



Chronic Absenteeism and Attendance 2017-2018

PURSuing EXCELLENCE FOR TOMORROW'S CHALLENGES



Chronic Absenteeism

Definition, Part 1

According to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), any student who is absent a minimum of 10 percent of his/her enrollment period in the current school – for any reason (e.g. illness, suspension, excused or unexcused) – is considered chronically absent.

10%



Chronic Absenteeism

Why the changes?

The implementation of “Every Student Succeeds Act” requires the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) to report “chronic absenteeism” for all districts.

SCDE has worked closely with PowerSchool developers to determine a methodology of attendance reporting that ensures consistency and accurate data reporting across all districts.



Chronic Absenteeism

Absenteeism

In accordance with the OCRs' guidance, a student is absent if he or she is . . .

- Not physically on the school grounds
- Not participating in classroom instruction
- Not participating in instruction-related activities at an approved off-grounds location for the school day

Chronically absent students include students who are absent for any reason (e.g., illness, suspension, the need to care for a family member), **regardless of whether absences are excused or unexcused.**



Chronic Absenteeism

- In order to flag students appropriately for chronic absenteeism, the SCDE worked with PowerSchool to customize and implement new procedures for attendance setup.
- We will be working closely with Kelly Brown and the Attendance Clerks at each school to implement this new process.
- We will be meeting with the Attendance Clerks on August 17th or 18th. It is very important that you make sure that your Attendance Clerk attends one of these sessions.



Chronic Absenteeism

Reporting

- Chronic Absenteeism School Report will be included in the Quarterly reports that the SCDE pulls from PowerSchool.
- There is also a new tab – Chronic Absenteeism on the State/Province SC page in PowerSchool
 - This tab will show when a student is updated and if the student is being reported as Chronically Absent – by exceeding 10% of his/her membership days.
 - It shows Total Days Absent vs Membership days.
 - It also shows you the Absent Percentage.



Attendance

Changes for 2017-2018

Know the Rules





Attendance

Attendance Setup Changes

- A new standardized set of Attendance Codes have been pushed out from the SCDE and those will be the only codes available for the 17-18 school year.

Attendance Conversion Method

- New attendance conversion method is an internal calculation based on several factors. This new method will be used to calculate average daily attendance (ADA).



Attendance

2017-18 SCDE Standardized Attendance Codes

Code	Description	Code	Description
blank	Present	SC - HMBD	Homebound
SC - UNEX	Unexcused/Unverified	SC - HBSD	Homebased Instruction
SC - EX	Excused	SC - FT	Field Trip/School Activity
SC - PA	Principal Approved	SC - REL	Religious
SC - MED	Medical	SC - OSS	Out of School Suspension (OSS)
SC - LCE	Lice	SC - WTHR	Weather
SC - FLU	Flu-Influenza	SC - LEG	Legal/Court
SC - PN	Parent Note	SC - COL	College Visit
SC - IMNZ	Immunization	SC - REC	Attendance Recovery/ Saturday Recovery
SC - AH	Administrative Hearing	SC - ONST	On Site Services
SC - ETRD	Excused Tardy	SC - ISS	In School Suspension (ISS)
SC - BTRD	Bus Tardy	SC - BRV	Bereavement/Death in Family
SC - UTRD	Unexcused Tardy	SC - DSML	Dismissal



Attendance

ADA – Average Daily Attendance

- A student must be present at least 50% of the day in order for the student to be counted as present.

Example – If the total numbers of minutes in the day are 425 then the student must be present for at least 213 minutes to be considered present for the day and counted in the ADA calculation.



Attendance

Do teachers need to take attendance differently?

NO!!!

Teacher's **MUST** take attendance daily in every class.

They **MUST** start on the first day of school!



Attendance

Changes

- Attendance Clerks will record actual Time In and Time Out for students when they arrive late or leave campus early.



Attendance

Changes – No Shows

- When a pre-enrolled student does not attend the first day of school, his/her teachers(s) will mark him/her absent in PowerSchool. The teacher will continue to mark the student absent on the second and up to the tenth day of nonattendance. On the 11th day (after ten consecutive unexcused absences) the student will be withdrawn from Powerschool.
- Note - that the attendance clerk should be monitoring for truancy purposes for days 3, 5, and 7 as your school policy indicates.



Attendance

Changes

- If a student is expected to return to a D5 school and he/she does not start until the 7th day of school the enrollment date will remain the first day of school (August 23, 2017) resulting in the student accumulating 6 absences.

Example - Student Jane Doe does not attend School A on the first day of the new school year, August 23, 2017. She does return for the first time in the 2017-18 school year on August 31, 2017. **This student is marked absent for six days.** This student does NOT meet the number of consecutive absences to be withdrawn; therefore, the student is marked present on Aug 31st.



Attendance Training

Attendance Clerks – all schools

August 17th 2:00 – 3:30

or

August 18th 8:00 – 9:30

Location – The Center



Attendance

Questions

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Attendance

**We wish you all a successful start
and
a Great 2017-2018 school year**

