

Ages of Attendance**I. BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Ages of Education:** In accordance with *Connecticut General Statutes*, the Board of Education shall provide education for all persons who are five years of age and older, having attained age five on or before the first day of January of any school year, or who are under twenty-one years of age and are not graduates of a high school or vocational school. The only exceptions to this may be found in the policy governing suspensions and expulsions (see Policy JGD).
- B. Special Education:** Additionally, federal law requires that special education be provided for children who have attained the age of three and who have been identified as being in need of special services.

**II. AGE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Required Attendance:** Parents and those who have the care of children ages five to sixteen, inclusive, are obligated by Connecticut law to require their children to attend public school or its equivalent in the district in which such child resides, unless 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. However, if a child is sixteen years of age or older, he/she is not required to attend school.
- B. Five and Six Year Old Child:** The parent or person having control of a child who is five or six years old has the option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven years of age. The parent or person 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 with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system.
- C. Sixteen Year Old or Older Student:** A student who has attained the age of sixteen and who has voluntarily terminated enrollment 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.
- D. Nineteen Year Old or Older Student:** A student 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.

**STUDENTS**

**JEB**

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- Legal References:** Connecticut General Statutes
- 10-15. Towns to maintain schools.
  - 10-15c. Discrimination in public school prohibited.  
School attendance by five-year-olds.
  - 10-76a. 10-76g. Re special education.
  - 10-184. Duties of parents.
  - 10-186. Duties of local and regional boards of education  
re school attendance.

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