

# Students

## Ages of Attendance

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In accordance with Connecticut General Statute 10-186, the Board of Education shall provide education for all persons who have attained the age of five on or before the first day of January of any school year and those under twenty-one years of age who are not graduates of a high school or vocational school, except as provided in Connecticut General Statutes 10-233c and 10-233d. Additionally, according to Connecticut General Statute 10-76d (b2), special education will be provided for children who have attained the age of three and who have been identified as being in need of special education, and whose educational potential will be irreparably diminished without special education.

Parents and those who have the control of children five years of age and older and under eighteen years of age, are obligated by Connecticut law to require their children to attend public day school or its equivalent in the district in which such child resides, unless such child is a high school graduate or the parent or person having control of such child is able to show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the public schools.

1. The parent or person having control of a child sixteen or seventeen years of age must consent to such child's withdrawal from school. For the school year commencing July 1, 2011 and each school year thereafter, the parent or person having control of a child seventeen years of age may consent to such child's withdrawal from school. The parent or person shall exercise this option by personally appearing at the school district office to sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation from the guidance counselor or school administrator of the school that this district has provided the parent or person in control with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community. A child who has attained the age of sixteen or seventeen and who has terminated enrollment with parental consent in the district's schools and subsequently seeks readmission may be denied readmission for up to ninety school days from the date of such termination.
2. The parent or person having control of a child five years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is six years of age. The parent or person having control of a child six years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven years of age. The parent or person in control shall exercise such option by personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option form. The district shall provide the parent or person in control with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system.

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3. A child who has attained the age of nineteen or older may be placed in an alternative school program or other suitable educational program if he/she cannot acquire a sufficient number of credits for graduation by age twenty-one.

### Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes

10-15 Towns to maintain schools

10-15c Discrimination in Public Schools prohibited. School Attendance by five year olds.

10-76a – 10-76g Re: Special Education

10-184 Duties of parents (re: mandatory schooling for children ages five to sixteen, inclusive) as amended by P.A. -98-243, P.A. 00-157 and P.A. 09-6 (September Special Session)

10-186 Duties of Local and regional Board of Education re school attendance. Hearing. Appeal to State Board. Establishment of Hearing Board (Amended by P.A. 96-26 An Act Concerning Graduation requirements and Readmission and Placement of Older Students)

10-233a – 10-233f Inclusive; re: suspend, expel, removal of pupils

10-233c Suspension of pupils

10-233d Expulsion of pupils. State Board of regulations

10-76a-1 General Definitions (c) (d) (q) (t)

Policy Revised: April 26, 2010