

#5050.1**Compulsory Attendance**

Admission

District schools shall be open to all children five years of age and over who reach age five by December 31st of any school year. Each such child shall have, and shall be so advised by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to participate in the program and activities of the school system without discrimination related to race, color, sex, religion, national origin or sexual orientation. Students who are classified as homeless under federal law and, therefore, do not have a fixed residence, will be admitted pursuant to federal law and policy #5120.9. Exceptions from routine admission may be made by the school principal on the basis of supporting evidence from physical and psychological examinations.

Parents and those who have the care of children age five to eighteen years of age inclusive 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 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. The parent or person having legal guardianship of a child sixteen or seventeen years of age must 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. The district shall provide the parent or person having legal guardianship with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system and in the community. If a child is eighteen years of age or older, he / she is not required to attend school.

The parent or person having legal guardianship 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 by December 31st of any school year. The parent or person having legal guardianship of a child six

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years of age shall have the option of delaying enrollment of the child in the public schools until the child has reached the age of seven years by December 31st of any school year.

The parent or person having legal guardianship 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 having legal guardianship with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system.

Each child entering the district schools for the first time must present a birth certificate or offer legal evidence of birth data, as well as proof of a recent physical examination and required immunizations. If the parents or guardians of any children are unable to pay for such immunizations and/or physicals, the expense of such immunizations and/or physicals shall, on the recommendation of the Board, be paid by the town. Proof of domicile may also be requested by the building Principal.

Children who apply for initial admission to the district's schools by transfer from non-public schools or from schools outside the district will be placed at the grade they would have reached elsewhere pending observation and evaluation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the school Principal. After such observations and evaluations have been completed, the Principal will determine the final grade placement of the children.

Children who have attained the age of seventeen and who have voluntarily terminated enrollment in the district schools and subsequently seek readmission may be denied readmission for up to ninety school days from the date of such termination.

#5050.1 (continued)**Provisions for Special Education**

According to Connecticut General Statute 10-76d, 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.

In accordance with state statutes, any child entering or returning to the district from placement in a juvenile detention school, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, or any other residential placement, shall have the educational records of such child provided to the Superintendent of Schools by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Judicial Department. Such information will be shared with the Principal of the school to which the student is assigned. The Principal can disclose them to those staff who teach or care for the child.

Alternative School Placement

Children who have attained the age of nineteen or older may be placed in an alternative school program or other suitable educational program if they cannot acquire a sufficient number of credits for graduation by age twenty-one.

(cf. 5020.1 - Nondiscrimination)

(cf. 5050.2 - Entrance Age Requirements)

(cf. 5120.3 Health Services)

(5120.9 – Homeless Students)

(cf. 6080.1 - Educating Students with Special Needs)

(cf. 6146 - Graduation Requirements)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-15 Towns to maintain schools

10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by five-year-olds

#5050.1 (continued)

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 PA-98-243, and PA 00-157
10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. (Amended by PA 96-26 An Act Concerning Graduation Requirements and Readmission and Placement of Older Students)
Appeals to State Board. Establishment of hearing board
10-233a - 10-233f Inclusive; re: suspend, expel, removal of pupils
10-233c Suspension of pupils
10-233d Expulsion of pupils
State Board of Education Regulations
10-76a-1 General definitions (c) (d) (q) (t)
10-76d-7 Admission of student requiring special education (referral)
10-204a Required immunizations (as amended by PA 98-243)
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et. seq.

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