

**§3271. Compulsory attendance at school**

**1. Required attendance.** Persons residing in the unorganized territory who are at least 6 years of age and under 17 years of age shall attend a public day elementary or secondary school or an approved private school during the time it is in session.

[PL 2019, c. 508, §1 (AMD).]

**1-A. Attendance of persons 5 years of age or older and under 6 years of age.** A person 5 years of age or older and under 6 years of age who is enrolled in and who has not withdrawn from a public day school is required to attend that school during the time it is in session.

[PL 2019, c. 508, §2 (AMD).]

**2. Alternative instruction.** Alternative instruction may be substituted for attendance in a day school in the following cases when approved by the school principal. A person 5 years of age or older and under 6 years of age is not required to meet the requirements of this subsection.

A. The person is enrolled in an approved special education program. [PL 1985, c. 490, §8 (NEW).]

B. The person obtains equivalent instruction through alternative learning or in any other manner arranged or approved by the commissioner. [PL 2007, c. 667, §4 (AMD).]

C. [PL 1989, c. 415, §3 (RP).]

[PL 2019, c. 508, §3 (AMD).]

**3. Exceptions.** Attendance at school or an alternative education program is not required of:

A. A person who has graduated from high school before the person's 17th birthday; [PL 2007, c. 667, §5 (AMD).]

B. A person who is at least 15 years old, has completed the 9th grade and has permission to leave school to participate in a suitable program of training or combined work and study from a parent and the commissioner; and [PL 1989, c. 415, §4 (AMD).]

C. A person who has been adjudged a truant and has been excused from attendance pursuant to procedures established by the commissioner. [PL 2011, c. 614, §8 (AMD).]

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**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1985, c. 490, §8 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 415, §§3,4 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 667, §§4, 5 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 614, §8 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 235, §§1, 2 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 508, §§1-3 (AMD).

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