

STUDENTS OF LEGAL AGE

I. PURPOSE

To outline certain rights and responsibilities for students who are of legal age.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to students who are eighteen years of age or older, unless a child with a disability has been adjudicated incompetent in accordance with the law.

III. POLICY STATEMENT

Every student eighteen years of age or older shall follow all rules, regulations and procedures that any student under the age of eighteen must follow. The only exceptions to this are in situations when a student eighteen years of age or older 1) exercises a right under policy 6003 Confidential Student Information; 2) is designated as unaccompanied youth by the District (e.g., staff responsible for homeless and/or displaced students) and/or 3) is not allowed to reside with his/her parent/legal guardian by the parent/legal guardian and a notarized statement from the parent/legal guardian to that effect is on file with the department responsible for attendance/residency. In these cases the following conditions apply:

1. School Assignment
The student's residence will determine school placement.
2. Absences/Lateness/Truancy
Absence notes, normally signed by parents or guardians, may be signed by students.
3. Suspensions/Expulsion
All suspension and/or expulsion proceedings shall conform to the suspension policy of the Shelby County Board of Education. Students of legal age not

residing with their parents/legal guardian are permitted to represent themselves upon reinstatement to school following a suspension.

4. Withdrawal from School

Students of legal age not residing with their parent/legal guardian may withdraw from school under their own cognizance.

5. Alcohol and Drugs

The use, possession, or distribution of alcohol or drugs in the building, on school grounds, or at school-sponsored activities is prohibited. Students under the influence of either shall be subject to disciplinary procedures. The school administration may involve police action, where advisable, without parental consent.

6. Permission to Inspect Student Records

Students of legal age may request permission to inspect, obtain, and/or release their personal school record.

7. Excuses from School

The principal/designee may grant permission for students to leave school early for reasons such as job interviews, college visits, and driver testing. Permission to leave school early may be denied if the request is invalid or unreasonable.

8. Financial Responsibility

Students of legal age can be held financially responsible for damage to school property.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

A. The Superintendent is responsible for ensuring that this policy is followed.

Legal References:

1. Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. § 1232g et. seq.)
2. Family Education Rights and Privacy Act Regulations (34 CFR Pt. 99) TCA 49-6-4018
3. TCA 34-1-101 et seq. and 34-3-101 et seq.
4. Special Education Programs and Services TRR/MS 0520-01-09-.21 (Transfer of Parental Rights at Age of Majority)

Cross References:

1. [6002 School Admissions](#)
2. [6003 Confidential Student Information](#)
3. [6014 Attendance and Excuses](#)
4. [6016 Truancy](#)
5. [6022 Student Conduct](#)
6. [6026 Appeals Related to Student Discipline: Suspension/Expulsion/Remand](#)
7. [6047 School Fees and Debts](#)
8. [6056 Alcohol and Drug Use](#)
9. [6060 School Day](#)