

2019-2020 Edition

AMERICAN SAMOA

Compulsory Attendance Ages: "between ages 5 and 18 years of age inclusive, unless excused for

good reason by the Director of Education." American Samoa Code

Annotated § 16.0302.

Required Days of Instruction: "the same number of days as public schools." Am. Samoa Code Ann.

§ 16.0702.

Required Subjects: "Private school officials shall include in their curriculum such

material as the director of education may require in the interest of

good citizenship." Am. Samoa Code Ann. § 16.0704.

Home School Statute: None.

Alternative Statutes Allowing for Home Schools: Am. Samoa Code Ann. § 16.0701.

1. "All schools carrying on regular educational work equivalent to the public school curriculum and receiving no government financial support" are private schools.

- 2. "No private school may operate without a certificate of authorization from the Department of Education," issued after an annual inspection.
- **3.** "Children attending authorized private schools may not be required to attend public schools." Am. Samoa Code Ann. § 16.0703.
- **4.** Each school seeking authorization from the director for the first time must submit:
 - **a.** A statement of the aims and purposes of the school;
 - **b.** The names and addresses of sponsors and supporters of the school;
 - **c.** The ages, grades, and sex of the children to be enrolled;
 - **d.** The amount of tuition to be charged; and
 - e. The curriculum to be pursued. Am. Samoa Code Ann. § 16.0701(c).
- **5.** Each private school must maintain permanent report cards on each pupil and submit monthly enrollment reports and an annual report with:
 - **a.** A calendar for the school year;
 - **b.** A list of teachers, showing names, age, experience, and professional qualifications;

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- **c.** A certificate of health for each teacher;
- d. A list of curriculum and books to be used; and
- e. A schedule of classes. Am. Samoa Code Ann. § 16.0706.
- **6.** "The department of education may not interfere with any religious instruction given in private schools." Am. Samoa Code Ann. § 16.0705.

Teacher Qualifications: Am. Samoa Code Ann. § 16.1001. "All members of the teaching personnel must hold a certificate of qualification granted by the Department of Education."

Standardized Tests: Not required by statute.