



Non-Traditional Diploma Program

Because we realize that some families desire more flexibility in their homeschool high school program, the Board has instituted this non-traditional program. In order to enroll, the parent must notify the high school administrator and let her know, then fill out the required forms. Following are the components of the program.

Kingdom Ministries provides legal umbrella coverage as required by the state of Maryland for high school students in this program. However, instead of specifying exactly which classes one must take and in some cases mandating the content of those classes in order to achieve a diploma, flexibility is allowed as long as it meets the state regulations (see below for details).

High school students must submit a Non-Traditional Diploma Course of Study Form instead of contracts at the beginning of each school year. On this form would be listed only the name of the class and the materials used to teach the class. This does comply with the law that we approve textbooks and teaching programs.

Kingdom Ministries will not keep any transcripts for students in this program; we will not write any KM based recommendations or fill out any paperwork for any post high school educational endeavors. No grades will be turned in to Kingdom Ministries, either. Parents will be responsible for keeping their own transcripts (though we will provide blank forms without our name on them upon request).

Home visits/ reviews must still take place according to Maryland law. However, during home visits, instead of checking to see how contracts are being followed, reviewers would verify that “regular, thorough, instruction” in each subject is being achieved.

Once students have finished the required courses, they will be allowed to take place in KM graduation ceremony if they wish but a KM diploma will not be granted. The parents may make their own diploma, or they may use the same kind we use for the traditional program but not put our name on it. They would still pay the graduation fee to cover the cost of cake and punch, use of cap & gown, etc.

No one but Board members will know which students are in this program and which are in the traditional diploma program. No distinction will be made at graduation or at any other events.

In order to meet the state law which says that homeschool students must be taught the same classes that the state requires public school children to be taught, the following classes must be taken during the four years of high school. However, the content and level at which these classes are taught will not be monitored beyond that which shows that instruction is occurring. Students must take: **4 courses of English; 1 course of Fine Arts; 3 courses of Mathematics; 3 courses of Science; 3 courses of Social Studies; and 7 or more courses of Electives to total at least 21 courses in order to graduate.**

A “course” is a school year’s worth of instruction in a subject, the completion of an approved curriculum, or 120 hours of study/ instruction in one subject.

Once a student has begun this program in high school he cannot switch back to the traditional program as we cannot go back and create records we never kept.

Families with multiple high schoolers may have children in both programs (traditional and non-traditional). The cost for families with high schoolers only in this program is \$100 per year.