



County Technical Assistance Service  
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

May 01, 2025

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# Compulsory Attendance

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Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website ([ctas.tennessee.edu](http://ctas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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# Compulsory Attendance

## Private Acts of 1933 Chapter 178

**SECTION 1.** That the officer known as Truant Officer in counties having a population of not less than 12,660, nor more than 12,690 according to the population fixed by the Federal Census of 1930 or any subsequent Census, be and the same is hereby abolished.

**SECTION 2.** That it shall be the duty of all school teachers in said counties, to report any and all children belonging to their respective schools every two weeks, to the County Superintendent of Public Instruction of said Counties, giving the name of such child not attending school, the name of its parents, or guardian, or any person having custody of said child, or children.

**SECTION 3.** That the said County Superintendent of Public Instruction shall upon receipt of the names of such child, or children not attending school as aforesaid, give written notice to said parents, or guardian, or any person having custody of said child or children, calling attention to the violation of the school law.

**SECTION 4.** That if within five days after being mailed the notice above provided for by said Superintendent, if any parent, guardian, or any person having custody of a child, or children shall not enter them in school, or give good and satisfactory reasons for not doing so, that the said Superintendent of Public Instruction shall turn over the names of such child, or children, together with the name of their parents, guardian or person having control of them, to the sheriff of said county, or any constable, who shall take out warrants and arrest said parents, guardian or other person having control of such child, or children and not sending them to school, and carry them before some Magistrate, or County Judge of said Counties for trial and upon conviction said parent, guardian or person having control of such child or children shall be fined for misdemeanor, as now provided for in the compulsory school law, together with all costs.

**SECTION 5.** That it shall be a misdemeanor for any school teacher in said county to fail or refuse to report to the County Superintendent as herein provided for the names of the children, and parents, guardian or person having custody of them.

**SECTION 6.** That it shall be a misdemeanor for any County Superintendent to fail or refuse to give notice herein provided for, to such parent, guardian or person having custody of any child, or children, reported to him as not sending them to school or to furnish the Sheriff or Constable said names.

**SECTION 7.** That this law take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.  
Passed: March 23, 1933.

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