

**Capital Area School for the Arts
Charter School**

SECTION: Pupils
TITLE: Withdrawal from
School/Compulsory School Age
ADOPTED: 11/11/2013
REPLACED: 4/19/21

**Board of Trustees Policy
Withdrawal from School / Compulsory School Age**

The Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School (the “Charter School”) believes that good attendance is essential if students are to achieve and reach their potential. Each day is important for learning. Parents are required to ensure their son/daughter maintains good attendance.

The Charter School administration is tasked with creating attendance and enrollment procedures consistent with this policy, and must allow the school to determine when a student who is enrolled has an unexcused absence. Procedures must also be implemented to determine whether there is a possibility that a child is truant or chronically absent due to a disability or a medical condition. Copies of this policy and those procedures must be provided to parents at the beginning of each year and to all new enrollees upon enrollment in the Charter School. It must also be posted on the Charter School’s website.

Compulsory Attendance Requirements

In Pennsylvania, compulsory school age is defined as the period of a child’s life from the time the child enters school, which may be no later than six (6) years of age, until the age of eighteen (18) or graduation from a high school, whichever occurs first.

The term “compulsory attendance” refers to the mandate that all children of compulsory school age having a legal residence in Pennsylvania must attend a day school in which the subjects and activities prescribed by the standards of the State Board of Education are taught in the English language, except in the following situations found in sections 1327, 1327.1, and 1330 of Pennsylvania’s Public School Code (School Code):

1. Attendance at a private trade school or private business school continuously through the entire term congruent with the school term of the resident school district and that meets the requirements set forth by the State Board of Education or the State Board of Vocational Education when:
 - a. The child is 15 and has approval from the district superintendent and the Secretary of Education, or
 - b. The child is 16 and has approval from the district superintendent.

2. Attendance at a school operated by a bona fide church or other religious body which provides a minimum of 180 days of instruction or 900 hours of instruction per year at the elementary level or 990 hours of instruction per year at the secondary level.
3. Privately tutored or home-schooled students provided a minimum of 180 days of instruction or 900 hours of instruction per year at the elementary level or 990 hours per year of instruction at the secondary level.
4. Enrollment in a day or boarding school which is accredited by an accrediting association approved by the State Board of Education.
5. Children who are 16 and regularly engaged in useful and lawful employment during the school session with a valid employment certificate. Regularly engaged means 35 or more hours per week of employment.
6. Children who have been examined by an approved psychological professional and identified to be unable to profit from further public school attendance and excused by the school board.
7. Children who are 15 who hold a permit approved by the school district to engage in farm work or domestic service in a private home.
8. Children who are 14 and satisfactorily completed the equivalent of the highest grade of elementary school in their district who hold a permit recommended by the district and approved by the Secretary of Education to engage in farm work or domestic service in a private home.