

**Policy JEA: COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGES**

**Original Adopted Date:** 07/2007 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 06/07/2023

Under South Dakota law, a child who is at least six (6) years old by September 1st, but who has not exceeded the age of eighteen (18) must regularly attend a public or non-public school or receive alternative instruction as set forth in state law, unless excused. It is the responsibility of every person having under their control a child between those ages to see to the child's attendance at school, either public, nonpublic, or alternative instruction, until the child has reached the age of eighteen (18), unless excused.

All children shall attend kindergarten prior to age seven. Any child who transfers from another state may proceed in a continuous educational program without interruption if the child has not previously attended kindergarten.

Any person who does not see to the school attendance or alternate instruction of a child in their care may be guilty of a misdemeanor and if convicted, may be subject to a fine as established by law.

No student will be denied the right of attending school without due process of law.