

Home-Schooling in Belgium

You are not required to turn anything into the schools on SHAPE. If you wish your child to be able to participate in parts of the American School curriculum or after-school activities, you would need to register them there. If not, you don't need to do anything.

As far as the law in Belgium regarding home-schooling, I would like to share the following with you. The Belgian law regarding home-schooling is that the family is supposed to register with their commune, and plainly state that they intend to home-school their children. The Belgian Education System would most likely send inspectors to your home twice a year to ensure you are providing an appropriate education for your children. Because we have families who arrive here intending on home-schooling, and then later enroll their kids in school, I usually advise people not to register with the commune stating their intention to home-school (everyone must register at the commune, but you needn't mention anything about where/how your child will receive an education). At some point, a letter MAY (or may not) come from your commune to your home, requesting proof that your child is attending one school or another. At that time, you just need to go to the Central Processing Facility (little white building on SHAPE where you get your US ID cards, passports, etc.), and ask for the form letter that says basically "your kids are receiving an education". This form has been submitted by several other home-schooling families, and the Belgian Government has accepted it.

Home-schooling web site: www.hslda.org