their equivalent.

High School Grading
- The High School Curriculum and Grade Report is used to report academic progress once a student begins to earn any high school credits.
- Use a percentage grade when submitting semester grades. Average the semesters to determine the final grade.
- When a student completes a course, enter the final grade and award the appropriate credit.
- UCCA uses a non-weighted 4.0 grade scale. See grade scale above and an example of how to calculate GPA below.
- The Director also tracks the GPA on the transcript and can also provide upon request.

Example of Calculating the GPA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Percentage Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Unit/Credit Attempted</th>
<th>Grade Value</th>
<th>Total Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 x</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1 x</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1 x</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1 x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.5 x</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.5 credits

Total Grade Points divided by Total Credits Attempted = GPA
10/4.5 = 2.2 GPA

High School Resume
- The administrator should assist the high school student in maintaining a “High School Resume” folder. Include the dates in which the student participated in each activity. It is very important to keep a record of any leadership roles or special recognition received. Keep track of everything even it seems insignificant. Include dates!
- Possible items to include on the high school resume include but are not limited to the following:
  - Key Stats (GPA, ACT, SAT)
High School Graduation Requirements

- UCCA offers a high school diploma to students 16 years of age or older. This diploma is not accredited by the state of Alabama, but it does closely mirror their requirements. No public, post-secondary institution in the state of Alabama can discriminate against a diploma issued by a church school located in Alabama.
- Twenty-four is the minimum number of credits required, and UCCA students are encouraged to exceed this number as they prepare for their post-secondary plans. Most UCCA students graduate with 26-30 credits.
- It is imperative that all students know and understand the admission requirements of the institutions they wish to attend after graduation to ensure those requirements are met.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CORE SUBJECTS</td>
<td>Required Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 English 9, 10, 11, 12 (including American and British Literature)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4 Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4 Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry (including labs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4 World History, US History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OTHER COURSES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>1 Playing any varsity sport for THE will earn one credit with a maximum of one credit per year no matter how many sports are played.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>1 Art or music appreciation, drawing, sculpture, music, dance, theatre, architecture, photography, and printmaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microcomputer Applications</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CREDITS</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Examples of Social Science Sequences (others are possible)
  - Two years of World History, one year of US History, American Government and Economics
One year of World History, two years of US History, American Government and Economics
- Classical Model: World History I and II (ancient and medieval) and American History (modern)
- Geography is another popular social studies course.

Students should check with the post-secondary institutions they wish to attend to determine if that school gives preferential admission status to students who have two years of the same foreign language.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

- One semester of a 3 hour college course is equivalent to one credit in high school.
- The administrator should discuss high school and college course equivalencies in relation to graduation requirements with the Director before enrolling in these courses.
- UCCA has dual enrollment contracts with Shelton State Community College and Bevill State Community College.
  - Dual enrollment students are required to take the ACT or ACCUPLACER to determine college readiness and course placement. See college’s dual enrollment website for more information.
  - The UCCA director must approve the courses the student wishes to take and sign the appropriate dual form.
    - Make sure to use the appropriate semester form. It will say summer, spring, or fall.
    - Make sure the entire form is complete except for the counselor’s signature and that all courses the student might want to take are listed. Student does not have to register for all of them.
    - Make sure both the student and the parent have signed in the designated areas.
    - The director will forward the signed form along with the student's transcript to the appropriate school.
  - The student will receive the same grade at the high school level as received on the college level.
    - The student should track their percentage grade in order to submit it on the UCCA grade report. The Director will compare this grade to the one submitted by the dual school.
  - Accelerated high school is another option to receive high school and college credit for the same course, but course selection is limited. See college website for more information.

- UA Early College
  - Many UCCA students take classes through UA Early College, but UCCA does not have a dual enrollment contract with them.
  - This decision was made so that the administrator has the freedom to select which courses their student takes without prior approval from the UCCA director.
  - Upon request, the director will complete the Counselor Cover Memo and submit a transcript on the student’s behalf to declare they are eligible for Early College.
  - To receive high school credit for classes taken at UA Early College, the administrator should submit the percentage grade on the UCCA grade report and also submit an unofficial transcript that includes the final grade for confirmation.
  - The administrator has the option of not requesting high school credit for courses at UA because UCCA does not have a dual enrollment contract with them, but the grade will remain on the student’s official college transcript.

UCCA STUDENTS WHO TRANSFER TO ANOTHER SCHOOL DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

- Promptly submit a Transfer Notification form to the UCCA Director along with the grade reports so that the Director can complete a transcript. Include total days of attendance for that school year.
- UCCA cannot guarantee a student will be admitted to a certain grade level upon transfer to a
public or private school. Placement is entirely up to the school to which the student is transferring.

- UCCA cannot guarantee credits will transfer to a public or private high school. Acceptable credits are determined by the enrolling school only.

ADMINISTRATOR STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

- Attend mandatory meeting. Failure to attend these meetings without prior notification of just cause can result in dismissal from UCCA at the conclusion of the school year. The Director has discretion in these matters.
- Attend parent meetings with the Director if requested.
- Follow industry standards for schoolwork retention.
- Ensure that your students are in compliance with Alabama law concerning immunizations.
- Notify the UCCA Director of any changes in contact information or change in permanent address.
- Notify the UCCA Director of any family situations or health issues that may affect the education of students.
- Notify the UCCA Director if contacted by any governmental agency or representative, such as a truancy officer, a social worker, the Board of Education, or the Department of Human Resources (DHR), who is interested or has questions about your home education program.

ADMINISTRATOR AFFILIATION EXPECTATIONS

- The administrator accepts full responsibility for the emotional, spiritual and academic education of their child(ren).
- The administrator is responsible for ensuring that all curriculum choices are aligned with their students’ desired post high school aspirations and the admissions requirements of those institutions. The Director is available to assist upon request.
- The history of the Christian church and Christian theology should be studied throughout the elementary and high school years, but it is not required as an individual course of study if it is integrated into the study of other subjects.
- The administrator should have the basic knowledge and ability to instruct their children in compliance with applicable Alabama education law and UCCA requirements.
- The administrator should have the organizational skills and aptitude to meet all reporting requirements as defined by Alabama education law and UCCA.
- All educational instruction should be managed and supervised by the administrator.
- The administrator should not work full-time outside the home during traditional school hours. Exceptions can be made at the discretion of the director if students are not routinely left unsupervised during these hours or if the student primarily attends dual enrollment classes.
- A statement of faith is not required for affiliation with UCCA; however, the administrator should not hinder nor be in opposition to the Christian beliefs of University Church of Christ. Information about University Church of Christ can be found on their website at www.universitycofc.org.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR ADMINISTRATORS WHO DO NOT FOLLOW REQUIREMENTS HEREIN

- If the UCCA Director discovers an administrator has violated any of UCCA’s administrator standards, requirements, or other policies, the following procedures should be followed:
  - The Director will give a verbal or written notification of the policy violation to the administrator.
  - If the violation requires immediate termination of administrator affiliation as determined by the Director, the administrator will be notified at that time.
  - If the violation does not require immediate termination, the administrator should be given time to promptly correct the violation.
  - If the administrator does not promptly correct the violation, notification will be given of the
immediate termination of their administrator.
- If the violation warrants termination, but does not require immediate dismissal, the administrator will be notified of a deferred dismissal. The administrator will have the option to complete the school year, but their affiliation will not be renewed for the subsequent year nor their students re-enrolled.
- Upon termination of administrator affiliation with UCCA, the superintendent of education will be notified of the withdrawal of the administrator’s children from University Church Christian Academy.
Endnotes

1. Every child between the ages of six and seventeen years shall be required to attend a public school, private school, church school, or be instructed by a competent private tutor for the entire length of the school term in every scholastic year except that, prior to attaining his or her 16th birthday every child attending a church school as defined in Section 16-28-1 is exempt from the requirements of this section, provided such child complies with enrollment and reporting procedure specified in Section 16-28-7… The parent, legal custodian, or guardian of a child who is six years of age, may opt out of enrolling their child in school at the age of six years by notifying the local school board of education, in writing that the child will not be enrolled in school until he or she is seven years of age.

2. “No public two-year or four-year institution of higher education in the state may deny admission to or otherwise discriminate against an otherwise qualified student based on the consideration, whether in whole or in part, that the student attended, graduated from, or is enrolled in a nonpublic school, including private, church, parochial, and religious schools, or was home schooled.” A church school is defined by the Code of Alabama as “schools that offer instruction in grades K-12, or any combination thereof, including preschool, through on-site or home programs, and are operated as a ministry of a local church, group of churches, denominations, and/or association of churches which do not receive any state or federal funding.”

3. Senate Bill 38 states, “The enrollment and attendance of a child in a church school shall be filed with the local public school superintendent by the parent, guardian, or other person in charge or control of the child on a form provided by the superintendent or his or her agent which shall be countersigned by the administrator of the church school and returned to the public school superintendent by the parent.”

4. SB38 states, “Should the child cease attendance at a church school, the parent, guardian, or other person in charge or control of the child shall by prior consent at the time of enrollment direct the church school to notify the local public school superintendent or his or her agent that the child no longer is in attendance at a church school.”

5. Private schools are defined as “schools that are established, conducted, and supported by a nongovernmental entity or agency offering education instruction in grades K-12, or any combination thereof, including preschool, through on-site or home programs.”

6. According to the HSLDA website, “After a family joins HSLDA, there are no further charges of any kind for defending them in court. HSLDA pays in full all attorney fees, expert witness costs, travel expenses, an all other court costs permissible by state law for us to pay.” HSLDA also promotes home education and serves as a diligent home school advocate worldwide.

7. If an administrator is questioned at their door, they should present a copy of their Public School Notification of Church School Enrollment form, completed and signed by the director. This is the only evidence required for compliance with the Compulsory Attendance Act. The administrator should immediately contact the UCCA Director to report the incident. If they are members of HSLDA, they should contact them first. Administrators whose children are enrolled in a church school are not required by law to provide attendance records, curriculum information, or example of the student’s work to any government official without a court order. No government official has the legal authority to enter your home without a court order.