

## **STUDENTS**

### **Compulsory Attendance**

Parents of any child eight years of age and under eighteen years of age shall cause such child to attend school and such child shall have the responsibility to and therefore shall attend for the full time when such school may be in session unless the child is enrolled in an approved private school, an educational center as provided in chapter 28A.205 RCW or is receiving home-based instruction. Parents of any child six or seven years old, who have enrolled the child in school, shall cause the child to attend school for the full time when such school may be in session, unless the child is formally withdrawn from enrollment by the parents.

Exception may be granted by the superintendent for children who are 16 years of age or older if the child has:

- A. Demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter taught in the first nine grades of school, or
- B. Become engaged in a useful occupation, or
- C. Met graduation requirements, or
- D. Received a certificate of educational competence (GED).

Any law enforcement officer authorized to make arrests can take a truant child into custody without a warrant and must then deliver the child to the parent or to the school.

The district shall not require enrollment for either (a) a minimum number of semesters or trimesters or (b) a minimum number of courses in a semester or trimester which exceeds the enrollment time or courses necessary for a student to meet established course, credit, and test requirements for high school graduation.

#### Legal References:

AGO 1980 No. 6 Truancy--Enforcement of compulsory attendance law

RCW 28A.225.010 Attendance mandatory--Age--Persons having custody shall cause child to attend public school -- When excused

RCW 28A.225.080 Employment permits

RCW 28A.225.090 Penalties in general--Defense--Suspension of fine--Complaints to court

WAC 180-51-020 Additional local standards

Adopted: 6/4/91

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