

**Policy 5113: Absences And Excuses**

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 09/20/2001 | Last Revised Date: 08/24/2023 | Last Reviewed Date: 08/24/2023

The Governing Board believes that regular attendance plays an important role in student achievement. The Board shall work with parents/guardians and students to ensure their compliance with all state attendance laws and may use appropriate legal means to correct problems of chronic absence or truancy.

**Excused Absences**

Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies and justifiable personal reasons, as permitted by law, Board policy and administration regulations. (Education Code 48205) and work in the entertainment or allied industry as permitted pursuant to Education Code 48225.5.

When a student's absence from school is excused, the student's teacher shall determine identical or reasonably equivalent assignments and tests to those missed during the absence which the student shall be permitted to complete for full credit within a reasonable amount of time as determined by the teacher. (Education Code 48205, 48225.5)

Inasmuch as school attendance and class participation is an integral part of students' learning experiences, parents/guardians and students shall be encouraged to schedule medical appointments during non-school hours.

Students shall not be absent from school without their parents/guardians' knowledge or consent except in cases of medical emergency or as authorized pursuant to Education Code 46010.1 for a confidential medical appointment.

Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property may be considered excused subject to law and administrative regulations. (Education Code 46014)

The Board shall, by resolution entered into its minutes, approve reasonable methods that may be used to verify student absences due to illness or quarantine. (5 CCR 421)

**Policy Reference Disclaimer:** These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

**State References**

**Description**

5 CCR 306	Explanation of absence
5 CCR 420-424	Record of verification of absence due to illness and other causes
Ed. Code 1740	<a href="#">Employment of personnel to supervise attendance</a>
Ed. Code 37201	<a href="#">School month</a>
Ed. Code 37223	<a href="#">Weekend classes</a>
Ed. Code 41601	<a href="#">Reports of average daily attendance</a>
Ed. Code 42238-42250.1	<a href="#">Apportionments</a>
Ed. Code 46000	<a href="#">Attendance records</a>
Ed. Code 46010-46015	<a href="#">Absences</a>
Ed. Code 46110-46120	<a href="#">Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools</a>
Ed. Code 46140-46148	<a href="#">Attendance in junior high and high schools</a>
Ed. Code 48200-48208	<a href="#">Children ages 6-18; compulsory full-time attendance</a>
Ed. Code 48210-48216	<a href="#">Exclusions from attendance</a>
Ed. Code 48225.5	<a href="#">Work permit; excused absence; entertainment or allied industries; participation in not-for-profit performing arts organization</a>

**State References**

Ed. Code 48240-48246  
 Ed. Code 48260-48273  
 Ed. Code 48292  
 Ed. Code 48320-48324  
 Ed. Code 48340-48341  
 Ed. Code 48980  
 Ed. Code 49067  
 Ed. Code 49701  
 Elec. Code 12302  
 Fam. Code 6920-6930  
 W&I Code 11253.5  
 W&I Code 601-601.5

**Management Resources References**

Attorney General Opinion  
 Attorney General Opinion  
 Court Decision  
 CSBA Publication  
 Website  
 Website

**Cross References**

0450  
 0450  
 3516  
 3516  
 4119.41  
 4219.41  
 4319.41  
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 5020  
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 5112.1  
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**Description**

[Supervisors of attendance](#)  
[Truants](#)  
[Filing complaint against parent](#)  
[School attendance review boards](#)  
[Improvement of student attendance](#)  
[Parent/Guardian notifications](#)  
[Unexcused absences as cause of failing grade](#)  
[Provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children](#)  
[Student participation on precinct boards](#)  
[Consent by minor for medical treatment](#)  
[Compulsory school attendance; eligibility for aid](#)  
[Habitually truant minors](#)

**Description**

66 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 244 (1983)  
 87 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 168 (2004)  
 American Academy of Pediatrics et al v. Lungren et al (1997) 16 Cal.4th 307  
[Seize the Data: Using Chronic Absence Data to Drive Student Engagement, March 2024](#)  
[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)  
[CSBA](#)

**Description**

[Comprehensive Safety Plan](#)  
[Comprehensive Safety Plan](#)  
[Emergencies And Disaster Preparedness Plan](#)  
[Emergencies And Disaster Preparedness Plan](#)  
[Employees With Infectious Disease](#)  
[Employees With Infectious Disease](#)  
[Employees With Infectious Disease](#)  
[Concepts And Roles](#)  
[Parent Rights And Responsibilities](#)  
[Parent Rights And Responsibilities](#)  
[Exemptions From Attendance](#)  
[Exemptions From Attendance](#)  
[Exclusions From Attendance](#)  
[Open/Closed Campus](#)  
[Open/Closed Campus](#)  
[Chronic Absence And Truancy](#)  
[Chronic Absence And Truancy](#)

**Cross References**

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5141.21  
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5141.21-E PDF(1)  
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**Description**

[Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement](#)  
[Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement](#)  
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[Student Disturbances](#)  
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[Administering Medication And Monitoring Health Conditions](#)  
[Administering Medication And Monitoring Health Conditions](#)  
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[Head Lice](#)  
[Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process](#)  
[Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process](#)  
[Parent/Guardian Notifications](#)  
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[Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students](#)  
[Dropout Prevention](#)  
[Parent Involvement](#)  
[Parent Involvement](#)  
[School Calendar](#)  
[Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs](#)  
[Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs](#)  
[Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities](#)  
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[Homework/Makeup Work](#)  
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[Home And Hospital Instruction](#)  
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[Community Day School](#)  
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