

Dreher High School
Attendance and Seat Time Policy
2025 – 2026 School Year

This is to notify you of a change in Richland One's student attendance requirements outlined in the South Carolina Code of Regulations, Chapter 43-274. In the past, we have allowed for 10 absences for a 90-day class (semester-long) and a 180-day class (year-long). Per conversations with the South Carolina Department of Education, we are changing the requirements below for students in 90-day and 180-day courses, beginning with the second semester of the 2024-2025 school year and moving forward.

Updated Attendance Requirements

The school year consists of 180 days. To receive credit for high school courses or middle school courses taken for graduation credit:

**** Please note that if a student is absent for 50% or more of a class period, they are counted as absent for that class.**

- Students must attend at least 175 days for each 180-day year-long course (for those courses that meet on only an A Day or a B Day).
- Students must attend at least 87 days for each 90-day semester course (for those courses that meet on only an A Day or a B Day).

Additionally, students must meet all course requirements to receive credit.

Excused or Unexcused Absences and Seat Time Recovery

- If a student exceeds the absences below, seat time recovery is required to fulfill the 120-hour Carnegie Unit Seat Time mandate.
- The following number of excused/unexcused absences are allowed:
 - o For 180-day year-long courses that meet on either an A Day or B Day, the limit is 5 excused/unexcused absences.
 - o For 45-day quarter courses, the limit is 3 excused/unexcused absences.
- The district requires seat time recovery for absences over the above allotment as follows:
 - o Up to 3 additional absences for either a 90-day semester course or a 180-day year-long course that meets either on an A Day or a B Day.

- Students who have nine (9) or more absences in a yearlong course, and/or seven (7) in a semester course will NOT receive credit for the course(s). Recapture is not an option, and the course(s) must be retaken if credit is required for graduation.

Make-Up Procedures

- All seat time recovery must be completed within 30 days of the course's end.
- If you believe your student's absences were due to extenuating circumstances, you can appeal to the School Attendance Committee within 10 school days of receiving a campus notification.
- The student and parent/guardian are responsible for remaining aware of the seat time needed for each course and utilizing the seat time recovery options.

We encourage all parents to ensure regular and punctual attendance, which is significant in students' academic success. If you have any questions or if you need clarification, please do not hesitate to contact your student's school office. Thank you.

Truancy

A student who is absent three (3) consecutive days or five (5) total days is truant. If truant, an Attendance Intervention Plan (AIP) is developed. If two or more absences occur after an AIP, a petition is filed with the courts.

To prevent this from happening, please provide a note to the attendance office any time your child is absent from school. You or your child can bring this note into the attendance office upon their return to school. You can also provide a note electronically by emailing dreherattendance@richlandone.org