

## **Compulsory Attendance\*\***

Except when exempt by Oregon law, all students ages 7-18 who have not completed the 12th grade are required to attend school full time during the entire school term

Persons having legal control of a student ages 7-18 who has not completed the 12th grade are required to have the student attend school.

All students five or six years of age who have been enrolled in a public school are required to attend regularly.

Persons having legal control of a student who is five or six years of age and has enrolled the child in a public school, are required to have their student attend and maintain regular attendance.

Under the superintendent's direction and supervision, building principals shall monitor and report any violation of the compulsory attendance law to the superintendent or designee. Failure to send a student and maintain a student in regular attendance is a Class C violation

A parent who is not supervising his/her student by requiring school attendance may also be in violation of ORS 163.577(1)(c). Failing to supervise a child is a Class A violation.

In addition, under policy JHFDA - Suspension of Driving Privileges, the district may report students with 10 consecutive days unexcused absence or 15 cumulative days unexcused absence in a single semester to the Oregon Department of Transportation.

### **Exemptions From Compulsory School Attendance**

In the following cases, students shall not be required to attend public schools full time:

1. Students being taught in a private or parochial school in courses of study usually taught in grades one through 12 in the public schools and in attendance for a period equivalent to that required of students attending public schools;
2. Students proving to the Board's satisfaction that they have acquired the courses of study taught in grades one through 12 in the public schools;
3. Students being taught by a private teacher, the courses of student usually taught in grades one - 12 in the public school for a period equivalent to that required of students attending public schools;
4. Students being educated in the home by a parent, guardian, person in a parental relationship:

- a. When a student is taught or is withdrawn from a public school to be taught by a parent, guardian, person in a parental relationship or private teacher, the parent, guardian, person in a parental relationship or teacher must notify the MESD superintendent or designee in writing within 10 days of such occurrence. In addition, when a home-schooled student moves to a new ESD, the parent, guardian, or person in a parental relationship shall notify the new ESD in writing within 10 days of the intent to continue home schooling. The MESD superintendent or designee shall acknowledge receipt of any notification in writing within 90 days of receipt of the notification. The MESD is to notify, at least annually, school districts of home-schooled students who reside in their district.
  - b. Each student being taught by a parent, guardian, person in a parental relationship or private teacher shall be examined no later than August 15, following grades 3, 5, 8, and 10:
    - (1) If the student was withdrawn from public school, the first examination shall be administered at least 18 months after the date the student withdrew;
    - (2) If the student never attended public or private school, the first examination shall be administered prior to the end of grade 3.
    - (3) Procedures for home-schooled students with disabilities are set out in OAR 581-021-0029.
  - c. Examinations testing each student shall be from the list of approved examinations from the State Board of Education.
  - d. The examination must be administered by a neutral party qualified to administer tests on the approval list provided by the Oregon Department of Education.
  - e. The person administering the examination shall score the examination and report the results to the parent, guardian, or a person in a parental relationship. Upon request of the MESD superintendent, the parent, guardian, or a person in a parental relationship shall submit the results of the examination to the MESD.
  - f. All costs for the test instrument, administration and scoring are the responsibility of the parent, guardian, or parent in a parental relationship.
  - g. In the event the MESD superintendent finds that the student is not showing satisfactory educational progress, the MESD superintendent shall provide the parent with a written statement of the reasons for the finding, based on the test results and shall follow the guidelines in Oregon Revised Statutes and Oregon Administrative Rules.
5. Students excluded from attendance as provided by law.
6. An exemption may be granted to the parent, guardian or person in a parental relationship of any student 16 or 17 years of age who is lawfully employed full-time, lawfully employed part time and enrolled in school, a community college or alternative education program as defined in ORS 336.615.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 153.018](#)

[ORS 163.577](#)

[ORS 336.615 to -336.665](#)

[ORS 339.010 to -339.090](#)

[ORS 339.095](#)

[ORS 339.990](#)

[ORS 807.065](#)

[ORS 807.066](#)

[OAR 581-021-0026](#)

[OAR 581-021-0029](#)

[OAR 581-021-0071](#)

[OAR 581-021-0077](#)

**MESD Policy Cross References:**

IA/IAA - Instructional Goals

IGBHA - Alternative Education Programs\*\*

IGBHB - Establishment of Alternative Education Programs

IGBHE - Expanded Options Program

IM - Evaluation of Instructional Programs

JA/JAA - Student Policies, Goals and Objectives

JB - Equal Educational Opportunity

JE - Attendance

JEC - School Admissions\*\*

JGE - Expulsion\*\*

JHCB - Immunization of Students\*\*

JO/IGBAB - Student Education Records

KAB - Parental Rights