

● **COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE LAW**

STATUTORY CITATION: Vt. Stat. Title 16, §§ 1121 – 1129

GENERAL SUMMARY: Every person having control of a child between the ages of 6 and 16 must assure that the child attends a public school, an approved independent school or education program, or a home study program for the full number of days for which the school or program is held. Among other exceptions, a child who has completed the 10th grade is not subject to this requirement.

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURE: The compulsory attendance law applies to all custodians of school-age children regardless of employment status or occupational classification, and to all school-age children regardless of residency status.

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — These provisions are enforced by truant officers appointed by the local school boards, and by local peace officers deemed truant officers ex officio by the statute. The non-enrollment or unexcused absence of any child of compulsory school age will be investigated, and in the event the child is absent without valid cause, a written notice will be served on the person or persons in whose custody the child resides. Failure to comply with the attendance requirement thereafter may result in prosecution of the custodian, who is subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 upon conviction.

SECONDARY OR ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — *None.*