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 A person 5 years of age or older and under 6 years of age who is enrolled in and who has not withdrawn from a public day school is required to attend that school during the time it is in session.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

[PL 2011, c. 614, §8 (AMD).]

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).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1, 2023. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.