SNOHOMISH SCHOOL DISTRICT
1601 Avenue D, Snohomish, WA 98290-1799
360-563-7300 Fax 360-563-7279

# School Attendance

*form*

## School attendance is required by state law.

- State law requires children from age 8 to 17 to attend school.
- Children that are 6- or 7-years-old, who are enrolled in school, must also attend school.
- Youth who are 16 or older may be excused from attending school if they meet certain requirements per state law (RCW 28A.225.010).
- If your child is going to be absent, please contact the school office.

## School's duties upon a student's absences:

- If your child has three unexcused absences in one month, state law (RCW 28A.225.020) requires we schedule a conference with you and your child.
- In elementary school after five excused absences in any month, or ten or more excused absences in the school year, the school district is required to contact you to schedule a conference. A conference is not required if your child has provided a doctor's note, or pre-arranged the absence in writing, and plans are in place so your child does not fall behind academically.
- If your child has seven unexcused absences in any month or ten unexcused absences within the school year, we are required to file a petition with the juvenile court, alleging a violation of RCW 28A.225.010, the mandatory attendance laws. You and your child may need to appear in juvenile court.

## Did you know?

- Attending school on-time, all day, every day will give your child the best chance of graduating from high school.
- Starting in kindergarten, missing on average just two days a month, whether excused or unexcused, makes it more likely that your child will not meet academic standards in math and reading by third grade.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 9th grade, regular attendance is a better predictor of high school graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.

## What you can do:

- Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick, such as fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or a contagious rash.
- Avoid appointments and travel when school is in session.
- Keep track of your child's attendance. Missing more than nine days, excused or unexcused, could put your child at risk of falling behind.
- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine as well as finishing homework and packing backpacks the night before.
- Have a back-up plan in place with family members, neighbors, or other parents for getting your child to school in case something comes up.

If you are struggling to get your child to school for any reason, we are here to support you and work with you towards possible solutions. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office to schedule an appointment to discuss your child's attendance.

I acknowledge that I have read (or I have had someone read this to me) and I understand this document.

Student Name: _____
First Middle Last

Date of Birth:_____ Age:_____ Grade: _____ Name of School: _____

Current address:_____
Street City Zip

Phone/Contact Number: _____

**Do you have other children that attend a school in the Snohomish School District?**

Name:_____Date of Birth: _____Age: _____ Grade:_____ School: _____

Name:_____Date of Birth: _____Age: _____ Grade:_____ School: _____

Name:_____Date of Birth: _____Age: _____ Grade:_____ School: _____

*I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the information provided here is true and accurate.*

**Print name of person completing form:** _____

**Signature:** _____**Date:** _____

Relationship to student(s): ☐ Parent ☐ Guardian ☐ Self ☐ Other_____

Please read and complete this form and return to your child's school office by the end of September.