

## **Students**

### **Admission/Placement**

#### **Admission**

District schools shall be open to all children five years of age and over who reach age five on or before the first day of January of any school year. Each such child shall have, and shall be so advised by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to participate in the program and activities of the school system without discrimination on account of race, color, sex, religion, national origin or sexual orientation. Students who are classified as homeless under federal law, and therefore do not have a fixed residence, will be admitted pursuant to federal law and policy 5118.1. Exceptions from routine admission may be made by the school Principal on the basis of supporting evidence from physical and psychological examinations.

The parent or person having control of a child five years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is six years of age. The parent or person having control of a child six years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven years of age.

The parent or person shall exercise such option by personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option form. The district shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system.

According to Connecticut General Statute 10-76d(b2), special education will be provided for children who have attained the age of three and who have been identified as being in need of special education, and whose educational potential will be irreparably diminished without special education. If a special education student is being considered for an exception, the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) will make a recommendation to the administrator in charge of special education.

Each child entering the district schools for the first time must present a birth certificate or offer legal evidence of birth data, as well as proof of a recent physical examination and required immunizations. If the parents or guardians of any children are unable to pay for such immunizations, the expense of such immunizations shall on the recommendation of the Board, be paid by the town. Proof of domicile shall be requested by the Building Principal.

Any child entering or returning to the district from placement in a juvenile detention school, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, or any other residential placement, shall have the educational records of such child provided to the Director of Pupil Services by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Judicial Department. Such information will be shared with the Principal of the school to which the student is assigned. The Principal can disclose them to the staff who teach or care for the child.

## **Students**

### **Admission/Placement**

The parent or person having control of a child sixteen or seventeen years of age may consent to such child's withdrawal from school, effective July 1, 2000. The parent or person shall exercise this option by personally appearing at the school district office to sign a withdrawal form. The district shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system and in the community.

Children who have attained the age of sixteen and who have terminated enrollment in the district's schools with parental permission as described previously and subsequently seeks readmission may be denied readmission for up to ninety school days from the date of such termination.

Children who apply for initial admission to the district's schools by transfer from nonpublic schools or from schools outside the district will be placed at the grade they would have reached elsewhere pending observation and evaluation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the school Principal. After such observations and evaluations have been completed, the Principal will determine the final grade placement of the children.

Children who have attained the age of nineteen or older may be placed in an alternative school program or other suitable educational program if they cannot acquire a sufficient number of credits for graduation by age twenty-one.

- (cf. 0521 - Nondiscrimination)
- (cf. 5112 - Ages of Attendance)
- (cf. 5118.1 Homeless Students)
- (cf. 5141 - Student Health Services)
- (cf. 6171 - Special Education)
- (cf. 6146 - Graduation Requirements)

Legal Reference:        Connecticut General Statutes  
                                 10-15 Towns to maintain schools  
                                 10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by  
                                 five-year olds, as amended by PA 97-247  
                                 10-76a - 10-76g re special education  
                                 10-184 Duties of parents (re mandatory schooling for children ages five to  
                                 sixteen, inclusive) - as amended by PA 98-243, and PA 00-157  
                                 10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school  
                                 attendance. Hearings. Amended by PA 96-26, An Act Concerning  
                                 Graduation Requirements and Placement of Older Students

## Students

### Admission/Placement

Legal Reference (continued)

Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board

10-233a - 10-233f Inclusive; re: suspend, expel, removal of pupils

10-233c Suspension of pupils

10-233d Expulsion of pupils

10-233k Notification of school officials of potentially dangerous students.  
(as amended by PA 01-176)

10-261 Definitions

State Board of Education Regulations

10-76a-1 General definitions (c) (d) (q) (t)

10-76d-7 Admission of student requiring special education (referral)

10-204a Required immunizations (as amended by PA 98-243)

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OPTION TO EXEMPT ATTENDANCE  
OF CHILD FIVE OR SIX YEARS OF AGE FROM SCHOOL**

Pursuant to Section 10-184 of the Connecticut General Statutes

I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_,  
**Name of Parent, Guardian or Other** **Address**

the parent, guardian or other person charged with the care of the following minor child

\_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_ who was  
**Name of Child** **Address**

born on \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby choose not to send my child to public  
**Date**

school during the \_\_\_\_\_.  
**School Year**

Furthermore, before signing this form, a representative of the \_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of District**

school district met with me and provided me with information concerning the  
educational opportunities and school accommodations available in the school system.

ACKNOWLEDGED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Parent, Guardian or Other**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

## Students

### Foreign Exchange Students

The Board encourages international studies. Students are encouraged to participate in international exchange programs and other activities that advance cultural awareness and promote mutual understanding and respect for the citizens of other countries. To that end, it allows foreign exchange students on one year J-I visas, who are residing with families in the community to enroll on a non-tuition basis in the local schools. Students who apply must not have the equivalent of a high school diploma from a foreign school system. Students who are accepted and placed in grade 12 will only receive an honorary diploma. Further, they must meet those criteria established by the administration in the areas of language competency, residency, and deportment. Only foreign exchange students sponsored by organizations screened by the administration will be accepted. No more than two (2) students at the high school may be accepted for any school year.

Students entering the United States on F-I visas, may enter the local school system, only upon payment of the full, unsubsidized public education costs before entering the United States. Further, students on F-I visas may remain in the United States for no more than twelve (12) months. The local district, is prohibited by law, from waiving the tuition fee of students on F-I visas.

Legal Reference:       Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996

Connecticut General Statutes

10-27 International studies, exchange programs. Advisory committee.  
(amended by PA 04-153, An Act Encouraging International Students  
Programs)

Policy adopted:       September 10, 2007

THOMASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Thomaston, Connecticut

## Students

### Foreign Exchange Students

In order for a foreign exchange student to be eligible for enrollment in the Thomaston Public Schools, the following criteria must be met:

- A. The student may not be a graduate of the school system in the country in which he/she is a native.
- B. The student must be sufficiently fluent in English so that he/she would not require any special services such as ESL.
- C. The application for admission must be reviewed by the appropriate school administrator before July 1 of the school year for which the student wishes to enroll.
- D. The school must ascertain that the living situation that the student would be living in the local community is appropriate.
- E. The school must have room for the student and be able to accommodate him/her without incurring additional costs or burden.
- F. The student may not be enrolled more than one year.
- G. The student is not eligible to receive a diploma but can receive an honorary diploma.
- H. The student may be eligible to play sports if he/she meets the CIAC criteria.
- I. If the student is not participating in and attending the school program or is disruptive to the smooth and efficient operation of the school, the student may be dis-enrolled.
- J. This program is designed for foreign students who enter the country on one-year J-I visas through established exchange programs such as Youth for Understanding, American Field Service and Rotary.

**Note:** Students entering the United States on F-I visas may attend schools in the district only upon full payment of tuition before entering the United States. This tuition fee may not be waived due to federal legislation.