

● **COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LAWS**

*STATUTORY CITATION:* 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. §§ 5/26-1 – 5/26-16

*GENERAL SUMMARY:* With a few narrow exceptions, whoever has custody or control of any child who has reached the age of 6 on or before September 1 and is not over the age of 17 must see that the child attends a local public school (or a private school providing comparable instruction) for the entire time it is in session during the regular school term.

*PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURE:* The compulsory school attendance laws apply to children in the affected age group, and to their parents and guardians, without respect to occupational considerations.

*ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT*

**PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY** — These provisions are enforced by school districts and regional school superintendents, through truant officers and other designated authorities. If, after notice of non-compliance and a series of other procedural requirements, a person having custody of a child fails to comply with the attendance assurance responsibility, a truant officer may file a truancy petition with the state's attorney or in circuit court. Conviction of such an offense carries a maximum penalty of 30 days' imprisonment and a \$500 fine.

**SECONDARY OR ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY** — *None.*