

## **STUDENTS**

### **SUBJECT: Dropout Prevention**

Because high school graduation provides a foundation for postsecondary educational opportunities, successful employment and/or lifelong learning, the County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools believe that every student should remain in school and meet the standards for graduation of the County Office of Education. The County Board of Education and County Superintendent desire to provide a challenging learning environment that encourages school attendance.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)  
(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)  
(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)  
(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

The objectives of the County Office of Education's dropout prevention program shall be to help students become self-motivated, acquire the basic skills necessary for all higher learning and meet County Office of Education's standards at each grade level.

The County Office of Education shall develop strategies to identify and serve students at all grade levels who are at risk of dropping out of school. These may include students who demonstrate frequent absenteeism, truancy or tardiness, are achieving below grade-level expectations, or may drop out because of personal, social, health or economic reasons.

(cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)  
(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)  
(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)  
(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)  
(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)  
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)  
(cf. 6178 - Vocational Education)  
(cf. 6178.1 - Work Experience Education)  
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

The school site council at each school shall develop a comprehensive school plan for student retention in accordance with law, County Office of Education policy, and administrative regulation. The plan shall be designed to help reduce student absenteeism and dropout rates and to improve student achievement.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

### **Outreach Consultants**

The County Superintendent or designee shall ensure that eligible schools have outreach

consultants to help meet the needs of at-risk students.

Priority shall be given to placing outreach consultants in schools that have at least 50 percent of students eligible for the federal free and reduced price lunch program and that are eligible for Title I funds pursuant to 20 USC 6301-6322. (Education Code 41506)

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)  
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

Outreach consultants shall: (Education Code 52890)

1. If hired after January 1, 2004, possess a Dropout Prevention Specialist Certificate from a California State University or enroll in a Dropout Prevention Specialist Certificate program within 90 days of the date of hire

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

2. Demonstrate knowledge of local alternative educational programs and employ those programs to respond to the differential needs and unique learning styles of students

3. Demonstrate knowledge of local community agencies and community programs to recruit those agencies and programs to assist in the physical or psychological remediation of students

4. Utilize local school programs, options, and opportunities to assist students in locating, securing, or retaining employment

5. Utilize techniques that enhance interpersonal communication, self-understanding, self-disclosure, and depth-level sharing

6. Employ appropriate methods to create circumstances necessary so that change is permitted and encouraged in individuals, programs, and institutions

7. Be responsible for supervising, instructing, conducting negotiations with, and advising students and adults

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41505-41508 Pupil Retention Block Grant

48400-48403 Compulsory continuation education

48430-48438 Continuation education

48660-48667 Community day schools

51745-51749.3 Independent study

52300-52334 Regional Occupational Centers  
52890 Qualifications and duties of outreach consultants  
54690-54697 Partnership academies  
64000-64001 Single plan for student achievement  
REPEALED EDUCATION CODE FOR CATEGORICAL PROGRAMS  
52014 Inclusion of activities in plan  
52015 Components of plan  
52900-52904 Alternative education and work centers for school dropouts  
54660-54669 Elementary and Secondary School Dropout Prevention Act  
54720-54735 School-based pupil motivation and maintenance program  
58550-58562 Educational clinics  
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20  
6301-6322 Title I programs

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Dropout Prevention Network: <http://www.edualliance.org/cdpn>

National Dropout Prevention Center: <http://www.dropoutprevention.org>