



ZION ACADEMY OF AMERICA
YOUR CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOL SOLUTION

Information Packet

ACCREDITED
INDEPENDENT
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
MINISTRY

Rev: 05/05/2020

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CUSTOMER SERVICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Central
Friday – Sunday CLOSED

Please note time zone difference:

Central 9 am – 2 pm = Eastern 10 am – 3 pm
Central 9 am – 2 pm = Pacific 7 am – 12 pm (noon)

CUSTOMER SERVICE CLOSED

Labor Day
Columbus Day
Fall Break - Thanksgiving week
Winter Break - Christmas week
New Year's week
Martin Luther King Day
President's Day
Spring Break
Good Friday
Easter Monday

Why Choose Zion

Zion Academy of America is an independent Christian education ministry. We provide homeschool curriculum and services for grades K-12 through our Accredited Christian Distance Learning School. Our affordable and flexible home-education program has served more than 150,000 students nationwide since the early 1980's. We equip, support, and train parents to homeschool while they are enrolled with Zion. We enroll students locally, as well as students in all 50 states.

Also commonly known as –

- Correspondence School
- Online School
- Umbrella School
- Christian School
- Private School
- Cover School
- Virtual School
- K-12 School
- Internet School

What we offer –

We provide a customized full or part-time program and school administrative services. We work hand-in-hand with you to achieve the best homeschool education possible; using an extensive and comprehensive Christian curriculum to ensure the student reaches their full potential. A high school graduating Senior earns a high school diploma from our full-time program.

Who we are – A family tradition –

Our journey began in the early 1980's in Texas as a pioneer of the homeschool movement. We began as a homeschool family and local homeschool supporter. And keeping with our family homeschool traditions and values, we grew into an accredited K-12 distance learning provider. After 30 years, Mr. & Mrs. (Reverend) Lindsey have retired, but their 2 daughters are continuing to provide you with excellent administrative care.

How it works –

It is easy! Just tell us your goal in homeschooling, and what you want to accomplish. We will help you build a customized plan to fit your special and specific needs.

Christian Homeschool Program

K-12 YEAR-ROUND OPEN ENROLLMENT

Our School is a **full-time or part-time program** which provides all the benefits and privileges of being in a private school while you **study at home**. Parents call it the '**hassle free**' **program**. From start to finish Zion is here to support you! Parents who want structure, **guidance**, accountability, and **full support of a school** prefer Zion for this reason.

Upon enrollment, your child will be academically diagnosed. We **customize the assignment** and develop a **scheduled lesson plan** to ensure your child is **on-track** throughout the school year. You no longer need to worry about the grading of tests, obtaining teacher credentials, creating a lesson plan, preparing curriculum, or choosing proper academic levels. **Individualized learning is emphasized**. All materials are provided for your child to excel in their academic career.

Curriculum

The unique format of both the **online** and **print-based** curriculum allows students to advance from unit to unit as they demonstrate mastery. Both curricula are self-instructional, academically proven, and uniquely individualized allowing students to work independently with minimal supervision. It builds self-esteem and instills high moral character while bringing a higher academic education back to America.

NO COMMON CORE

Online Curriculum *(Grade 3-12) Computer & Tablet*

Our online **interactive** and stimulating **Christian** curriculum, *Ignitia by Alpha Omega Publications*, uses **critical thinking skills** while building character. It is self-instructional, **academically proven**, allows students to work **independently**, and has a progressive mastery approach to education. By offering many online courses for high school students it provides a **great opportunity** for gaining knowledge in **career and technology** before heading to the work-force or college.

NOTE: **Colleges** are now looking for students to have some **online course experience** before entering college. This is a great opportunity for your child!

See the full [COURSE LIST](#).

- Up to FIVE classes are included in the Tuition.
- Add more online courses for \$15 per month per course (\$150 per course).

Curriculum continued...

Print-Based Curriculum *(Grade K - 6) Pen & Paper*

Our extensive and comprehensive **Christian** curriculum, *primarily by Accelerated Christian Education, Inc.*, with its **strong academics** is utilized in our program. Our curriculum is solid and has a back-to-basics educational foundation. The unique format of the curriculum allows students to advance as they demonstrate mastery. And as a **self-instructional**, academically proven, and uniquely **individualized** curriculum it allows students to work **independently** with minimal supervision instilling self-esteem. This curriculum builds a **high moral character** while bringing a higher academic education back to America.

- Up to FIVE classes are included in the Tuition.
- Add more print-based courses for \$25 per month per course.

Combo *(Grade 3-11)*

You get the best of both curricula! You may pick which classes you want in the **online** curriculum and which classes you want in the **print-based** curriculum.

- Up to FIVE classes included in the Tuition. (max of 2 print-based)
- Add more online courses for \$15 per month per course.
- Add more print-based courses for \$25 per month per course.

A combination of the online and print-based classes is available.

Example: 2 print-based, and 4 online

Example: 5 online, and 1 print-based

Learn-to-Read

The grade 1-8 curriculum used by Zion Academy of America requires a student to be reading. To prepare the student for this curriculum, we offer a phonics course specifically designed for the non-reader or for the younger student who is elementary age and having reading difficulties. The course includes 35 letter sounds and 12 blend sounds basic to reading. This course is equivalent to a 1st grade reading program or advanced Kindergarten. At the completion of this course, the student will be academically equipped to continue in our other programs offered for elementary ages.



Curriculum continued...

CORE PRINT-BASED COURSES FOR GRADES 1-8

Grade 1-8 courses help your child progress through basic concepts and to build on a solid foundation of a classical education. The following lists provide pop-up highlights of the concepts and topics that are covered in the print-based courses of Math, English, Social Studies, Science, and Word Building (Spelling)*.



Math Grades 1-8

Numbers, addition, subtraction, time, money measurements, shapes, multiplication facts, Roman numerals, fractions, conversions, division, decimals, prime numbers, basic geometry, consumer arithmetic, business methods, and introduction to algebra and geometry concepts

English Grades 1-8

Consonant and vowel sounds, blends, diphthongs, suffixes, prefixes, reading comprehension, phonics, parts of speech, writing sentences, alphabetizing, sentence types, punctuation, cursive writing, capitalization, paragraph writing, grammar, diagramming sentences, outlining, and writing short biographical sketches

Social Studies Grades 1-8

Map study, respect for the law, travel, understanding our country, conservation, different forms of communication, geography, basic US and world history, famous leaders, timelines, ancient history, biblical history, introduction to civics, introduction to professions and vocations, and the American presidents

Science Grades 1-8

Four seasons, personal health, hand-eye coordination, weather, the five senses, animal studies, solar system, life cycles of plants and animals, measurement of time, geological changes, water cycle, matter, gravity, minerals, respiration and circulatory systems, good hygiene, rockets, astronomy, molecular and atomic theories, introduction to biology, chemistry, and physical/earth science

Word Building* Grades 1-8

Learn to write letters, words, and sentences, use phonics, word concepts, vocabulary, syllables, contractions, parts of speech, root words, word classification, synonyms, homonyms, antonyms, heteronyms, expanded grammar usage and skills, abbreviation, and semaphore alphabet code (*ZAA classifies as core and/or elective)

LINK includes [High School Course](#) list > [Scope & Sequence](#)

Curriculum continued...

CORE ONLINE COURSES FOR GRADES 1-8

Grade 1-8 courses help your child progress through basic concepts and to build on a solid foundation of a classical education. The following lists provide pop-up highlights of the concepts and topics that are covered in the print-based courses of Mathematics, Language Arts, History, and Science.



Math Grades 1-8

Numbers, addition, subtraction, time, money measurements, shapes, multiplication facts, fractions, conversions, division, decimals, prime numbers, basic geometry, data analysis & probability, financial literacy, graphing & charting, consumer arithmetic, business methods, and introduction to algebra and geometry concepts

English Grades 1-8

Consonant and vowel sounds, blends, diphthongs, suffixes, prefixes, reading comprehension, phonics, parts of speech, writing sentences, alphabetizing, sentence types, punctuation, capitalization, paragraph writing, grammar, outlining, and writing short biographical sketches, reading poetry, writing poetry, vocabulary and spelling skills, research skills, language history & etymologies

History Grades 1-8

Map study, respect for the law, travel, understanding our country, conservation, different forms of communication, geography, basic US and world history, famous leaders & explorers, timelines, ancient history, biblical history, introduction to civics, introduction to professions and vocations, and the American presidents, government, citizenship, anthropology, sociology, political science

Science Grades 1-8

Four seasons, personal health, weather, the five senses, animal studies, solar system, life cycles of plants and animals, measurement of time, geological changes, water cycle, matter, gravity, minerals, respiration and circulatory systems, good hygiene, rockets, astronomy, molecular and atomic theories, introduction to biology, chemistry, and physical/earth science, health & nutrition, history of science

LINK includes [High School Course](#) list > [Course List](#)

Program Comparison

ONLINE	PRINT-BASED	COMBO
Online Curriculum	Print-based Curriculum	Online & Print-based Curriculum
Diagnostic Placement Test	Diagnostic Placement Test	Diagnostic Placement Test
Bible-based Curriculum	Bible-based Curriculum	Bible-based Curriculum
Parent Grade Reports	Parent Grade Reports	Parent Grade Reports
Lesson Scheduling	Lesson Scheduling	Lesson Scheduling
Unlimited Phone & Email support	Unlimited Phone & Email support	Unlimited Phone & Email support
Transcripts	Transcripts	Transcripts
Professional Recordkeeping	Professional Recordkeeping	Professional Recordkeeping
Grade Classification & Promotion	Grade Classification & Promotion	Grade Classification & Promotion
Verification of Enrollment	Verification of Enrollment	Verification of Enrollment
Graduation Planning	Graduation Planning	Graduation Planning
High School Diploma	High School Diploma	High School Diploma
Parent & Student Portal	Shipping Cost	Parent & Student Portal for online courses
Instant Grading of Lessons & Tests	Answer Keys for Grading of Lessons & Tests	Instant Grading of Lessons & Tests for online courses
		Answer Keys for Grading of Lessons & Tests for print-based courses
		Shipping Cost for print-based courses
ONLINE	PRINT-BASED	COMBO
Grades 3 - 12	Grades K - 6	Grades 3 - 11

Up to FIVE courses are included with the Tuition. For additional courses:

- Online Course for \$15 per month per course
- Print-Based Course for \$25 per month per course



High School Graduation Requirements

Over 40 Career & Technology courses available through our online curriculum.

Zion Academy distance learning program offers 2 accredited academic courses of study to earn a diploma. LINK > [Printable Graduation Requirements](#)

Graduation Policy

For a student to qualify for graduation and receive a diploma from Zion Academy of America, he/she must:

- Earn a minimum of **five** credits through Zion Academy of America Online Program option
- Complete all graduation requirements included on the student's customized Zion Academy of America Graduation Projection
- Fulfill all financial responsibilities to the satisfaction of the administration



GENERAL STUDIES *requires 22 credits*

This diploma is designed for a student who has a background of average achievement, as well as the one who needs more emphasis on the basic skills. It is recommended for the average student who has not yet settled on a specific career path or college. It is a distance learning program which is generally accepted at most colleges.

The General Studies Course of Study must include the following:

Math	3.0 credits	Technology	1.0
English	4.0 credits	Other Electives	4.5 Credits
Social Studies	4.0 credits	Physical Education	1.5
Science	3.0 credits		
Required Electives	2.0 Credits	TOTAL CREDITS	22.0
Health	0.5		
Speech	0.5		

Graduation Requirements continued...

COLLEGE PREPARATORY *requires 24 credits*

This diploma is designed for a student who has a background of an above average achievement and is recommended for the student who desires a college education in preparation for a professional career. It is a distance learning program which is generally accepted at most colleges and universities.

The College Preparatory Course of Study must include the following: (All courses must be College Preparatory.)

Math	3.0 Credits	Science	4.0 Credits
Algebra I	1.0	Biology	1.0
Algebra II	1.0	Physical Science	1.0
Geometry	1.0	Chemistry	1.0
English	4.0 Credits	Physics	1.0
English I	1.0	Required Electives	4.5 Credits
English II	1.0	Health	0.5
English III	1.0	Speech	0.5
English IV	1.0	Fine Art	0.5
Social Studies	4.0 Credits	Foreign Language	2.0
World History	1.0	Business / Technology	1.0
World Geography	1.0	Other Electives	3.0 Credits
American History	1.0	Physical Education	1.5
Civics	0.5		
Economics	0.5		
		TOTAL CREDITS	24.0

COLLEGE ADMISSION

National Association of Private School accredited school graduates are accepted at colleges and universities; however, some colleges may wish to validate the high school diploma before student admission is approved. Private Colleges and On-Line Private Colleges adhere to different policies for admission and may require other options for college admission.

Transfers Back to State Accredited Schools

The National Association of Private Schools is an independent accreditation agency nonaffiliated with any state, secular or regional accreditation or accrediting agencies. Students returning to a state accredited public school may be asked to be tested by the receiving public school to determine if he/she should be placed in the desired grade level, or if certain credits may be transferred to the receiving school. Public Schools are not required to accept credits from schools not accredited by the state or regional accrediting agencies.

For additional information concerning re-entry into the public-school system, please call our office to speak to an administrator.

Diagnostic Placement Test

Upon enrollment, each student is evaluated academically using a Diagnostic Placement Test (DPT) to measure the student's academic abilities and to determine skill and concept mastery in the areas of Math, English, Reading, and Spelling. The DPT is one of our educational services and helps to create a customized assignment.

For the high school student, the complete DPT gives insight to the academic staff whether the student is best suited for the General Studies or one of the College Preparatory courses of study.



Accreditation

Zion Academy of America is ACCREDITED by the National Association of Private Schools (NAPS).

NAPS is "an independent educational agency founded for the purpose of recognizing educational excellence in the private and non-traditional educational environment." It is a national organization headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

According to the website for the National Association of Private Schools,

- Accreditation reflects a school's "trustworthiness in the process of providing a quality educational program."
- Schools accredited by NAPS "have demonstrated a history of providing their students with a quality educational program . . . [that] seeks to meet or exceed state and national traditional educational guidelines in their pre-school through high school educational programs."
- Schools accredited by NAPS "are concerned about both the mastery of basic academic skills and the character development of each child in their school."



NAPS explain the meaning of "accreditation" this way:

"The word accredit is an interesting word related to the same root word as credible, or believable. An accredited institution, therefore, is one that can be believed. It has earned the approval of those who know it. Accreditation means,

"This institution is fulfilling its stated purposed with integrity and excellence."

The process of accreditation involves a careful scrutiny and approval of a school's qualifications by other professionals. Just as "surgeons are approved by other surgeons [and] lawyers are approved by other lawyers, educators [should be approved] by other educators." The NAPS evaluation is conducted by peers of the private school seeking accreditation who understand the "basic philosophy and uniqueness of an individual school" such as Zion Academy of America.

According to NAPS, "Quality private educational institutions and their staff[s] deserve the merited recognition of their peers." **The accreditation of Zion Academy of America gives parents the assurance of an educational program that has not only stood the test of time but has provided a consistent level of excellence.**

Parents can also be confident that the curriculum used by Zion Academy of America has been CERTIFIED by the National Association of Private Schools' Curriculum Evaluation Committee.

(All quotations on this page are from napsaccreditation.com [accessed on 08/11/2011])

The Whole Family Story

The journey for the founder of Zion Academy of America (ZAA) from a local homeschooling to a K-12 distance learning program nationwide began in the early 1980s when she noticed the academics of the American school were declining, and the education of her own children was suffering. There were very few options available in those days, and private schools were so expensive. After much searching, she finally found a private church school that she and her husband could afford for her two children.



At the time, her girls were in the 2nd and 6th grades. At the end of their school year, she withdrew them from the local public school and enrolled them in a private church school. Homeschooling was rare and virtually unknown in the early 1980s, and "homeschool" was not yet a household word.

During the following year, the Pastor of the church decided to close the school. This meant she needed to look again for a school for her children. She knew that she could not send her girls back to public school. So she did something that was bold and controversial at the time, which was to school her own children at home. This was when homeschooling was thought to be illegal. Now, it is known to be legal in all states in America, although each state has unique guidelines.

Zion Academy of America's founder is a pioneer in homeschooling.

It was just a matter of time when families started going to her and asking a lot of questions and wanting her to teach them how to do the same for their children. It was then that she saw the need to begin an accredited academy for homeschooling, to make it easy for these children to receive high school diplomas and to enter colleges and universities.

Zion Academy of America was officially birthed in the 1980s. Its humble beginnings started in Fort Worth, Texas, and operated locally for more than 10 years. It is now a nationally recognized, accredited distance learning school which has enrolled thousands over the years and graduated hundreds of students, many going on to colleges and universities throughout the country. ZAA operated near Seattle, Washington for 20 years and is now back home in Texas. ZAA is serving families across America and beyond its borders.

The daughters completed the College Preparatory Honors courses of study offered by ZAA and graduated with honors from the accredited diploma program. The older daughter became a corporate executive assistant and later married and gave birth to two daughters. She now works in ZAA as the Director of Operations. The younger daughter married a minister, and they had four children. She is the Director of Admissions for ZAA. All the founder's grandchildren are either enrolled or have graduated from ZAA.

Zion Academy provides a high-quality standard of academics. The founder can personally attest to the excellence of the Accelerated Christian Education curriculum and its exceptional format. She has been consistently impressed over the years with the educational results of this curriculum, which is why ZAA continues to use it even today.

And now the second generation of the founder's family is reaping the same benefits that her daughters enjoyed while preparing to lead Zion Academy and to carry on the legacy begun three decades ago.