

● SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LAWS

STATUTORY CITATION: Minn. Stat. §§ 120A.20 – 120A.38

GENERAL SUMMARY: Every child between 7 and 17 years of age must attend a qualified public or private school during the entire time the school is in session during the school year, unless the child has graduated or is excused from attendance by the local school board. It is the responsibility of the parent to assure the child acquires the knowledge and skills essential for effective citizenship.

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURE: There are no employment-related exceptions to compulsory school attendance by children in the affected age range.

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — The compulsory attendance laws are enforced by district school superintendents. Each superintendent is required to notify the parent, guardian or other person in charge of any child whose unexcused absence has been reported to the superintendent by a school attendance officer. If the child fails to attend following such notification, the superintendent must advise the county attorney of the facts of the case and file a criminal complaint against the party responsible for non-compliance.

SECONDARY OR ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — *None.*