

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4707

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. EACHUS, ROSENTHAL, RAMOS, STIRPE, STECK, COLTON, BRABENEC -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. DAVILA, PEOPLES-STOKES, SIMON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to attendance of minors at full-time day instruction

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 3205 of the education law, subdivision 1 as amended  
2 by chapter 262 of the laws of 1959, paragraphs a and b of subdivision 1  
3 as amended by chapter 296 of the laws of 1969, paragraph c of subdivi-  
4 sion 1 as amended by chapter 518 of the laws of 1993, paragraph b of  
5 subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 975 of the laws of 1966, paragraph c  
6 of subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 703 of the laws of 2019 and  
7 subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 183 of the laws of 2004, is amended  
8 to read as follows:  
9 § 3205. Attendance of minors upon [~~full-time~~] full-time day instruc-  
10 tion. 1. a. In each school district of the state, each minor from six to  
11 [~~sixteen~~] eighteen years of age shall attend upon [~~full-time~~] full-time  
12 instruction, except as provided in subdivision four of this section.  
13 b. Each minor from six to [~~sixteen~~] eighteen years of age on an Indian  
14 reservation shall attend upon [~~full-time~~] full-time day instruction,  
15 except as provided in subdivision four of this section.  
16 c. For purposes of this article, a minor who becomes six years of age  
17 on or before the first of December in any school year shall be required  
18 to attend upon [~~full-time~~] full-time instruction from the first day that  
19 the appropriate public schools are in session in September of such  
20 school year, and a minor who becomes six years of age after the first of  
21 December in any school year shall be required to attend upon [~~full-time~~]  
22 full-time instruction from the first day of session in the following  
23 September; and, except as otherwise provided in subdivision three of  
24 this section, shall be required to remain in attendance until the last

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 day of session in the school year in which the minor becomes sixteen  
2 years of age.

3 2. Exceptions. a. A minor who has completed a four-year high school  
4 course of study or has passed a high school equivalency examination  
5 shall not be subject to the provisions of this part [~~one of this arti-~~  
6 ~~cle~~] in respect to required attendance upon instruction.

7 b. A minor for whom application for a full-time employment certificate  
8 has been made and who is eligible therefor may, though unemployed, be  
9 permitted to attend [~~part-time~~] part-time school not less than twenty  
10 hours per week instead of [~~full-time~~] full-time school.

11 c. The board of education of every school district within the state is  
12 hereby authorized to require minors who are five years of age on or  
13 before December first to attend kindergarten instruction. However, the  
14 provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to:

15 (i) Minors whose parents elect not to enroll their children in school  
16 until the following September.

17 (ii) Students enrolled in non-public schools or in home instruction.

18 d. A minor seventeen years of age or older who participates, with the  
19 consent of the school district and the person in parental relation to  
20 such minor, in a course of instruction in vocational or occupational  
21 skills shall not be subject to the provisions of this part with respect  
22 to required attendance upon instruction.

23 3. In each school district, the board of education shall have power to  
24 require minors [~~from sixteen to seventeen~~] eighteen years of age who are  
25 not employed to attend upon [~~full-time~~] full-time day instruction until  
26 the last day of session in the school year in which the student becomes  
27 [~~seventeen~~] eighteen years of age.

28 4. In each school district of the state, each person over the age of  
29 eighteen years and under the age of nineteen years, who does not attend  
30 upon full-time instruction, shall enroll and participate in a general  
31 education development course of study until such person reaches the age  
32 of nineteen years, or such person passes the high school equivalency  
33 examination for such course of study, whichever shall occur first.

34 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of September next  
35 succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.