



Washington Homeschool Organization

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To Whom it May Concern:

Per Washington law, children under the age of eight who are formally withdrawn from school are NOT required to file a Declaration of Intent to homeschool, but revert to being educationally free until they are eight or are re-enrolled in school. Here are the applicable laws:

RCW 28A.225.015

Attendance mandatory—Six or seven year olds—Unexcused absences—Petition.

(1) If a parent enrolls a child who is six or seven years of age in a public school, the child is required to attend and that parent has the responsibility to ensure the child attends for the full time that school is in session. An exception shall be made to this requirement for children whose parents formally remove them from enrollment if the child is less than eight years old and a petition has not been filed against the parent under subsection (3) of this section. The requirement to attend school under this subsection does not apply to a child enrolled in a public school part-time for the purpose of receiving ancillary services. A child required to attend school under this subsection may be temporarily excused upon the request of his or her parent for purposes agreed upon by the school district and parent.

Here is the part IN THE SAME SECTION OF THE LAW that DOES NOT REQUIRE A DECLARATION:

(4) This section does not require a six or seven year old child to enroll in a public or private school or to receive home-based instruction. This section only applies to six or seven year old children whose parents enroll them full time in public school and do not formally remove them from enrollment as provided in subsection (1) of this section.

On behalf of the homeschoolers of Washington,

~Jen Garrison Stuber, Advocacy Chair
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