

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Code **JE** Issued **3/13**

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Purpose: To establish the basic structure for student attendance.

State law requires all children between the ages of five and 17 to attend a public or private school or kindergarten. A parent whose child or ward is not six years old on or before September 1 of the school year may waive kindergarten attendance for his/her child.

The board expects children to attend school regularly. Regular attendance is necessary if students are to make the desired and expected academic and social progress.

The school year consists of 180 school days. High school students must attend 85 days of each 90-day semester to receive one-half unit of credit. They must attend 170 days through the course of the school year to receive one unit of credit.

Adopted 10/5/98; Issued 3/4/13

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### Legal references:

- A. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:
  - 1. Section 59-35-10 – Each district to provide a kindergarten program.
  - 2. Section 59-63-20(3) – Entrance age for kindergarten program.
  - 3. Section 59-63-20(4) – Entrance age for first grade.
  - 4. Section 59-63-20(6) – Four-year-olds may attend optional child development programs.
  - 5. Section 59-65-10 – Compulsory attendance age group in South Carolina includes children ages five through 17; parents may waive compulsory kindergarten attendance requirement.
- B. State Board of Education Regulations:
  - 1. R-43-270 – Attendance.
  - 2. R-43-271 – Entrance age.
  - 3. R-43-272.1 – South Carolina compulsory kindergarten program.
  - 4. R-43-274 – Student attendance.