

Compulsory Attendance

Parents of any child 8 years of age and under 18 years of age must ensure their child attends school. Such child must attend for the full time when such school is in session unless the child is enrolled in an approved private school, an educational center as provided in RCW 28A.205, or is receiving home-based instruction. Parents of any child 6 or 7 years old, who have enrolled the child in school, must ensure the child attends school for the full time when such school is in session, unless the child is formally withdrawn from enrollment by the parents.

Exceptions may be granted by the superintendent under the following circumstances:

- A. The student is physically or mentally unable to attend school;
- B. The student is attending a residential school operated by the Department of Social and Health Services;
- C. The student's parents have requested a temporary absence for purposes agreed to by the district and which will not cause a serious adverse effect on the student's educational process;
- D. The student is 16 years of age, is regularly and lawfully employed and either has parent permission or is emancipated pursuant to RCW 13.64.
- E. The student has met graduation requirements; and
- F. The student has 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 will 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.

Cross References:	Board Policy 3114	Part-time, Home-based, or Off-campus Students
	Board Policy 3122	Excused and Unexcused Absences

Legal References:	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
	AGO 1980 No. 6	Truancy — Enforcement of compulsory attendance law