

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

Attendance of students in K-12 schools.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to enrollment of students in K-12 public
2 schools; specifying the public schools of the state as
3 being equally free and accessible to children attending
4 school on a part-time basis; specifying applicability; and
5 providing for an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-4-301 is amended to read:

10

11 **21-4-301. Schools to be free and accessible to all**
12 **children; minimum school year.**

13

1 (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, the public
2 schools of each school district in the state shall at all
3 times be equally free and accessible to all children,
4 including children attending school on a part-time basis,
5 resident therein of five (5) years of age as of August 1,
6 or September 15 if pursuant to an approved request under
7 W.S. 21-3-110(a)(xxxviii), of the year in which they may
8 register in kindergarten as provided in W.S. 21-4-302(b)
9 and under the age of twenty-one (21), subject to
10 regulations of the board of trustees.

11

12 **(b)** Each school district shall operate its schools
13 and its classes for a minimum of one hundred seventy-five
14 (175) days each school year unless an alternative schedule
15 has been approved by the state board. Prior to submission
16 of a proposed alternative schedule to the state board, the
17 board of trustees shall hold at least two (2) advertised
18 public meetings within the district, at which the board
19 shall present the proposed alternative schedule and respond
20 to public questions and comments. Any school district
21 operating under an alternative schedule shall annually
22 evaluate the effectiveness of that schedule in meeting the

1 educational goals and purposes for which the schedule was
2 adopted.

3

4 ~~(b)~~(c) A parent, guardian or other person having
5 control or charge of any child eligible to attend public
6 school in Wyoming under subsection (a) of this section
7 shall have the option to apply for the ESA program
8 specified by W.S. 21-2-901 on behalf of the child.

9

10 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-4-301 as amended by section 1 of
11 this act, shall apply to enrollment of children beginning
12 school year 2026-2027 and each school year thereafter.

13

14 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2026.

15

16 (END)