

	ABERDEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT	NEPN Code: JEA
	POLICIES AND REGULATIONS	

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGES

Under South Dakota law, children between the ages of six (6) and 18 are of compulsory school age. It is the responsibility of every person having under his/her control a child between those ages to see to the child's regular attendance at a public or nonpublic school until the child has reached the age of 18 unless the child has graduated or is excused.

All children not younger than five (5) or older than six (6) years old by the first day of September are required to be enrolled in a public or nonpublic kindergarten program. Any child who transfers from another state may proceed in a continuous educational program without interruption if the child has not previously attended kindergarten.

Any person who does not see to the school attendance of a child in his/her care will be guilty of a misdemeanor and, if convicted, will be subject to a fine as established by law.

No student will be denied the right of attending school without due process of law.

Exemption

Students aged 16 years of age or older will be exempt from compulsory attendance provided they are enrolled and participating in Independent Learning Center) and meet one or more of the following five (5) conditions:

1. Verification from a school administrator that the child will not graduate with the child's cohort class because of credit deficiency;
2. Authorization from a court services officer;
3. A court order requiring the child to enter the program;
4. Verification that the child is under the direction of the Department of Corrections; or
5. Verification that the child is enrolled in Job Corps as authorized by Title 1-C of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, as amended to January 1, 2009.

Parents or guardians of the child must also give consent for their child to enroll in the ILC program.

Legal References:

SDCL 13-27-1 Responsibility of person controlling child for school attendance

SDCL 13-27-2 Child excused from school

SDCL 13-27-11 Failure to send child to school as misdemeanor

SDCL 13-27-16 Warnings by school boards to send children to school--Report to truancy officer

Adopted: October 14, 2014

Reviewed: August 12, 2019