

**POLICY** **Governance Council**  
**Anthony Charter School**

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Responsible Office: Director of Instruction

**COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

**I. PURPOSE**

The Governance Council recognizes that daily class attendance by school age persons at all grade levels is an essential component in the learning process, in the development of self discipline, and in preparation for post-secondary training, education and employment. Daily class attendance is a requirement of the New Mexico Compulsory School Attendance Law (22-12-1 NMSA 1978).

**II. POSITION**

Unless excused by the Law, all school age persons subject to the Law shall attend school until attaining the age of majority (18 years of age) for at least the length of time of the school year that is established in the district (22-12-1 NMSA 1978).

**III. GUIDELINES**

A. Any qualified student and any person who because of his age is eligible to become a qualified student as defined by 22.8.2.M NMSA 1978 until attaining the age of majority shall attend a public school, a private school, a home school or a state institution.

A person shall be excused from this requirement if the person:

1. is specifically exempted by law from the provisions of this section;
2. has graduated from high school or obtained his or her General Education Diploma (GED);
3. is at least 18 years of age and has been excused by the local school Council or its authorized representative upon a finding that the person will be employed in a gainful trade or occupation or engaged in an alternative form of education sufficient for the person's educational needs and the parent, guardian or other person having custody and control consents; or
4. is at least five years of age prior to 12:01 a.m. on September 1 of the school year;

5. is at least three years of age at any time during the school year and is receiving special education services pursuant to rules of the department;
  6. has not reached the student's 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday on the first day of the school year and is receiving special education services pursuant to the rules of the department.
- B. Any parent of a person subject to the provisions of the Compulsory School Attendance Law is responsible for the school attendance of that person.
- C. Under specified conditions, the Principal shall grant excused absences to students of parents/guardians who are active-duty military personnel in accordance with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (11.8B.1 NMSA).
- D. The Principal shall promulgate a regulation for the enforcement of this policy.

**IV. REVIEW**

This policy shall be reviewed in accordance with the Governance Council policy review process.

  
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*Governance Council, President*

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*Date*

*History: Adopted: Sept 9, 2014, Revised: July 15, 2015*  
*Legal Reference: 22-12-2, NMSA 1978; 22.8.2 NMSA 1978*