RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION RELEASE TIME
[ISBA Code: 5541]

Students will be excused from school for religious instruction upon the written notice of the parent to attend religious instruction, and said notice is valid only during the school year it is received. Elementary school students may be excused for not more than 120 minutes total in a week, and secondary school students may be excused for not more than the time of attending an elective course during the school week. Release time includes travel to and from the designated location.

Upon receipt of the written notice of the parent, the principal of the student's school and the entity providing the religious instruction shall work collaboratively to determine the periods the student will receive instruction, and to ensure the periods during which the student receives religious instruction are the least disruptive to the student's required instructional time and limited to the time per week set out in this policy or the law.

In the event an entity may be providing religious instruction to more than one student enrolled in the school corporation, the superintendent or a designated principal may arrange in advance with the entity the time periods the students will receive religious instruction per week and least disruptive to the students' required instructional time and limited to the time per week set out in this policy or the law.

The entity providing religious instruction shall keep attendance records on the public school student, and such records shall be available for inspection by the public school attendance officer or designee.

A student who is released for religious instruction under this policy shall receive the same amount of attendance credit that the student would receive for attending the public school for instruction.

A secondary school student may not receive academic credits for the religious instruction the student receives under this policy.

Legal Reference:	I.C. 20-33-2-19

Board Adopted:	July 8, 2024

Board Revised:	July 14, 2025