

Lodi High School

To: Parent/Guardian
From: Assistant Principals

RE: *Absence Verification for 18 Year Old Students*

According to California State Law, your 18 year old student has the right to excuse his/her own school absences. The Administration at Lodi High School requires the student to bring written permission from a parent before that right will be granted. As parents, you certainly have a very special interest in your son/daughter meeting all requirements for high school graduation. Therefore, you should be aware of the following:

- Regular attendance in school is important in order to maintain passing grades in all classes. **Excessive absences have a detrimental effect upon grades and can result in an 18 year old being dropped from enrollment at Lodi High School.**
- If daily attendance is not possible, there are other options available to 18 year olds regarding their educational future. Those students wishing to pursue one of these options should see their counselor or assistant principal.
 - a. Adult School- 160 credits (excluding P.E.) required for Adult School diploma.
 - b. California Proficiency Examination
 - c. G.E.D. Test (administered through Adult School)
 - d. San Joaquin Delta College- Adult School diploma can be earned through the Developmental Education Department at Delta College.
- If approved, **students must provide a written note for any/all absences and follow Lodi High School attendance procedures while checking in and out of school.**
- All students **are allowed to clear 5 dates of absence (full or partial) without medical verification. If seeing a physician, medical verification is required.**
- An absence will not be 'excused' if the student was seen loitering on campus, working at his/her place of employment, or if untruthful about the reason for absence.
- Legally, a school can excuse only those absences which are the result of illness, medical or dental appointments, court appearances or death in the immediate family. All other absences are deemed 'not excused' and students may receive disciplinary consequences (including Saturday School or loss of absence verification privileges).
- Student must be 18 and have approved form on file to clear their own absences. Absences prior to this must be cleared by Parent/Guardian.
- We, the Administration will continue to contact a Parent/Guardian if we suspect an 18 year old is abusing the right to excuse absences.

Questions regarding this procedure may be directed to your student's Assistant Principal.

Name of student: _____ Date of birth: _____

As Parent/Guardian of this 18 year old student:

I DO _____ I DO NOT _____ give him/her permission to excuse his/her school absences as described above.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Home Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Cell Phone: _____