School Day

Elementary and secondary schools shall be in session for not less than 180 days each year. The Commissioner may disregard a deficiency of the 180-day requirement of up to five days on account of extra-ordinary adverse weather conditions, impairment of heating facilities, insufficiency of water supply, fuel shortages, or the destruction of a school if the Commissioner determines the District cannot make up such instruction during the balance of the school year. (Ed. Law 3604)

The minimum length of the school day which is required to offer the State programs of studies is as follows (exclusive of time allowed for lunch):

Kindergarten

Full-day session 5 hours Half-day session 2-1/2 hours

Grades 1 through 6 5 hours

Grades 7 through 12 5-1/2 hours

Where a school is on double or overlapping sessions, the school day shall be no less than 4-1/2 hours in the secondary grades and 4 hours in the elementary grades. Written approval of the Commissioner must be obtained in writing prior to scheduling such sessions for any school year.

Included in this regulation is a provision for certain exceptions which may be granted by the Commissioner.

A summer elementary school must provide a program of at least 15 but not more than 30 days of instruction with class periods of at least 45 minutes. (8 NYCRR 110.1)

A summer secondary school must comprise the summer session of a registered secondary school and provide a secondary school program with class periods of at least 90 minutes. (8 NYCRR 110.2) A summer school session that provides 30 sessions of 90 minutes instruction each shall be considered the equivalent of one semester of work for each subject. (8 NYCRR 110.4)

The Evening High School consists of courses that are offered on the basis of one subject per night for three hours, either once or twice a week for 15 weeks. Those courses that meet twice a week earn one hour of credit; those that meet only once a week for a total of 15 hours earn 1/2 unit of credit.

Adopted: April 27, 1982 Reference: Ed. Law 2503, 3029, 3205