

Students

Age of Attendance

All children whose parents or legal guardians reside in the towns of Bethany, Orange, or Woodbridge are entitled to a free public education in the middle schools or high school of Amity Regional School District No. 5 (ARSD). Students are legally entitled to attend until they graduate from high school or a vocational school or reach the age of twenty-two, whichever comes sooner, except as provided in Connecticut General Statutes 10-233c and 10-233d. For purposes of establishing the residency of a child of a member of the armed forces as defined in C.G.S. 27-103 and who is seeking enrollment in ARSD in which such child is not yet a resident, the Board shall accept the military orders directing such member to Connecticut or any other documents from the armed forces indicating the transfer of such member to Connecticut as proof of residency in ARSD.

Parents and those who have the care of children five years of age and older and under eighteen years of age 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 such child is a high school graduate or 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. Students under age eighteen are subject to mandatory attendance laws, unless they are at least seventeen and their parent/guardian or other person having control of the child consents to such child's removal from school. The parent or person shall exercise this option by personally appearing at the school district office to sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation from a guidance counselor, school counselor, or school administrator of the school that the district has provided the parent or person with information on the educational opportunities options available in the school system and in the community.

A child who has attained the age of seventeen and who has terminated enrollment with parental consent in ARSD's schools and subsequently seeks readmission may be denied readmission for up to ninety school days from the date of such termination.

A child who has attained the age of nineteen or older may be placed in an alternative school program or other suitable educational program, if he/she cannot acquire a sufficient number of credits for graduation by age twenty-one.

The above requirements are not to serve as barriers to immediate enrollment of students designated as homeless or foster children as required by the Every Student succeeds Act (ESSA) and the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by ESSA. ARSD shall work with the local child welfare agency, the school last attended, or other relevant agencies to obtain necessary enrollment documentation.

The parent/guardian of any child who is denied admission to ARSD's schools or an unaccompanied minor, a student eighteen years of age or older, a homeless child or youth or an unaccompanied youth who is denied schooling on the basis of residency, or an agent or officer charged with the enforcement of the laws concerning attendance at school may request in writing a hearing by the Board.

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(cf. 5111 - Admission/Placement)
(cf. 5118.1 - Homeless Students)
(cf. 6146 - Graduation Requirements)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
4-176e to 4-180a Agency hearings
4-181a Contested cases. Reconsideration. Modifications.
10-15 Towns to maintain schools
10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by five-year-olds
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, PA 00-157, PA 09-6 (September Special Session) and PA 18-15
10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. (as amended by P.A. 19-179)
Appeals to State Board. Establishment of hearing board
10-233a - 10-233f Inclusive; re: suspend, expel, removal of students
10-233c Suspension of students
10-233d Expulsion of pupils
State Board of Education Regulations
10-76a-1 General definitions (c) (d) (q) (t)
P.A. 19-179 An Act Concerning Homeless Students' Access to Education
P.A. 21-86 An Act Concerning the Enrollment of Children of Members of the Armed Forces in Public Schools and the Establishment of a Purple Star School Program
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (PL 107-110 Sec. 1032) 42 U.S.C. §11431-11435, as amended by the ESSA, P.L. 114-95
Federal Register: McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children & Youths Program, Vol. 81 No. 52, 3/17/2016