



FREE CURRICULUM DECISION TOOL

Florida Homeschool Curriculum Fit and Budget Planner

A practical workbook for comparing curriculum by learner fit, family capacity, instructional support, total cost, and scholarship documentation needs.

Inside this resource

- ☐ Learner profile and non-negotiables
- ☐ Subject-by-subject planning map
- ☐ Curriculum comparison scorecard
- ☐ Trial and sample lesson observation log
- ☐ True-cost and funding worksheet
- ☐ 30-day implementation review

Created by a homeschool parent. Built for Florida families.

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START WITH THE LEARNER

Choose for the child in front of you

Florida home education law does not prescribe one curriculum or course of study. That freedom is useful only when the family defines what the learner needs and what the parent can realistically sustain.

Scope

This planner supports family decision-making. It does not certify curriculum quality, scholarship eligibility, grade placement, accreditation, or admission acceptance.

Learner name and age/grade range

Current skill strengths

Skills needing explicit support

Interests that improve engagement

Reading and language access needs

Writing or motor access needs

Attention, pacing, and movement needs

Preferred ways to learn and respond

Family schedule and parent availability



SET BOUNDARIES

Name the non-negotiables before shopping

A curriculum can be excellent and still be wrong for this learner, this parent, this season, or this budget.

- ☐ The level can be chosen by demonstrated skill rather than only age or grade label.
- ☐ The daily workload fits the learner's stamina and the family's available teaching time.
- ☐ The format is accessible: print, video, audio, manipulatives, live teaching, or a deliberate mix.
- ☐ The parent understands how much preparation, grading, and troubleshooting is required.
- ☐ The resource can be sampled, previewed, returned, resold, or changed without excessive loss.
- ☐ Technology, internet, printing, consumables, and teacher materials are included in the true cost.
- ☐ If scholarship funds may be used, the current purchasing guide and documentation rules will be checked before purchase.

My top five requirements



Subject-by-subject learning plan

Subject/skill	Starting point	Year goal	Resource type	Evidence of progress
Reading/ELA				
Writing				
Mathematics				
Science				
Social studies				
World language				
Arts				
Technology/CTE				
PE/health				
Elective/interest				



COMPARE

Curriculum option scorecard

Score only after viewing a real sample. A polished sales page does not show the amount of reading, writing, parent preparation, screen time, or repetition a normal lesson requires.

Criterion	Option A	Option B	Option C	Notes
Correct skill level				
Clear instruction				
Learner accessibility				
Parent workload				
Student workload				
Flexible pacing				
Progress feedback				
Support/community				
Total cost				
Trial/return terms				

Option A

Option B

Option C

Scoring scale used

Best current fit and why



TRY BEFORE COMMITTING

Sample lesson observation log

Date	Resource/lesson	Time	Help needed	Engagement	What to change

Observe after several ordinary lessons

- ☐ The learner can begin without prolonged conflict or confusion.
- ☐ The instruction explains enough before expecting independent work.
- ☐ Practice is sufficient without becoming unnecessary repetition.
- ☐ The child can demonstrate understanding in an accessible way.
- ☐ The parent can maintain the preparation and feedback load.
- ☐ The resource leaves room for reading, movement, community, and family life.



COUNT THE TRUE COST

Curriculum and materials budget

Resource	Base price	Shipping/tax	Extras	Annual renewal	True cost

Annual curriculum budget

Available scholarship funds

Family-funded amount

Planned used purchases/resale

Contingency amount

Scholarship reminder

Educational usefulness does not automatically make a purchase eligible. Confirm the current category, vendor/provider rules, required documentation, and account workflow before spending.



REVIEW

30-day implementation check

Area	Working	Needs adjustment	Decision
Skill level			
Instruction clarity			
Daily workload			
Accessibility			
Student independence			
Parent preparation			
Feedback/progress			
Cost/value			
Family sustainability			

Keep, adapt, pause, or replace

What we will keep

What we will adapt

What we will stop

What we need next



VERIFY

Official planning starting points

[Florida Department of Education - Parent Home Education Resources](#)

[Florida Department of Education - Standards and Instructional Support](#)

[CPALMS - Florida's official standards and course-description resource](#)

[Step Up For Students - Current PEP resources](#)

[Step Up For Students - Current purchasing guides](#)

**Reviewed
October 2, 2026**

Recheck official guidance before making scholarship, course-placement, or admission-sensitive decisions.

My decision and next three actions
