

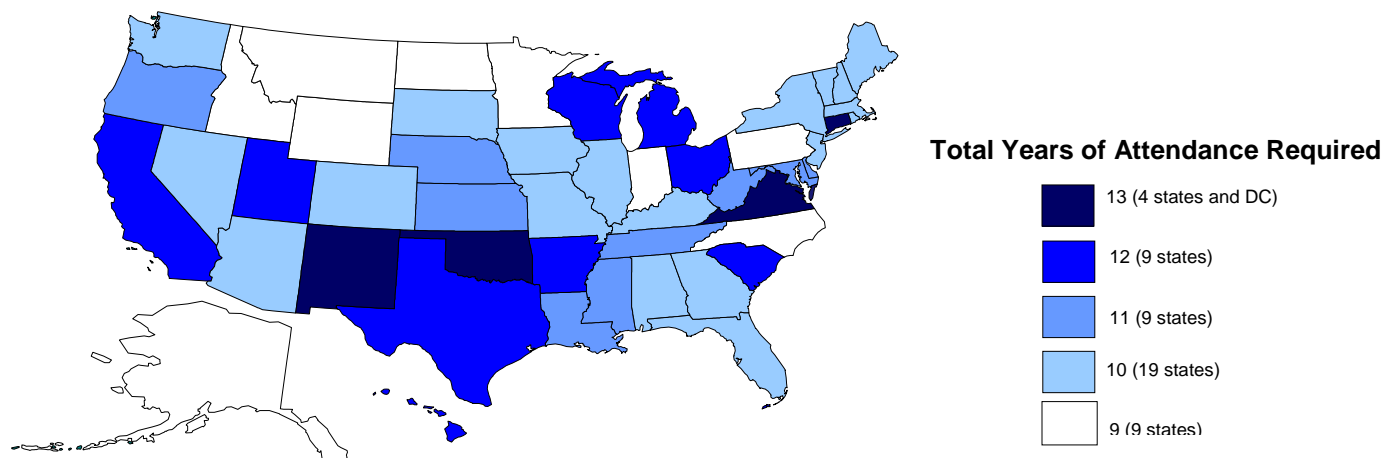


## Attendance-Compulsory

Education Commission of the States • 700 Broadway, Suite 810 • Denver, CO 80203-3442 • 303.299.3600 • Fax: 303.296.8332 • [www.ecs.org](http://www.ecs.org)

## Mandatory Years of Attendance by State

Updated September 2010



This map illustrates the total number of years of school attendance required by each state, based on each state's compulsory school attendance requirement. Compulsory school attendance refers to the minimum and maximum age required by each state at which a student must be enrolled in and attending public school or some equivalent education program defined by law. For example, in Alabama the minimum compulsory age is 7 years old – meaning that students must attend school by age 7 – and the maximum compulsory age is 17, meaning students cannot leave school before age 17. Thus the mandatory number of school years in Alabama is 10.

Kyle Zinth, Policy Analyst in the ECS Information Clearinghouse, updated this ECS StateNote. Email: [kzinth@ecs.org](mailto:kzinth@ecs.org)

© 2010 by the Education Commission of the States (ECS). All rights reserved. ECS is the only nationwide, nonpartisan interstate compact devoted to education.

ECS encourages its readers to share our information with others. To request permission to reprint or excerpt some of our material, please contact the ECS Information Clearinghouse at 303.299.3675 or e-mail [ecs@ecs.org](mailto:ecs@ecs.org).

***Helping State Leaders Shape Education Policy***