

## STATE SCHOOL START DATE LAWS

State	Law as stated on books	Comments
<b>WISCONSIN</b>	Academic instruction may start any time after September 1.	
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>	Academic instruction may start any time after September 1. Law allows waivers for earlier starts based on past bad weather days.	
<b>MICHIGAN</b>	Academic instruction may start any time after Labor Day.	
<b>TEXAS</b>	Academic instruction may not begin until the 4 <sup>th</sup> week of August. (Law passed 2006)	
<b>VIRGINIA</b>	Academic instruction may begin after Labor Day. Law also includes a provision that allows school districts to seek a waiver to begin earlier if they meet a certain number of bad weather days in previous years.	
<b>ARKANSAS</b>	Law requires school start dates no earlier than August 19 and no later than August 26. If August 18 falls on a Monday school may begin on that date. Labor Day must be observed as a Holiday.	

<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>	Law passed prohibits school from beginning before the 3 <sup>rd</sup> week in August. (Law passed 2006)	
<b>FLORIDA</b>	Academic instruction may not begin earlier than 14 days prior to Labor Day. (Law passed 2006)	
<b>IOWA</b>	Law states: "The school year shall begin on the first day of July and each regularly established elementary and secondary school shall begin no sooner than a day during the calendar week in which the first day of September falls but no later than the first Monday in December. However, if the first day of September falls on a Sunday, school may begin on a day during the calendar week which immediately precedes the first day of September. School shall continue for at least one hundred eighty days, except as provided in subsection 3, and may be maintained during the entire calendar year.	
<b>WEST VIRGINIA</b>	The law states "the instructional term shall commence no earlier than August 26 and shall terminate no later than June 28."	
<b>MINNESOTA</b>	Academic instruction may start any time after Labor Day.	

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 21, 2006