

The following are taken from the CCSD's Parent Resource and Student Code of Conduct 24-25

For the full document, click the [HERE](#) or on the Code of Conduct icon on our Homepage

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

School Achievement Begins With Regular Attendance

Parents/guardians have the responsibility to ensure that all school-age children in their care are in school and on time every day.

Students have the responsibility to be on time and attend all classes. Students are expected to attend school 180 days.

Lawful Absences (excused) shall include but are not limited to:

- absences caused by a student's own illness and whose attendance in school would endanger his or her health and the health of others
- absences due to an illness or death in the student's immediate family; the principal shall require a physician's certificate from the parent/legal guardian of a student reported continuously absent for illness.
- absences due to a recognized religious holiday of the student's faith
- absences due to activities that are approved in advance by the principal
 - Approved activities include the following:
 - state and national competitions
 - ceremonies honoring outstanding students
- work approved or sponsored by the school, the school district or the state department of education, accepted by the associate superintendent or school principal or designee as reason for excusing the student
 - out of school suspension
 - in school suspension
 - field trips approved by the principal or designee
- absences for students whose parent/legal guardian (a) is an active duty member of the uniformed services, and (b) has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, upon presentation of appropriate military orders - student will be granted up to five days of excused absences to visit with his/her parents/legal guardians upon principal approval

Absences Due to Illness (Fever, Diarrhea, and Vomiting)

- According to the SC Department of Health and Environment Control (DHEC) Exclusion Laws, if a student has a fever, that student must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school (this means without the use of fever reducing medications). Fever is defined as a temperature of 100.0 or greater.
- If a student has diarrhea, that student must be diarrhea free for 24 hours before returning to school (this means without the use of diarrhea suppressing medication). Diarrhea is defined as 3 or more episodes of loose stools in a 24 hour period.
- A student must not come to school if vomiting 2 or more times in a 24 hour period.
- Therefore, attendance that was excused because the nurse sent a student home with one of the above reasons should be for the day of dismissal and the next day. However, after 24 hours, if symptoms of diarrhea, fever, or vomiting are still occurring, the student should see a physician. Only the day of dismissal and the next day are excused; days after that would require a physician or parent note.

Please refer to the following links from DHEC for additional information:

<https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-010752.pdf>

<https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-011634.pdf>

Unlawful Absences include but are not limited to:

- absences of a student without the knowledge of his or her parents
- absences of a student without acceptable cause with the knowledge of his or her parents
- absences due to out of town trips/vacations

Students who are willfully not attending school may face disciplinary consequences that may lead to removal from school (alternative placement).

Chronic Absenteeism

As defined by the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), chronically absent students are those absent 10 percent or more school days during the school year. According to the OCR, an absent student is one who misses 50 percent of the instructional day for any reason and regardless of whether the absence is excused or unexcused. In other words, students who are absent for any reason - including suspension, illness, and death in the family - AND miss 10 percent or more of the school year will be considered chronically absent.

Consequences of Missing School

- **Drop-out**—Students who are chronically absent are at greater risk falling behind in grade-level academics and dropping out of school.
- **Negative Behaviors**—Students who are chronically absent are at-risk for other behaviors, such as alcohol and drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, and violence.
- **Low Academic Performance**—Students who are chronically absent usually receive lower grades and perform poorly on standardized tests.

Documentation of Absences

All absences require a written explanation from the parent/guardian within three (3) school days of return from the absence. Written explanation of absences must include the student's name, parent/guardian's full name, parent/guardian's signature, date(s) of absence(s), and documentation of the reason for absence(s). **Text messages and emails are not acceptable documentation for student absences.** All documentation required by the school is subject to review and must be approved by the principal. Absences in excess of ten days per year will not be considered excused with a parent/guardian note unless they are accompanied by official medical or legal documentation.

Tardiness

A student who is tardy is defined as one who arrives after the start time of the instructional day or class period as based on the CCSD bell schedule. Schools must follow the school's tardy policy.

Parents of students ages 3-17 must come into the school to sign their children in if they are late to school.

LAWFUL TARDIES: In order for a tardy to be excused, written documentation must be provided.

1. Doctor or dentist appointment
2. Late bus arrival
3. Teacher, guidance or administrator conference
4. Observance of a religious holiday
5. Court appearance or court ordered activity

UNLAWFUL TARDIES:

1. Illness on part of the student without a written excuse
2. Oversleeping
3. Traffic / Car trouble
4. Personal reasons
5. Missed bus / Carpool trouble

Continued late pick ups will result in school-based and district level interventions and/or consequences.

