

Association of Christian Home Educators of Ventura County (ACHEV) Membership Agreement

Last Name: _____

Please print.

Both parents/guardians, thank you for initialing each point and signing at the bottom.

Eligibility for Membership

I understand my family is eligible for membership if we private homeschool at least one child. Initial: _____

ACHEV considers you to be private homeschooling if you meet the criteria for one of the 3 options below.

Option 1: Start your own private school. Home educators may establish private schools in their own homes. The law requires private schools to file a Private School Affidavit with the Superintendent of Public Instruction. (E.C. § 48222)

Option 2: Enroll in a private school satellite program (PSP) offered by an existing private school. You must be home educating your child at least 51% of the time.

Option 3: Arrange for private tutoring done by a California credentialed teacher. The credential must be for the appropriate grade level and teaching must be in the courses of study required in the public schools. Tutoring must be done for at least three hours a day for at least 175 days per year. Private school enrollment isn't required for the use of a tutor. (E.C. § 48224)

Public School Independent Study Programs or Charter Schools

Please read and initial the included position and policy paper on page 2 prior to continuing. Thank you.

I have read the included position paper and understand ACHEV membership benefits apply only to the children we private homeschool. Initial: _____

Children enrolled in a public school home study program, such as an ISP or charter school, are not eligible, although entire families, which may include students in public schools, may be invited to some activities.

Volunteer Work

ACHEV is an all-volunteer group.

I understand at least one parent is required to volunteer in some capacity during the school year. Initial: _____

ACHEV Membership Roster

I will keep the ACHEV Membership Roster confidential. Initial: _____

Release of Liability

I understand that ACHEV is a Christian non-profit group of families whose leaders and members volunteer their time to organize activities for the group. I agree that none of the leaders or members of ACHEV are liable for any injuries or damages connected with any ACHEV function. Initial: _____

Parent/guardian name(s) (Please print.): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

In signing below, we agree to these conditions of membership. If at any time we no longer meet any of these conditions, we will willingly give up our membership in ACHEV. Initial: _____

Husband/guardian signature: _____ applies to all of the above (or explanation of absent signature) Date _____

Wife/guardian signature: _____ applies to all of the above (or explanation of absent signature) Date _____

Association of Christian Home Educators of Ventura County (ACHEV) Membership Agreement

Position and Policy Regarding Charter Schools

What is ACHEV's purpose statement?

We have gathered together to support and encourage those who choose private home education for their children. We have purposed that this organization and all its activities and publications will be consistently and forthrightly Christian, to the honor and glory of our Lord God.

Summary of the law

Students who are at least six years old by September 1 must be enrolled in a school, either public or private. There is no separate category for home educators. All* students, whether they study at home or in a classroom, are either public school students or private school students. *A rarely employed option is to arrange for private tutoring by a California credentialed teacher. (E.C. § 48224)

What is private home education?

Parents who choose to teach at home under private education may either file their own Private School Affidavit (PSA) or enroll in a Private School Satellite Program (PSP). Private home educators retain full authority to direct the education and upbringing of their children and are free to use faith-based resources.

What is a charter school?

Charter schools are public schools, separate from the local district. They receive state public school tax funding and minimal oversight by the local district. Many charter schools are non-classroom based, often called homeschools. Though all public schools are bound by public school law, non-classroom charter schools are able to grant parents more flexibility than classroom public schools, and allow parents a portion of the per-pupil tax funding for secular resources, such as curriculum or classes offered at learning centers. Per the California State Constitution (article 9, section 8), religious instruction is not permitted, directly or indirectly, in any California public school. The intent of the law is that public school students receive a secular education. Religious instruction technically is not to be done during school hours, and is not to count toward coursework on record.

What is ACHEV's position on charter school?

ACHEV aligns with CHEA, HSLDA, and FPM. We invite you to read their positions in more detail at their respective websites (cheaofca.org, hsllda.org, and fpmca.org). In summary, while we fully support the right of each family to choose the school setting that best fits their family, we understand that enrollment in a public school places families under the authority of the public school, restricting their freedom to use Christian resources as core curriculum. While some charter school teachers counsel parents they may use Christian resources but submit alternate secular work samples, it is our opinion this counsel does not align with California law.

Why does ACHEV only include private home educated students?

In keeping with ACHEV's purpose to support families who have chosen private home education, our financial and manpower resources go toward creating support for the students whose parents are not getting support from public school, but are funding their own private education. Charter school students are receiving support from their charter schools.

What about families that choose private home education for one or more of their children, and charter school for other of their children?

ACHEV's longstanding membership policy is to allow a family to join if they are choosing private home education (PSA or PSP) for at least one of their children. ACHEV events, activities and field trips are for ACHEV students only (those under PSA or PSP), unless otherwise noted. The goal is to invest our limited resources in alignment with our bylaws and purpose statement.

Sometimes we host family-oriented events to which the entire family may come, such as our Annual BBQ & Potluck. Activities, events, and field trips that become open to the whole family will be clearly noted on the ACHEV calendar and in our communications.

We understand it can be inconvenient for ACHEV families who choose to have children in multiple school settings, such as a non-classroom charter school or any other school. The decision to have children in multiple school settings naturally results in having to balance the demands and policies of each school setting.

If you have questions about ACHEV's position and policy, we invite you to reach out to leadership. You are welcome to email us at achemail@gmail.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors

Please initial that you have read and understand _____

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Private home education options eligible for ACHEV Membership:

Option 1: Start your own private school. Home educators may establish private schools in their own homes. The law requires private schools to file a Private School Affidavit with the Superintendent of Public Instruction. (E.C. § 48222)

Option 2: Enroll in a private school satellite program (PSP) offered by an existing private school. You must be home educating your child at least 51% of the time.

Option 3: Arrange for private tutoring done by a California credentialed teacher. The credential must be for the appropriate grade level and teaching must be in the courses of study required in the public schools. Tutoring must be done for at least three hours a day for at least 175 days per year. Private school enrollment isn't required for the use of a tutor. (E.C. § 48224)

Students enrolled in public school do not fall under private home education. Families may join ACHEV if they are choosing private home education for at least one student. ACHEV activities, events, and field trips are for ACHEV students unless otherwise noted. Please see page 2.

Name of each child in your household, including preschoolers and infants.	Grade for 2025/26	Birth Date	<u>School option:</u> If private, please note option 1 – PSA 2 – PSP (Please include PSP name) or 3 – Credentialed teacher If classroom school or charter school, please include school name.*

**Students enrolled in public school or charter school do not fall under private home education.*

HSLDA's Group Discount Program

ACHEV members may use the ACHEV group discount number to receive a discount on HSLDA membership. Please contact ACHEV at achevmail@gmail.com to request the discount number.

Are you an HSLDA member? Circle Yes or No. If yes, please include your membership number _____
 If yes, do you currently use ACHEV as your discount group? Circle Yes or No

Membership valid June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026

Membership dues of \$50.00 may be paid via Zelle (achevmail@gmail.com) or check payable to ACHEV.

Mail this agreement (along with check payable to ACHEV, if applicable) to:

ACHEV
 P.O. Box 6657
 Ventura, CA 93006

Please visit ACHEV.org to create your membership profile. Membership profile at our website grants access to view the calendar of events, read our blog, and subscribe to our newsletters. Your profile will be approved when your application is processed. You will also receive invitations to join two optional private Facebook groups: *ACHEV Current Members and Mentors* for added discussion and support, and *ACHEV Moms Always* our ever-growing group where current and former ACHEV members stay in touch.

Association of Christian Home Educators of Ventura County (ACHEV) Membership Agreement

Please initial, sign, and return this form with your membership agreement. Thank you.

Please read and check each statement.

- I acknowledge and understand there are inherent risks when participating in any group activity. By choosing to participate, I accept these risks, releasing ACHEV, its board and officers, volunteers and fellow members from any and all claims related to these inherent risks.
- I agree not to attend in-person ACHEV functions while exhibiting symptoms of a contagious illness.
- This is understood to apply to participation in any ACHEV function during the membership fiscal year.

I understand and agree to the above statements on behalf of myself and my participating family members.

Print name of parent(s) or guardian(s)

Signature of parent(s) or guardian(s)

Date

Association of Christian Home Educators of Ventura County (ACHEV) Membership Agreement

Please answer and return this short survey with your membership agreement to help us support you better.

1. ACHEV communications are sent via email. We also post news in the *ACHEV Current Members and Mentors* private Facebook group (our group for added fellowship and discussion), and the ACHEV-News group in BAND (where only news is posted, so you can push notifications to receive a phone alert if you wish). Would either of these be helpful to you? Please check all that apply.

☐ I would like an invitation to the ACHEV Current Members and Mentors private Facebook group.

☐ I would like an invitation to join ACHEV-News on BAND.

2. Do you have any specific support concerns or needs? Your answer may help us plan activities such as small groups, support meetings and speaker events.

Because we are all volunteers, we have incredible potential for variety! Check any category or opportunity you wish. Thank you.

- I love books! Tell me more about how to help with the ACHEV library.
- I want to encourage homeschool moms by organizing outings or other activities.
- Tell me more about how to start a Park Day in my area.
- I love field trips! I would like to learn more about how to offer a field trip to ACHEV families.
- I love activities! Tell me more about how to host an activity for ACHEV.
- I enjoy small groups, clubs, co-ops, and classes. I have a skill/interest/passion to share!
- I like to write. Tell me more about contributing to the newsletter or ACHEV's blog.
- I love welcoming new people! Tell me more about how I can help with membership.
- I love scrap-booking memories! Tell me more about how I can help with yearbook.
- Other – please feel free to write a short description below. Thanks!

Association of Christian Home Educators of Ventura County (ACHEV) Membership Agreement

KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS

The Association of Christian Home Educators of Ventura County, Inc. is a non-profit, non-denominational organization of Christian home schooling families. Our aim is to offer educational and social support for both parents and children. We have purposed that this organization and all its activities and publications will be consistently and forthrightly Christian, to the honor and glory of our Lord God. While membership is open to any private homeschooling family, board members and officers are required to agree with the CHEA Statement of Faith*. Members may occasionally invite family and friends to ACHEV functions, however most functions are for members only.

As home schooling teachers and students, we represent to those around us the home schooling community and most importantly, our Lord Jesus Christ. One of the most obvious ways for our home schooling group to leave a good impression upon our community. Individually, and as a group, we should remember that when we visit a place, it is our responsibility to learn the establishment's rules and comply with them consistently.

Guidelines for ACHEV activities

- Be punctual as a courtesy to other members and our hosts.
- Parents are responsible for their children's behavior and safety for the duration of the gathering. This responsibility may be delegated to another parent if necessary. No drop offs.
- If you need to cancel a field trip reservation, contact the field trip organizer immediately. Those on the waiting list will be eager to take your place.
- Attire should be modest and appropriate for the occasion.
- Be respectful of both private and public property.
- Please clean up after yourself at all events.
- Thank the individuals who made the event possible.
- ACHEV activities are for students only, unless otherwise stated.

*CHEA Statement of Faith (Christian Home Educators Association of California)

We believe the Bible to be the inspired word of God, the final authority of faith and life, without error in its original writing both in doctrine and historical details, and that all true knowledge is consistent with its revelation.

We believe that there is one self-existent God who has always been and will always be, manifest in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that knowing him truly is the foundation of all knowledge, wisdom and understanding.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God manifest in the flesh, born of a virgin, that he is the Savior of mankind through his death on the cross, that he rose from the dead and ascended to God, and that he will return again and will raise those who have believed in him to reign with him in power and glory throughout all eternity.

We believe in the brotherhood of all believers who, through faith, have received the salvation provided by God's grace through the death of Jesus Christ.

We believe that children belong to God who has given the responsibility and authority for their education to their parents and that it is their responsibility to protect this parental right.

Mail the preceding pages (along with payment, if applicable) to:

ACHEV

P.O. Box 6657

Ventura, CA 93006

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Membership profile at our website grants access to view the calendar of events, read our blog, and subscribe to our newsletters. Your profile will be approved when your application is processed.

You may also join two optional private Facebook groups: *ACHEV Current Members and Mentors* for added discussion and support, and *ACHEV Moms Always* our ever-growing group where current and former ACHEV members stay in touch.