

Compulsory Attendance Ages

Every child who has attained the age of six years on or before August 1 of each year and is under the age of 17 is required to attend public school with such exceptions as provided by law. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure attendance.

The courts may issue orders against the child, child's parent, or both compelling the child to attend school or the parent to take reasonable steps to assure the child's attendance. The order may require the parent, child, or both to follow an appropriate treatment plan that addresses problems affecting the child's school attendance and that ensures an opportunity for the child to obtain a quality education.

Adopted: **CASB Revised Version May 2008**

Reviewed: March 2006 by Policy Review Committee
By Policy Review committee June 2010
By Superintendent and BOE February 25, 2013

Revised: Policy Manual Update July 16, 2001
July 16, 2007
April 15, 2013

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. [22-32-110](#)(1)(mm) (*board may authorize school employee to represent school district in judicial proceedings to enforce compulsory attendance*)
C.R.S. [22-33-104](#) (*compulsory school attendance ages*)
C.R.S. [22-33-104.5](#) (*home-based education*)
C.R.S. [22-33-107](#) (*enforcement of school attendance laws*)
C.R.S. [22-33-108](#) (*judicial proceedings to enforce school attendance laws*)

NOTE 1: On or after July 1, 2008, a parent of a five or six year old child who is attending preschool or kindergarten may notify the child's school of the parent's wish that the child not advance to first grade in the following school year. The school shall not advance the child to first grade after receiving this notice from the parent.

NOTE 2: The Board of Education may pass a resolution authorizing one or more employees of the school district to represent the school district in truancy proceedings in state court.

NOTE 3: State law provides that court proceedings to compel compliance with the compulsory attendance law shall only be used as a last-resort approach for addressing the problem of truancy. The district shall first have attempted other options for addressing truancy that employ best practices and research-based strategies to minimize the need for court action. C.R.S. 22-33-108(5).