

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGES

South Dakota law indicates that children between the ages of six and eighteen are of compulsory school age. It is the responsibility of every person having control of a child between those ages to see to the child's attendance at school until the child has reached the age of eighteen, unless excused.

A child is eligible to enroll in a school-based or school-contracted general education development test (GED) preparation program or take the general education development test (GED) if the child is sixteen or seventeen years of age and the child presents written permission from the child's parent or guardian and one of the following:

- 1) Verification from a school administrator that the child will not graduate with the child's cohort class because of credit deficiency.
- 2) Authorization from a court service officer;
- 3) A court order requiring the child to enter the program;
- 4) Verification that the child is under the direction of the Department of Corrections;
- 5) Verification that the child is enrolled in Job Corps.

Any child who is sixteen or seventeen years of age and who completes the GED test preparation program may take the GED test immediately following release from the school program or when ordered to take the test by a court. Any child who fails to successfully complete the test shall re-enroll in the District and may continue the GED preparation program or other suitable program as determined by the District.