

Required School Days, Instructional Hours Required Yearly and School Start Dates

State	Number of School Days Required	Length of School Day	Total Instructional Hours Per School Year	2011-12 Start Dates Per Market Data Retrieval		
				Prior to August 15th	August 15 th to 31 st	September 1 st or later
Alabama	180	6 hours	1080 hours	93%	7%	0%
Alaska	170	1 st - 3 rd Grades: 4 hours 4 th - 12 th Grades: 5 hours	1 st - 3 rd Grades: 680 hours	.02%	99%	.04%
			4 th - 12 th Grades: 850 hours			
Arizona	180	NA	Kinder: 356 hours Grades 1-3: 712 hours Grades 4-6: 890 hours Grades 7-8: 1000 hours 9-12 students must enroll in at least 4 subjects that meet at least 720 hours	96%	4%	0%
Arkansas	178	6 hours a day or 30 hours per week	1068	<p><u>A.C.A. § 6-10-106</u> Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year. (a) (1) (A) In each school year, the first day of the school year for student attendance in the public elementary and secondary schools of the State of Arkansas shall begin: (i) On or after the Monday of the week in which August 19 falls;</p>		
California	180/175 (Through the 2014-2015 school year schools are allowed to shorten the school year by five days without fiscal penalty.)	Kinder: 3 hours Grades 1-3: 3.83 hours Grades 4-12: 4 hours	Kinder: 600 hours Grades 1-3: 840 hours Grades 4-8: 900 hours Grades 9-12: 1080 hours	23%	54%	22%
Colorado	160	NA	Half-day Kinder: 435 hours Full-day Kinder: 870 hours Grades 1-5: 968 hours	23%	73%	4%

			Grades 6-12: 1056 hours					
Connecticut	180	5 hours. Districts may count up to 7 hours per school day towards the total required for the school year.	Half-day Kinder: 440 hours Grades 1-11: 1060 hours Grade 12: 1032 hours	..	68%	32%		
Delaware	NA	District option, must be at least 31.5 hours a week.	Kinder: 440 hours Grades 1-11: 1060 hours Grade 12: 1032		88%	12%		
Florida	180	5 hours	Grades K-3: 720 hours Grades 4-12: 900 hours	Florida law §1001.42 sets a school start date no earlier than 14 days before Labor Day. Academically High Performing Districts are exempt.				
Georgia	180	Kinder - 3: 4.5 hours Grades 4-5: 5 hours Grades 6-12: 5.5 hours	Kinder - 810 hours Grades 4-5: 900 hours Grades 6-12: 990 hours	93%	6%	.16%		
Hawaii	180 days	Kinder - 5: 6 hours Grades 6-12: 6.5 hours	Grades K-6: 915 hours Grades 7-12: 990 hours	100%	--	--		
Idaho	NA	NA	Kinder: 450 hours Grades 1-3: 810 hours Grades 4-8: 900 hours Grades 9-12: 990 hours	.04%	80%	19%		
Illinois	176 days	Kinder - 1: 4 hours Grades 2-12: 5 hours	Kinder - 1: 704 hours Grades 2-12: 880 hours	9%	76%	14%		
Indiana	180 days	Grades 1-6: 5 hours Grades 7-12: 6 hours	Grades 1-6: 900 hours Grades 7-12: 1080	37%	63%	0%		
Iowa	180 days	Grades 1-12: 5.5 hours or 27.5 hours per week	990 hours	5%	95%	.015%		
Kansas	Grades K - 11: 186 days Grade 12: 181 days	NA	Kinder: 465 hours Grades 1-11: 1116 hours Grade 12: 1086 hours	19%	78%	2%		
Kentucky	175 days	6 hours	1062 hours	79%	21%	--		
Louisiana	177 days	6 hours	1062 hours	80%	20%	--		
Maine	175 days	NA	NA	.03%	60%	40%		

Maryland	180 days	6 hours	1080 hours	0%	100%	--
Massachusetts	180 days	NA	Kinder: 425 hours Grades 1-5: 900 hours Grades 6-12: 990	16%	51%	47%
Michigan	170 days	NA	1098 hours	<u>Michigan §380.1284b (page 191)</u> Academic instruction may start any time after Labor Day.		
Minnesota	NA	NA	Kinder: 425 hours Grades 1 - 6: 935 hours Grades 7-12: 1020 hours	<u>Minnesota Education Code 120A.40</u> sets a post Labor Day School Start date.		
Mississippi	180 days	5.5 hours	990 hours	99%	.03%	--
Missouri	5-day week: 174 4-day week: 142	5-day week: 3 hours 4-day week: 4 hours	1044 hours	<u>Section 171.031.2:</u> School year may begin no earlier than ten calendar days before the first Monday in September. Waiver option available and widely used.		
Montana	NA	NA	Half-day Kinder: 360 hours Grades K-3: 720 hours Grades 4-12: 1080 hours	--	90%	10%
Nebraska	NA	NA	Kinder: 400 hours Grades 1-8: 1032 hours Grades 9-12: 1080 hours	24%	76%	.01%
Nevada	180 days	Kinder: 2 hours Grades 1-2: 4 hours Grades 3-6: 5 hours Grades 7/12: 5.5 hours	Kinder: 360 hours Grades 1-2: 720 hours Grades 3-6: 900 hours Grades 7/12: 990 hours	--	99%	.05%
New Hampshire	180 days	Grades 1-5: 5.25 hours Grades 6-12: 5.5 hours	Grades 1-5: 945 hours Grades 6-12: 990 hours	--	68%	32%
New Jersey	180 days	4 hours	720 hours	--	1%	99%
New Mexico	180 days	Half-day Kinder: 2.5 hours Full-day Kinder: 5.5 hours	Half-day Kinder: 450 Full-day Kinder: 990 hours Grades 1-6: 990 hours Grades 7-12: 1080 hours	47%	53%	--
New York	180 days	Half-day: 2.5 hours Full-day K: 5 hours Grades 1-6: 5 hours Grades 7-12: 5.5 hours	Half-day: 450 hours Full-day K: 900 hours Grades 1-6: 900 hours Grades 7-12: 990 hours	--	.02%	100%

North Carolina	180 days	5.5 hours	990 hours	<u>§ 115C-84.2. School calendar.</u> The opening date for students shall not be before August 25, and the closing date for students shall not be after June 10.		
North Dakota	175 days	Grades K-6: 5.5 hours Grades 9-12: 6 hours	Grades K-6: 962.5 hours Grades 9-12: 1050 hours	--	100%	--
Ohio	182 (includes two professional development days and up to four days for parent conferences and reporting)	Grades K-6: 5 hours (including 2 15-minute recesses) Grades 7-12: 5 hours (excluding lunch and recess)	910 hours	1%	93%	6%
Oklahoma	180 days	6 hours	Grades 1-6: 900 hours Grades 7-12: 1080 hours	54%	46%	.017%
Oregon	Na	NA	Kinder: 405 hours Grades 1-3: 810 hours Grades 4-8: 900 hours Grades 9-12: 990 hours	.015%	17%	83%
Pennsylvania	180 days	Kinder: 2.5 hours Grades 1-8: 5 hours Grades 9-12: 5.5 hours	Kinder: 450 hours Grades 1-8 hours: 5 hours Grades 9-12 hours: 5.5 hours	.002%	69%	31%
Rhode Island	180 days	Kinder: 2.75 hours Grades 1-12: 5.5 hours	Kinder: 495 hours Grades 1-12: 990 hours	--	46%	54%
South Carolina	180 days	6 hours	1080	<u>SECTION 59-1-425.</u> The opening date for students must not be before the third Monday in August, except for schools operating on a year-round modified school calendar. (Page 5 of link)		
South Dakota	NA	NA	Kinder: 437.5 Grades 1-3: 875 Grades 4-12: 962.5	<u>§13-26-9.</u> School board decision on opening day of classes. A decision by a school board to schedule the opening day of classes before the first Tuesday following the first Monday in September may be referred to a vote of the qualified voters of the school district by the filing of a petition signed by five percent of the registered voters in the school district, based upon the total number of registered voters at the last preceding general election. The board in scheduling the opening day of classes shall allow sufficient time for the referendum process authorized in this section.		
Tennessee	180 days	65. hours	1170 hours	97%	3%	--
Texas	180 days	7 hours	1350 hours	<u>Texas Education Code § 25.0811</u> sets a school start date of no earlier than the 4 th Monday in August for student instruction.		

Utah	180 days	NA	Kindergarten: 450 hours Grade 1: 810 hours Grades 2-12: 990 hours	5%	95%	-
Vermont	175 days	Kindergarten: 2 hours Grades 1-2: 4 hours Grades 3-12: 5.5 hours	Kindergarten: 350 hours Grades 1-2: 700 hours Grades 3-12: 962.5 hours	-	72%	28%
Virginia	180 days	5.5 hours	Kindergarten: 540 hours Grades 1-12: 990 hours	<u>Virginia Education Code § 22.1-79.1 sets a post Labor Day school start date for all public K-12 schools with waivers given for school districts with large number of weather closures.</u>		
Washington	180 days	NA	Kindergarten: 450 hours Grades 1-6: 1000 hours Grades 7-12: 1080 hours	.025%	27%	73%
West Virginia	180 days	5.5 hours	990 hours	-	98%	2%
Wisconsin	180 days	NA	Kindergarten: 437 hours Grades 1-6: 1050 hours Grades 7-12: 1137 hours	<u>State law §118.045 (1) and (3) prohibits schools from beginning student instruction before September 1 unless the a waiver is received for "extraordinary reasons"</u>		
Wyoming	180 days	NA	NA	-	93%	7%

Education Commission on the States/Number of Instructional Days/hours in the School Year/August 2011:
<http://www.ecs.org/clearinghouse/95/05/9505.pdf>