

Hamilton County Board of Education

Monitoring:

**Review: Annually,
in April**

Descriptor Term:

Compulsory Attendance Ages

Descriptor Code:

6.201

Issued Date:

07/18/13

Rescinds:

Issued:

09/15/16

General Provisions

Children between the ages of 6 and 17 years, inclusively, must attend a public or private school.¹

The compulsory attendance law, however, shall not apply to the following:²

- 1) A student who has received a diploma or other certificate of graduation;
- 2) A student who is enrolled and making satisfactory progress in a course leading to a GED;
- 3) A student enrolled in a homeschool who has reached the age of 17.

A parent or guardian or legal custodian who believes that his or her six-year old child is not ready to attend school may make application to the principal of the public school that the child would attend requesting a one-semester or one-year deferral in required attendance. Any such deferral shall be reported to the director of schools by the principal. Under certain circumstances, the Board may temporarily excuse students from complying with the provisions of the compulsory attendance law.³

No child shall be eligible to enter first grade without having attended an approved Kindergarten program.

A child entering a special education program shall be no less than three years of age.

Five-year old children

Any child residing within the State who will be five years of age on or before August 15 and whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) applies for admission shall be enrolled in the school designated by the Board.⁴

Adult Students

Any student presently enrolled in the Hamilton County Schools who has his or her 18th birthday during the school year will be allowed to complete the school year at that school.

The student may be allowed to continue in that school for one additional semester provided that (1) the student will be able to earn sufficient credits in order to graduate at the end of that semester; (2) in the judgment of the principal, the student has had good attendance; and (3) in the judgment of the principal, the student has not been a disciplinary problem. Any student who wishes to remain enrolled in Hamilton County Schools who does not meet these criteria may apply to attend Hamilton County High School's adult high school program.

1 T.C.A. §49-6-3001(c)(1)

2 T.C.A. §49-6-3005

3 T.C.A. §49-6-3005

4 T.C.A. §49-6-201(3); T.C.A. §49-6-201(8)(d); Tennessee Rules and Regulations 0520-1-3.03(10)