



Title 21 - Education (Wyoming Statutes)

The core Wyoming laws that govern public schools, school districts, and student education.

Wyoming's education system is governed primarily by [Title 21 of the Wyoming Statutes](https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title21.pdf).

<https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title21.pdf> Title 21 contains the laws that define what public schools must do, what school districts are required to provide, how school boards must operate, and the rights that parents and students have under Wyoming law.

This section of the Education Law Library is designed to help parents and citizens understand what Title 21 actually says, in plain English, so you can advocate effectively, ask the right questions, and hold officials accountable.

Important: *This page is not legal advice. It is a parent-friendly overview and reference guide to Wyoming law.*

What Title 21 Covers

Title 21 includes laws related to:

- School board duties and authority
- Student rights and access
- Curriculum and instructional requirements
- District funding and state oversight
- Teacher qualifications and professional standards
- Attendance and discipline frameworks
- Accountability and reporting requirements

Why Title 21 Matters to Parents

When parents have concerns about what is happening in schools, whether it is curriculum transparency, student safety, discrimination, policy enforcement, or accountability, Title 21 is often where the answers begin.

Title 21 helps you identify:

- what a district is legally required to do
- what protections exist for students and families
- what authority the school board and superintendent actually have
- what steps exist for complaint resolution and enforcement

Title 21 Chapter Map (optional)

Title 21 is organized into chapters. Here is a simplified map so parents can browse statutes by topic.

Title 21 Chapters <https://wyoleg.gov/statutes/compress/title21.pdf>

- General Provisions and Definitions
- The Administration of the State System of Education at the State Level
- School Districts in General
- Pupils
- School District Organization
- School District Organization
- Teachers and Employees
- County Superintendent of Schools
- Courses of Study, Textbooks, Supplies
- School Lunch Program
- Private School Licensing
- Career and Technical Education
- School Finance
- Program for Handicapped Children
- Capital Construction Projects
- Higher Education Generally
- University of Wyoming
- Community Colleges
- Higher Education Retirement
- Cooperative Educational Services
- Cooperative Teacher Education
- Wyoming Education Trust Fund
- Wyoming Public Television
- Military Students and Students of Military Families
- Student Eligibility in Interscholastic Activities

<https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crid=6d88bc46-220c-426b-a1b9-7011387815fe&pdistocdocslideraccess=true&config=00JABmMTEzODA5Zi0wOWExLTQ3NTAtOTNmNy0xYjc5ZjUwYzRkZmIKAFBvZENhdGFsb2f3sjqEYfYX7EMD8vWYBYCu&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fstatutes-legislation%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A56VF-GXYI-73WF-64W2-00008-00&pdcomponentid=234175&pdtocnodeidentifier=AAVAAB&ecomp=h2vckkk&prid=d2b33068-6d06-42b9-888b-cbf3ba b26qfc>

Title 21 Chapters Most Relevant for Parents

Title 21 contains 25 chapters, but most parents only need a handful of them for everyday school concerns. Below are the chapters that most often apply to curriculum transparency, student rights, school board accountability, and enforcement pathways.

Most Relevant Chapters for Parents

Chapter 1 - General Provisions & Definitions

Chapter 2 - State Department of Education (State-Level Administration)

Chapter 3 - School Districts in General

Chapter 4 - Pupils

Chapter 7 - Teachers & Employees

Chapter 9 - Courses of Study, Textbooks, Supplies

Chapter 13 - School Finance

Chapters that Matter in Certain Situations

These chapters are important depending on a family's circumstances, school conflicts, or special concerns:

Chapter 11 - Private School Licensing: Useful for families researching private school options and legal standards.

Chapter 12 - Career & Technical Education (CTE): Useful for families advocating for strong vocational pathways and career readiness.

Chapter 14 - Programs for Students with Disabilities: Relevant for special education services, though federal laws also apply.

Chapter 24 - Military Students & Families: Important for enrollment and transition protections for military families.

Chapter 25 - Interscholastic Activities Eligibility: Relevant for athletics and activities access disputes.

Most-Used Title 21 Statutes for Parents

Below are some of the most commonly referenced Title 21 areas for parent advocacy:

Parental Rights & Transparency

[W.S. 21-3-135](#) — Parental Rights

This statute is one of the strongest tools parents have. It is the foundation for accessing education-related information, requesting materials, and asserting your right to participate in your child's education. It is frequently referenced when parents seek curriculum transparency or object to inappropriate content.

School Board Responsibilities

School boards are not ceremonial. Title 21 outlines the board's duties, powers, and public responsibilities. Title 21 makes clear that school boards have real legal obligations. Parents can use Title 21 to understand:

- What decisions boards are responsible for

- What oversight boards must provide
- What boards must do when concerns or complaints are brought forward

Curriculum, Instruction, & Standards

Title 21 also includes statutes related to:

- What schools are required to teach
- How curriculum decisions are made
- How districts adopt resources, programs, or vendors
- The role of state academic standards

Complaints, Enforcement, and Due Process

Title 21 is part of the legal backbone that supports complaint processes and accountability, including district-level resolution through written complaints and board procedures.

How Parents Can Use Title 21

Here are practical ways parents use Title 21:

- Ask informed questions at board meetings
- Request curriculum materials and district documents
- Challenge policies that violate parent rights or student protections
- Document violations and build clear written complaints
- Clarify what authority school officials actually have (and what they do not)