◉ COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE LAW

STATUTORY CITATION: Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 159.010 – 159.270

GENERAL SUMMARY: With only limited exceptions, the compulsory attendance law requires each parent, guardian or other person residing in Kentucky and having charge of a child who is at least 6 years of age, but who has not reached the age of 18, to send the child to a regular public day school for the full term that the local public schools are in session.

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURE: The compulsory attendance requirement applies to every child in the affected age group who resides in Kentucky, and neither the child nor the person in charge of the child is excused from compliance or the penalties for non-compliance on the ground that the child's residence is seasonal or that the parent is a resident of another state.

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — Compulsory school attendance is monitored and enforced by each school district's Director of Pupil Personnel, who is vested with police powers comparable to those of peace officers and may investigate any case of non-attendance at school by any child of compulsory school age or suspected of being of that age. To check compliance with the school attendance provisions, pupil personnel directors are authorized to enter any premises where children are employed. In accordance with local school board policies, such officers may institute legal proceedings against any person violating the attendance law, after notice and opportunity for corrective action. Any parent, or any person standing in the place of a parent, who willfully fails to comply is subject to a fine.

SECONDARY OR ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — *None.*