COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LAW

STATUTORY CITATION: Ariz. Rev. Stat. §§ 15-801 - 15-808

GENERAL SUMMARY: The state compulsory school attendance law generally requires every person who has custody of a child between the ages of 6 and 16 to send the child to a public school (or an allowable equivalent) for the full time school is in session in the school district in which the child resides. Exceptions to this requirement include, among others, cases where the child is over 14 years of age and is employed at a lawful wage-earning occupation with the consent of the person who has custody of the child.

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURE: The compulsory attendance provisions apply to parents or guardians of all 6- to 16-year-old minors, unless covered by one or more of the law's specific exemptions, none of which singles out agriculture for special treatment.

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — These provisions are enforced by the local school districts, normally through attendance officers employed by their respective school boards. Attendance officers are authorized to enter any workplace where children may be employed and to make arrests for violations. Non-compliance with the compulsory attendance law is a misdemeanor.

SECONDARY OR ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY - None.