

McConnell AFB Home School Guide For Military Parents



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Welcome to McConnell Air Force Base

Welcome to Wichita, home of McConnell Air Force Base and the 22d Air Refueling Wing! Wichita is a great area for families and you have a lot of choices when it comes to the education of your children. There are numerous school systems serving Team McConnell families. Families residing on base are zoned for the Derby School District (Wineteer Elementary, Derby Sixth Grade Center, Derby Middle School and Derby High School). However, there are a great deal of military families that are actively seeking home school as an option for their child(ren)'s education.

There are several active Homeschool groups in the area, including a sports league. Virtual school is also taking off in Kansas also. Many of the local districts offer students the opportunity to take classes from home through an online learning program.

While we cannot provide you with the "best program" or "best curriculum" to use, we will work with you to find the option that best meet the needs of your child or children, and your level of comfort.

Choosing a home school curriculum program is an important decision. Take into consideration all the factors that are important to your family. Are you looking for a faith-based option? Would you prefer to use entirely online programs, or perhaps entirely paper-pencil based? Will your child respond better to a year-round program or would you prefer a traditional approach?

It's critical that you research your options. Asking friends or other home school parents for their recommendations is a great start, but make sure that your final decision is based on the needs of your family. Feel free to contact the School Liaison at any time with questions or a request for information.

Hopefully you will find the information in this guide helpful. The primary focus of this guide is to educate potential home school parents on options and resources available to them. There are also sections on Parent Support, Preparing for College, and Useful Links on the web.



Please contact the School Liaison Officer for any assistance you may need at (316) 759-6020, DSN 743-6020, or 22FSS.SLO@us.af.mil.

School Liaison Officer
McConnell AFB

School Liaison Officer (SLO)

The School Liaison Officer, or SLO, is the installation's advocate for military-connected children associated with McConnell. Almost all bases have both a military and civilian School Liaison. The civilian SLO is your resource for the day-to-day needs and concerns of school-age military children. The SLO has an office in the Airman & Family Readiness Center.

SLOs are intended to help ease transitions for mobile military students. We want to see all military-connected students have success in their educational environment regardless of the number of transitions. We provide information to families on school choices, enrollment, placement, graduation, and much more. We will not select or recommend a school or school system for your child. You know the needs of your child better than anyone. SLOs will be happy to provide you with information based on what you think the best educational options are for your child.

The SLO builds and maintains relationships with local schools serving military children. SLOs educate teachers and administrators on the unique needs of military children and military culture. They also resolve issues that affect military children in and out of the classroom.

Responsibilities of the SLO include:

- Providing information on schools and education options for inbound families,
- Providing information on schools at the next assignment for outbound families,
- Developing partnerships and relationships with local school districts
- Promoting parental learning and involvement, and
- Identifying local concerns regarding military child education.



Homeschool

Kansas does not authorize “home instruction” or “homeschooling” specifically. However, the state does recognize Non-Accredited Private schools. If you intend to homeschool, you will need to register once with the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) to be classified as a Non-Accredited Private School. A non-accredited school satisfies compulsory attendance laws, but is not accredited by the State Board of Education.

There is no fee charged to register a school. You will register the name and address of the elementary or secondary school (homeschool). Registration consists of filling out a simple form by mail or online. You will not receive any kind of confirmation. **Please make copies of your registration for your records and for the school from which your student is withdrawn.**

Please only register your Non-Accredited Private School once; if any changes are needed, please update through the online registration form, or send in the Change of Address Form at this link: http://www.ksde.org/Portals/o/Title%20Programs%20and%20Services/HomeSchool/NAPS_Address_Change.pdf

Kansas will not ask to see any records, but recommends that you keep accurate and complete records of progress. Students will need these if they transfer to a public school or apply for admission to college. Accredited schools are not required to accept transfer credits. The state will not issue diplomas and they will not recognize private school diplomas as meeting any state requirements. Colleges and universities determine their own criteria for admission from non-accredited schools. Please notify the Kansas State Department of Education if you are no longer homeschooling so that we may mark your school as "Non-Active."

Register online at: <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1684>

For further information or to request a printed registration form contact:

Non-Accredited Private Schools

KSDE

Attn: Tate Toedman

900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 620

Topeka, KS 66612-1182

PHONE: (785) 368-7088

State Policy Affecting Homeschooling: Kansas Statute Ann. §72-1111 (comp. attend.)

Supporting Organizations

There are numerous support groups for homeschool families in the local area to share resources, work together and participate in sports. The Teaching Parents Association has a comprehensive list of statewide groups on their website. The McConnell AFB Library also offers resources and activities for homeschool students. More information:

McConnell AFB Library www.mcconnellafblibrary.com

Teaching Parents Association <http://teachingparents.org/index.php>

Wichita Area Homeschool Athletic Association www.wichitawarriors.org

Derby Invasion Homeschool Sports <http://www.derbyinvasion.com/index.php>

Kansas State dept. of Education Homeschooling <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1684>

Homeschool Association for Military Families (HSAMF) <http://www.hsamf.org>

If you are interested in putting together another homeschool group specifically for McConnell families, please contact the School Liaison with your ideas.

Fees

The fees associated with homeschooling are mainly determined by which option you choose to take for your child's education. For example, if you choose to take the lead and teach your child in a traditional homeschool setting, you will need to purchase all materials through a company that aligns with your values and/or education vision and perspective. There are numerous companies to choose from and some materials are required while others are optional. You have the freedom and flexibility to spend as much or as little as you feel is necessary when purchasing homeschool materials.

You may also consider options for allowing your child to learn through an online public or private school. As with the traditional homeschool option, there are some programs that have annual/monthly fees, and others that are considered free online public education with minimal fees.

In general, homeschooling costs more than public school, but less than private school. That may sound pretty non-committal, but the average of \$500 can sound like a burden or a relief, depending on your previous education experience! Some expenses you'll want to consider include:

- ▶ Curriculum (most likely your greatest expense)
- ▶ Testing fees
- ▶ Home library
- ▶ School supplies
- ▶ Extracurricular activities/lessons
- ▶ Professional memberships
- ▶ State convention

Pre-K and Kindergarten

Availability of Pre-K and Kindergarten varies by program and depends on whether you decide to traditionally homeschool or homeschool online. Neither is mandatory in the state of Kansas. For specific details, please contact the School Liaison.

State funding for Kindergarten only supports a half-day program. For some students, this is a great way to ease in to the daily school routine. As a homeschool parent, you have the flexibility to make your child's learning experience suit his/her needs, and you can choose the amount of time you think your child needs to develop the skills.

Your child must be 5 on or before August 31 in order to start Kindergarten in public school. Ages for Pre-K will vary based on district and programs offered (3 or 4).

Graduation Requirements

Kansas graduation requirements vary by district. A minimum of 21 credits is required by the Kansas Department of Education. Please check with the School Liaison if you have questions about credits and graduation requirements in Kansas for high school students.



SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS

- 4 Credits Language Arts
- 3 Credits Math (1 must be Algebra 1 or higher)
- 3 Credits Science (Most districts require Lab Sciences)
- 3 Credits Social Science
 - 1 credit US History
 - 1/2 credit US Government
 - 1 credit World History or AP European History
- 1 Credit Fine Arts
- 1/2 Credit Speech (not all districts)
- 1/2 Credit Computer Studies (not all districts)
- 1 Credit Health/PE
- 9-10 Credits electives
- 25 Total Credits Required

Please note that these are the minimum requirements for obtaining a high school diploma. College-bound students should check the admissions requirements for each institution they are considering. Online public education options for homeschool will align with Kansas requirements.

Special Education

Special education services are provided by local districts to eligible students. Every child in this country is entitled to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Each district has a Special Education Services Department. Children enrolled in Kansas private schools or homeschool can also benefit from public school system services.

Parents of children identified as gifted should note that gifted children are required to have an IEP in the state of Kansas. This may mean that a district will require a reevaluation of a student in order for the student to continue receiving services.

You should know your child's rights and your rights as a parent under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA). You know your child better than anyone else and you have the opportunity to be part of any decision making team that meets regarding your child.

Visit the website of Families Together, the Kansas Parent Training Center and parent partner of KSDE, at www.familiestogetherinc.org.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the School Liaison Officer or EFMP-FS Coordinator (see page 11). Below is a brief overview of Kansas' special education process.

KANSAS IEP PROCESS

Child Find: Schools use the child find process to identify students who may need special education services. If the child is under age 5, child find is referred to as "screening." Screenings must be provided within 30 days of a request. Children in grades K-12 usually begin with general education interventions. A team will develop an intervention plan based on the needs of the individual child. If the interventions are more than what can be provided in general education, that student is referred to the next step.

Initial Evaluation and Eligibility: During an evaluation, information is collected about the student to determine if he/she meets KSDE criteria for an exceptionality and needs special education services. Parents will be notified ahead of time and asked to consent to an evaluation. They will also receive a copy of the evaluation report documenting the decision of the assessment team. If a child is determined ineligible for services, the team will consider other options that might help including enrichment programs or services under Section 504. Eligible students will begin the IEP Process.

Individualized Education Program (IEP): An IEP is a written plan for a student with an exceptionality to ensure better educational results. It is based on the child's individual needs. A team (including the student's parents,) creates the IEP to guide the supports and services provided. It is reviewed annually to ensure the student is achieving the goals and can be revised, if needed.

Reevaluation: At least once every three years, a reevaluation of the student's needs will be conducted. Parents must receive written notice and then consent to the reevaluation. It can be conducted more frequently. The IEP team will review the previous evaluation information and may ask for more information to determine if the student still has an exceptionality. They will also consider if the student needs additions or modifications in order to meet the goals set out in the IEP and to allow the student to participate, if possible, in general education.

For additional information from the Kansas Department of Education on the Special Education Process, visit www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=101.

Virtual Schools

Virtual schools are another option for families in Kansas. **Virtual schools** or **Cyber schools** are institutions that teach courses entirely or primarily online. "Virtual School" generally means accredited schools that teach a full-time (or nearly full-time) course of instruction designed to lead to a degree. Some districts may allow virtual students to participate in extracurricular activities. Please check with each individual program for their policies. We strongly recommend researching programs and their accreditation before enrolling your child and making a financial commitment.

About Virtual/Online Programs:

- All student services conducted via Internet. Many states have their own virtual school often with student population in the thousands.

Virtual school instructional and enrollment models:

- Instructional models from fully independent self paced (**asynchronous**) courses to semester based virtual (**synchronous**) teacher facilitated courses.
- Class sizes range widely -from 25 students to 200 students per class section.
- Students contact teachers and collaborate with other students through web communication tools provided in course delivery platforms like Blackboard, Desire2Learn or Moodles.
- In some cases students communicate by phone with instructors.

The programs listed below are those accredited by the Kansas Department of Education. These are just a few of the programs based closest to Wichita. You can visit www.KSDE.org for a full listing.

KSDE ACCREDITED VIRTUAL SCHOOLS

Learning2 eSchool of Wichita www.learning2eschool.com
Wichita Public Schools, grades K-12

Heartland Virtual Academy www.k12local.com/hva
Heartland/ESSDACK District and uses K-12 curriculum, K-8

Andover eCademy www.andoveracademy.org
Andover Public Schools, grades K-12

KSDE ACCREDITED VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Derby Public Virtual www.derbyschools.com
Derby Public Schools, grades K-12

The Learning Center at Valley Center <http://vcks.lc.groupfusion.net/>
Valley Center Public Schools, High School Diploma (including Adult Learners)

Maize Online www.usd266.com
Maize Public Schools, grades 9-12

Maize Virtual Preparatory School www.maizevirtualprepschool.com
Maize Public Schools using Calvert curriculum, grades K-8

Southeast Kansas Educational Service Center www.sckesc.org
Online Classes, Diploma Completion

The Virtual school environment or learning approach can be challenging for some students, but can also be the most successful for others.

Successful online students are:

- Motivated / positive attitude
- Independent
- Self-directed / willing to ask for help
- Learn when presented with sound logical theories
- Perform better than students who rely on 'hands on' experience to learn
- Enjoy technology
- Have strong language skills
- Visual learners
- Consistent parent support
- Involved in non-academic activities
- Extroverted students more successful in socially interactive courses
- Introverted students tend to succeed in self-paced courses

Fast Facts About Online Learning:

- Use of computer technology begins at a young age:**
 - nursery school computer users **67%**
 - kindergarteners computer users **80%**
- High school computer users 97%**
- High School internet users 80%**
- School Aged and Adolescent Computer and internet users > Adult users**
- Schools connected to internet 100%**
- Public school classrooms with wireless internet access 15%**

Instructional Factors (Virtual School):

- Online students value frequent and timely responses to questions.**
 - Communication with and instructor feedback is most valuable aspect of online courses.**
 - Many online students value inter-student communication within courses.**
-

Home School Curriculum

If you are interested in home schooling your child on your own, you may be looking at various options for curriculum. While we do not endorse any particular curriculum for Home Schooling your child, we do encourage you to consider all of your options and make a decision that best fits your needs. There are many options to choose from and it can really be overwhelming for parents. Here are some tips for choosing the right one for you:

1. The best curriculum for your children will be the one that aligns with your family's purpose for home schooling.
2. Write an academic mission statement that you can reference as you're reviewing curricula.
3. Consider your influencing factors, such as the role your faith or values will play in your children's curriculum and how you intend to achieve the Kansas educational standards.
4. Figure out how much you intend to spend, and then adjust curricula to fit your budget, perhaps being creative with some subjects, such as using the library for literature books, to make home schooling work for your family.
5. Find a method that accommodates your child's learning style

These tips were taken from <http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/schooling/effective-home-schooling/choosing-a-home-school-curriculum> and <http://school.familyeducation.com/home-schooling/curriculum-planning/38847.html>

Here are a few curriculums you may want to look into further (these are the ones that have complete packages available):

A Beka Correspondence Program (www.abeka.org)

- ▶ Bible curriculum from a Christian perspective for grades K – 12
- ▶ Provides record-keeping, textbooks and curriculum
- ▶ Highly structured, weekly tests, programmed approach (drill and repetition)
- ▶ Cost: \$655 for grades 1 – 6; \$800 grades 7 – 12

Alpha Omega (www.aophomeschooling.com)

- ▶ Bible curriculum from a Christian perspective for grades PreK – 12
- ▶ Print-based, computer-based, and online homeschooling curriculum formats
- ▶ Academic support available 8am-430pm CT Mon-Fri

BJU Press School (www.bjupresshomeschool.com)

- ▶ Christian homeschool curriculum and distance learning options for K-12
- ▶ Learn traditionally with textbooks or with eBooks, online distance learning, and on DVD
- ▶ Homework Consultants are available, testing & evaluation

Calvert School (calvertschool.org)

- ▶ Nondenominational program with a Christian flavor, emphasizing Western cultural heritage, classic art, and creative writing for grades K – 8
- ▶ Provides full support services, teacher manuals, and all needed school supplies
- ▶ Very hands-on for parents in the lower grades; upper grades are progressively self-instructional
- ▶ Cost: approximately \$550 to \$900

Clonlara School Home Based Education Program (www.clonlara.org)

- ▶ Progressive nonsectarian program for grades K – 12
- ▶ Provides full support services, curriculum to use as a starting point, and guidebooks for choosing learning materials
- ▶ Relaxed learning and individualized programs providing structure without pressure
- ▶ Cost: Approximately \$550 to \$650

Oak Meadow School (www.oakmeadow.com)

- ▶ A holistic, nonsectarian program accommodating a wide variety of learning styles for grades K – 12
- ▶ Provides full support services, curriculum, and all materials; every enrolled child has a class teacher available for phone or email consultation
- ▶ Hands-on learning, emphasizing imaginative activities and creative thinking
- ▶ Cost: Approximately \$1,000 for grades K – 8; \$2,000 for high-school full correspondence program, including class teacher

Seton Home Study School (www.setonhome.org)

- ▶ Catholic program, featuring academic preparation for college, for grades K – 12
- ▶ Provides full record-keeping services, workbook/textbooks with Seton lesson guides, and extensive phone and mail consultation services
- ▶ Textbook-oriented, emphasizing traditional Catholic values in all areas of knowledge
- ▶ Cost: Approximately \$500

Sonlight Curriculum, Ltd. (www.sonlight.com)

- ▶ Literature-based program from a Christian perspective for grades K – 12
- ▶ Provides textbooks, curriculum, and supplies
- ▶ The only curricula supplier that offers an eight-week trial with full refund if not satisfied
- ▶ Cost: Basic package costs approximately \$600; users report purchasing additional Sonlight items, raising the costs considerably

Advantages: If you're new to homeschooling, a full curriculum package is the easiest choice. For families who wish to make religion a part of their children's education, a prepackaged curriculum from a religious supplier fits this need. If you crave structure, are uncertain about meeting your homeschooling legal requirements (the school handles all reporting requirements), or want to replicate the school model at home, then full curriculum packages are for you.

Disadvantages: These packages can be very expensive. Satisfaction levels vary. Your children may resist the structure or the program's style, and new homeschooling parents may be overwhelmed by the amount work involved.

There are many other options available, these were just some retrieved from <http://school.familyeducation.com/home-schooling/curriculum-planning/38847.html?page=2&> and <http://www.hslda.org/earlyyears/Curriculum.asp>

You may even be interested in developing your own curriculum and this is really not as difficult as it sounds. There are many options for doing this if you'd like to be a DIY homeschool parent.

Where do I find materials?

- ▶ Curriculum fairs
- ▶ State homeschool conventions
- ▶ Book stores
- ▶ Catalogs
- ▶ Internet (search for the subject + homeschool curriculum)
- ▶ Used curriculum shops
- ▶ Support group swaps/other homeschoolers

EFMP

The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) serves and supports military family members with special medical and educational needs. There are three components: Identification and Enrollment, Assignment Coordination, and Family Support (FS).



The EFMP-FS helps families identify and access resources and services. Some ways the program coordinator can assist are:

- Provide information and referrals to both military and community services
- Provide training on special needs topics
- Provide information on local schools and assistance in resolving issues with IEPs, 504 Plans, etc.
- Warm handoffs to the EFMP at the next installation

The EFMP-FS for McConnell AFB is located at the Airman & Family Readiness Center and can be reached by phone at (316) 759-6020 or e-mail at 22.FSS.EFMP.McConnell@us.af.mil.

TRANSITIONS

The average military child will attend 6-9 different schools during their K-12 years. While moving is a significant challenge for the whole family, there are additional challenges for school age children. The military member can expect stability in the workplace each time they have to move. It's not at all the same for the mobile military child. The differences between state requirements include testing, grading scales, graduation requirements, kindergarten entrance ages, etc. . .

To help ease transitions for students, even when homeschooling, it is important to keep records of academic and extracurricular achievements. You can start creating a portfolio for your child as early as elementary school. This is particularly important if your child is on an IEP or receiving any kind of additional services you will need replicated at a new duty station. As your children get older, encourage them to help you pick out the best examples of their work and add some personal touches to their portfolio.

Middle and high school children should keep more thorough records, including textbooks, course descriptions and school handbooks showing grading scales. Consider asking for recommendation letters and letters of introduction from coaches or instructors of activities who can speak to your child's abilities.

It is important to hand carry copies of your child's schools records, IEPs and other documents. Do not pack these in case your luggage is lost or delayed. The Military Child Education Coalition provides the following checklist that will help you as you begin to gather records for a PCS. Bolded items apply to all children.

- Course Description Book**
- School Profile**
- Attendance and Tardy Records**
- Report Card**
- Current Schedule**
- Withdrawal Grades**
- Transcript (with grading scale)**
- Test Scores (if applicable)**
- Cumulative Folder**
- Social Security Number**
- Health/Immunization Records**
- Birth Certificate**
- Activities Record**
- IEP/504/Gifted Records
- JROTC Records (if applicable)
- Guardianship/Custody Papers
- Fees Owed
- Service Learning Hours
- Letters of Recommendation
- Writing Samples
- Portfolios

Preparing for College



It is never too early to start planning (and saving!) for college. Students should begin keeping records and thinking seriously about postsecondary education during their middle school years. Military children should already have well-kept records to help with school transitions. Those that pertain to college application include records of volunteer work, extracurricular activities, awards won, jobs held, and academic records (grades and test scores). Students should keep a portfolio with transcripts/report cards, awards, newspaper articles, photographs and other items collected.

They should also be planning their course schedules accordingly, even as a homeschool student! It is important that they align their education choices with what they plan to do when they go to college. Colleges may require different courses or more courses than the minimum required to obtain a high school diploma. The Academic Passport was developed as part of the Army Secondary Education Transition Study (SETS). This list of requirements is recommended to help mobile military students transition easily between schools and also be admitted to college. The recommended courses are as follows:

- 4 Credits English (AP or IB strongly recommended)
- 4 Credits Math (Alg I by 9th grade, Geometry, Alg II. Recommend Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics and AP or IB courses)
- 3 Credits Social Studies (Must take US and World History, US Government and Economics are important, and they strongly recommend AP and IB)
- 4 Credits Science (3 Lab sciences – Biology, Chemistry, Physics and AP/IB courses are recommended)
- 2 Credits Foreign Language (More credits are good, a second language is great.)
- 1 Credit Computer Science

The cost of a college education rises each year. Begin searching for scholarships early. Make notes of the requirements and the period in which applications are accepted. Start a spreadsheet to keep yourself organized.

Beware of scholarship scams. If they ask for money in order to search for scholarships or apply for scholarship money, it is probably a scam. Check the Federal Trade Commission website for information on identifying scams (www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/scholarship/index).

For more information and to receive resources about scholarship opportunities, contact the McConnell AFB SLO at 22FSS.SLO@us.af.mil.

Resources for Military Families

Educational

- Sedgwick County Zoo www.scz.org 316-266-8213
"Zoo Day" in September each year for homeschoolers and "Homeschool Expeditions" Classes
- Great Plains Nature Center www.gpnc.org 316-683-5499
School year classes & lend boxes on topics/subjects (Nature, Insects, etc...)
- Botanica Gardens www.botanica.org 316-264-0448
School year classes; "Homeschool Day" in April
- Great Plains Nature Center <http://www.gpnc.org/> (316)683-5499
Here you will find opportunities to learn about natural resources, especially the wildlife and plant species, of the Great Plains Region.
- City Arts www.wichitaarts.com 316-350-3245
School year classes, Homeschool classes, check calendar for specific events
- Exploration Place www.exploration.org 316-263-3373
Monthly homeschool classes <http://exploration.org/programs/homeschool/>
- Pixel Time www.pixelttime.com 316-263-3373
School year classes & Digital Media Public or Private classes
- Wichita Art Museum www.wichitaartmuseum.org (316)268-4921
Family Art Adventure
- Christian Youth Theater <http://www.cytwichita.org/about-us> (316)682-1688
Christian Youth Theater (CYT) is an after-school theater arts program training children in all aspects of the performing arts. Students ages 8-18 currently enrolled in the session have the opportunity to audition for a Broadway-style production. Toward the end of each session, this fully-staged musical production is presented.
- Mid-America All Indian Center <http://theindiancenter.org/Pages/default.aspx> (316)350-3340
The Mid American All Indian Center serves as a cultural center and museum dedicated to educating people about and preserving the heritage of the American Indian.
- Museum of World Treasures <http://www.worldtreasures.org/> (316)263-1311
One of the most interesting and exciting museums in Kansas; including Ivan the T.Rex, two Egyptian mummies, and an expansive military history exhibit. Discover educational resources for the classroom; including fact sheets and treasure hunts, and soon - lesson plans & more in the Education Resource Center: <http://worldtreasures.org/resources.php>
- Cosmosphere in Hutchinson www.cosmo.org 800-397-0330
Homeschool field trip opportunity, to learn about outer space and rockets
- Wichita Center for the Arts <https://www.wcfta.com/> (316)634-2787
Offers opportunities for youth-focused camps, classes, and workshops all throughout the year, weekly and/or daily to fit your schedule

- Kansas Underground Salt Museum <http://underkansas.org/> (620)662-1425
Escape from the classroom for a unique adventure that is hidden below the surface in what was once the Permian Sea. Participate in a unique learning experience in an ancient world that was only recently discovered.
- McConnell AFB Library <http://www.mcconnellafblibrary.com/> (316)759-4207
The library on base offers monthly programs for homeschool families stationed at McConnell. Also, find them on Facebook, just search: McConnell AFB Library
- Kansas Aviation Museum <http://www.kansasaviationmuseum.org/> (right off the back side of McConnell)
They provide “Homeschool Days” that allow access the expertise and resources of the Museum to enhance learning. We strive to offer a hands-on experience for students. Larger home school groups are welcome to setup their own home school days. We can customize the program to meet the need for your home school group. All programs are 10 am – 2 pm. <http://kansasaviationmuseum.org/home-school-days/>
- Wichita Schools www.parent-teacher-resources-center.usd259.org
Parent Resource Center—Where you can copy, laminate, and checkout resources
- Old Cowtown Museum www.oldcowtown.org (316)219-1871
Educational programs available
- Wichita Public Library <http://www.wichita.lib.ks.us/Calendar/Pages/default.aspx>
All events are free and open to the public. Accommodations for those with special needs are available. Please request at 261-8500 a minimum of 48 hours in advance of the event. Seating is limited. Unless otherwise noted, programs are first-come, first-seated.
Also: <http://www.wichita.lib.ks.us/Kids/Pages/default.aspx>
- Wichita Historical Museum <http://wichitahistory.org/visit/school-tours/>
The Museum provides FREE guided tours for all school groups!
- Tanganyika Wildlife Park <http://www.tanganyikawildlife.org/school-programs.php>
Tanganyika’s education programs, whether held onsite or offsite, provide a fun atmosphere to learn about conservation and the natural world.
- Wichita Homeschool Warriors Robotics <http://whwrbest.com/> (for highschool age students)
The Wichita Homeschool Warriors Robotics team is one of the many teams competing in the BEST robotics competition. Our mission is to encourage careers in these fields, and as a Christian team, our goal is to promote hard work and personal integrity. We have been competing for fifteen years.
- Home School Legal Defense www.HSLDA.org
This site provides a wealth of information about homeschooling in all states. It has been suggested by other homeschool gurus that everyone take a look at this site and explore how they might be able to guide you. They don’t only deal with the legality of homeschooling, but also give assistance and support if you are struggling in specific areas, such as special needs.

Athletics

Wichita Warriors	www.wichitawarriors.org		
Wichita Defenders	www.wichitadefenders.org		
Derby Invasion	www.derbyinvasion.com		
YMCA	www.ymcawichita.org		Homeschooler P.E.
Wichita Gymnastics	www.wichitagymnastics.com	(316)634-1900	Homeschool Fitness
Wichita Angels	www.wichitaangels.com	(316)807-8822	Homeschool P.E.
Homeschool Bowling League	www.northrocklanes.com	(316)636-5444	
Homeschool Skating	www.rinktime.com	(316)942-4555	
Pure Entertainment	www.purewichita.com	(316)440-4740	Homeschool days
Upward Sports-Wichita	http://www.upward.org/		opportunities in Wichita & Derby

Useful Links

www.militarychild.org	Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) A national organization that advocates for the educational needs of military children.
http://militaryk12partners.dodea.edu	Military K-12 Partners DoDEA partnership program providing info and support regarding the needs of military children. Includes worldwide SLO contact information.
www.dodea.edu	Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) operates schools located overseas and on some US installations.
http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1684	Kansas State Department of Education Info on Kansas schools including school report cards, program info, laws, policies & much more.
http://www.k12.com/who-we-help/military-families/	K12.com On line K-12 individual courses. Provides discounts to military families. Professional instructors provide online instruction and provide books and paper as well.
www.tutor.com/military	Tutor.com Free, 24/7 tutoring and homework help from live tutors in more than 16 K-12 subjects, college and career transition, GED prep and resume writing.
www.soarathome.org	Student Online Achievement Resources Program for military families and their school districts providing assessments and tutorials to help military students and their classmates.
http://www.kaplanonlineschools.com/?cid=70160000000AhJ3	Kaplan Online Schools JrHigh and High courses focused on college prep and Adv. Placement.
http://teachingparents.org/index.php	Teaching Parents Association Information on home school related resources, activities, and connections with other home school families in the Wichita area.
http://www.khanacademy.org/	The Khan Academy 1400+ free short instructional videos on YouTube covering everything from basic arithmetic and algebra to differential equations, physics, chemistry, biology and finance
http://www.wichitawarriors.org/ http://www.derbyinvasion.com/index.php	Local Home School Athletic Options →Wichita →Derby
http://www.hsamf.org	Home School Association for Military Families
http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1684	KSDE Homeschool Registration
http://www.mcconnell.af.mil/schoolliaisonofficer/ http://www.mcconnellafr.com/slo-for-military-families/	Additional McConnell SLO information