

## Comparison of Diploma Programs

Requirements	Pennsylvania Homeschoolers Accreditation Association	Mason/Dixon Homeschoolers' Association
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 books each year (or approved equivalent)</li> <li>• Include 3 “classics”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read from three or more of these categories: fiction, non-fiction, magazine articles, classics, technical writings, Bible, essays, poetry</li> </ul>
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least four compositions each year</li> <li>• One composition must be at least 2500 words long</li> <li>• At least one composition in high school must be a research paper with notecards, endnotes, etc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A minimum of ten pages of composition (average 250 words per page) each year</li> <li>• The ten pages may be one paper or combined pages from various writing assignments</li> <li>• Writing may be done across the curriculum in different subjects (book report, science lab report, history summary, journal entries, etc)</li> <li>• At least once in grades 9-12 a five-page research paper with 3 resources will be written</li> </ul>
Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A speech must be delivered to a group outside the family every year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 logged entries instruction in speech and public speaking skills and/or evidence of public speaking must be given at least once in grades 9-12</li> </ul>
Types of Diplomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard High Excellence Overall</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diploma with Academic Honors</li> <li>• Diploma with Distinction</li> <li>• Diploma for Achievement in the Performing Arts, Theater Arts, or Fine Arts</li> </ul> <p><i>(see manual for more description of these)</i></p>
Graduation Ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, end of June or early July</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unknown</li> </ul>
Transcripts Sent to Colleges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, for a fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, for a fee</li> </ul>
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.phaa.org">http://www.phaa.org</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.mdhsa.pa.net">http://www.mdhsa.pa.net</a></li> </ul>

Requirements	Susquehanna Valley Homeschool Diploma Program
Reading	Varies according to diploma program (see below)
English & Writing	Varies according to diploma program (see below)
Speech	Varies according to diploma program (see below)
Types of Diplomas	<p>Susquehanna offers four different types of diplomas and encourages evaluators to make one of them work for special needs students or students who struggle academically.</p> <p>The four types of diplomas they offer are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>General Diploma</i> – simply meeting the minimum requirements of the law. English must include a reading list, five pages of composition, and one speech each year.</li> <li>2. <i>Academic Diploma</i> – higher requirements for each subject area. English must include at least fifteen titles each year, three compositions of which one must be at least five pages long and use three or more resources, and one speech each year.</li> <li>3. <i>Vocational-Technical Diploma</i> – the minimum requirements of the law must be met, but evaluators are given latitude in granting those credits. Minimum competencies in each subject are emphasized rather than specific courses. A final project must be completed and presented.</li> <li>4. <i>Business Diploma</i> – similar to the vocational diploma, but the courses chosen for math, science, electives, etc should be related to business, economics, accounting, etc.</li> </ol>
Graduation Ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cap and gown graduation is available in July and January</li> </ul>
Transcripts Sent to Colleges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, for a fee</li> </ul>
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.svhomeschool.org/">http://www.svhomeschool.org/</a></li> </ul>