

## 2. Can I go back to school after missing a lot?

**School districts must enroll any resident who is under twenty-one years old who wishes to enroll if they do not have a high school diploma.** Students aged 3 to 21 years who reside in a school district cannot legally be refused enrollment and may enroll at any time of the semester.

Youth in Kentucky who are not yet eighteen years old must be enrolled in a regular public day school unless they:

1. graduated from high school,
2. are enrolled in a private or home school,
3. have physical or mental conditions that prevents them from going to school, or
4. are enrolled in state-supported school for exceptional children.

The need to care for family or to get a job, difficulties learning online, and illness kept many students from attending school or completing assignments the last couple school years. However, it's not too late to earn a high school diploma. There are many ways to make up the credits you need to graduate and resources to help you succeed.

- Explore your education option.
- Connect with an Education Advocate.
- Find resources and services.
- Learn more about your rights as a student.

Even students who last attended an alternative school, withdrew from school (homeschoolers, non-completers), missed a lot of days, or were suspended from school can return.

If you were suspended the last time you attended, call your school. You have the right to education if you have not turned 21. Your suspension should have ended on the day listed on the discipline notice. Your school cannot push back your discipline to when you return to school. Public schools may deny enrollment to students who have been expelled from a school district or have been convicted of serious charges.

### What To Do

For more information on enrolling into school, requesting or appealing a school transfer, or other questions on getting back to school, call your school counselor or Ask an Advocate.

**Ask an Education Advocate:** [advocates@thebookworks.org](mailto:advocates@thebookworks.org) or (502) 276-6136