

Students	Knox County Board of Education Policy		
	Descriptor Term:	Descriptor Code:	Issued:
	Compulsory Attendance	J-122	7/95
	Ages	Rescinds:	Revised:
			4/14

1 Children between the ages of six (6) and seventeen (17) years, both inclusive, must attend a public or
2 private school.¹ Under certain circumstances the Board may temporarily excuse students from complying
3 with the provisions of the compulsory attendance law.² Pregnancy shall not constitute a reason to be
4 exempted from compulsory school attendance.

5
6 Any child residing within the state, six (6) years of age on or before August 15 of the current school year,
7 who makes application for admission shall be enrolled in the school designated by the Board.³

8
9 A child entering kindergarten shall be no less than five (5) years of age on or before August 15 of the
10 current school term.⁴ No child shall be eligible to enter first grade without having attended an approved
11 kindergarten program.⁷

12
13 Any transfer student applying for admission who was legally enrolled in an approved kindergarten in
14 another state and who will be five (5) years of age no later than December 31 of the current school year,
15 shall be enrolled.

16
17 A child entering a special education program shall be no less than three (3) years of age.⁵

18
19 The compulsory attendance law shall not apply to the following:⁶

- 20
- 21 1. A student who has received a diploma or other certificate of graduation;
- 22
- 23 2. A student who is enrolled and making satisfactory progress in a course leading to a GED; or
- 24
- 25 3. A student enrolled in a home school who has reached the age of seventeen (17).⁶
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34 Legal References:

35 1. TCA 49-6-3001.

36 2. TCA 49-6-3005.

37 3. TCA 49-6-3001.

38 4. TCA 49-6-3001; TCA 49-6-201; TCA/MS 0520-1-3-.01(B)(10)(a).

39 5. Public Law 99-457 (34 CFR 303.344).

40 6. TCA 49-6-3001..

41 7. Chapter 535 of the Public Acts of 1992, Section 30.