

EUT POLICY ON STUDENT ATTENDANCE

By law, all students aged six to seventeen shall attend a public day school during the time it is in regular session. In order to perform well in their work and activities, regular attendance is important. A person 5 years of age or older and under 6 years of age who is enrolled in and who has not withdrawn from a public day school is required to attend that school during the time it is in session.

Students who are absent from school with the parent or guardian's permission, for reasons which are "excusable," as so deemed by the principal, shall be given an excused absence.

Excusable absence. A person's absence is excused when the absence is for the following reasons:

- A. Personal health, including the person's physical, mental, and behavioral health; [PL 2019, c. 562, §2 (AMD).]
- B. An appointment with a health professional that must be made during the regular school day; [PL 2007, c. 304, §2 (AMD).] [PL 1983, c. 806, §49 (NEW).]
- C. Observance of a recognized religious holiday when the observance is required during the regular school day; [PL 2021, c. 25, §1 (AMD).] [PL 1983, c. 806, §49 (NEW).]
- D. A family emergency; or [PL 1985, c. 490, §8 (NEW).] [PL 2007, c. 451, §3 (AMD).]
- E. A planned absence for a personal or educational purpose that has prior approval. [PL 2007, c. 304, §2 (AMD).] or [PL 2007, c. 451, §4 (AMD).]
- F. Education disruption resulting from homelessness, unplanned psychiatric hospitalization, unplanned hospitalization for a medical emergency, foster care placement, youth development center placement or some other out-of-district placement that is not otherwise authorized by either an individualized education plan or other education plan or a superintendent's agreement developed in accordance with section 5205, subsection 2. This paragraph does not apply to a student who is out of school for 10 or more consecutive school days as a result of a planned absence for a reason such as a family event or a medical absence for planned hospitalization or recovery. [PL 2007, c. 451, §5 (NEW).]
- [PL 2021, c. 25, §1 (AMD).]

Truant

A student is truant if the student is subject to [section 5001-A](#) and:

A. [PL 2007, c. 304, §5 (RP).]

B. Has completed grade 6 and has the equivalent of 10 full days of unexcused absences or 7 consecutive school days of unexcused absences during a school year; [PL 2019, c. 235, §6 (AMD).]

C. Is at least 6 years of age and has not completed grade 6 and has the equivalent of 7 full days of unexcused absences or 5 consecutive school days of unexcused absences during a school year; or [PL 2019, c. 508, §9 (AMD).]

D. Is enrolled in a public day school, is at least 5 years of age and has not completed grade 6 and has the equivalent of 7 full days of unexcused absences or 5 consecutive school days of unexcused absences during a school year. [PL 2019, c. 235, §8 (NEW).]

After being absent, the student must bring a note of explanation from the parent/guardian and submit it to the school office.

A pupil may be excused before the end of the school day if ill, or if a written request for early dismissal has been submitted by the parent/guardian. Telephone requests for early dismissal of a pupil shall be honored only if the caller can be positively identified as the pupil's parent or guardian.

If a student arrives late for school, that student must report to the office before going to the classroom. This will ensure the proper recording of the student's attendance for the day.

A parent/guardian may pick up their child/children from school for any of the reasons listed above after first notifying the office and the classroom teacher.

Statute: 20-A §3272

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