Ministerial Ordinance No 50203

Concerning the Implementation of Compulsory Education

Having considered law No. 11 of 1965 concerning compulsory education, we have decided the following:

First: Period of commitment to the law:

Education is compulsory for all Kuwaiti children from the primary stage till the end of the intermediate stage.

Students, who are older than 14 before they finish the primary stage, are excluded from schools; and are, therefore, exempted from commitment to this law.

Commitment to this law is suspended for students who are older than 16 before finishing the intermediate stage successful. In this case, they are allowed to continue their studies till the age of 18.

Intermediate students, over 18, are excluded from schools and have the right to get an intermediate certificate from outside.

Second: Discharge from commitment:

Exclusion from the commitment occurs in cases of illness or physical or mental impairment preventing the student from regular attendance in government or special schools by a decision from the Minister of Education as follows:
The child’s parent or guardian requests an exclusion from the commitment from the school principal where the child is entitled to enroll providing the required documents.

The school principal transfers the request to the exam department and students’ affairs to consider the request and issue the exclusion.

**Third: Remote Areas:**

Children who reside two kilometers or more far from the nearest school are exempted from the commitment.

**Fourth: Private schools:**

The departments of exams and students’ affair are responsible for deciding which schools provide equivalent education to the prescribed compulsory education.

Private schools must go by the laws set by the Ministry of Education concerning the equivalence of their school curricular to compulsory education. They should also be technically and administratively supervised by the Ministry of Education to guarantee the ongoing of the required standard.

Minister of Education