

Reference Guide for Student Attendance

Texas Compulsory Attendance Law: Students must attend class 90% of the school year. Strong and consistent student attendance is directly related to academic achievement. State law requires all children between the ages of 6 and 19 years of age to be enrolled in school. Our school district has high attendance standards.

STISD's Student Attendance Goals

Student Attendance goals are:

Middle Schools: 96%
High Schools: 95%

A Student is Truant Due To Unexcused Absences If He/She:

Is absent 10 or more days or parts of days within a 6-month period in the same school year.

As per state law: (1) It is the parent's duty to monitor the student's attendance and require the student to attend school (either in person or virtually). (2) The parent may be subject to criminal prosecution. (3) A conference between the school officials and a parent to discuss excessive absences will be required.

A student who violates compulsory attendance laws may be subject to truancy court by the process of a referral where court costs, community service and other remedial orders may be assigned.

Attendance For Credit:

In accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC) §25.092, students are required to attend at least **90% of the days a class is offered**, regardless of whether the absences are **excused or unexcused**, in order to receive credit or a final grade.

A student who attends less than 90% of the time may be at risk of losing credit for the class or receiving no final grade, even if the student is passing the class.

A student who attends at least 75% but less than 90% of the days a class is offered may be eligible to receive credit or a final grade by completing a principal-approved plan that allows the student to fulfill the instructional requirements of the class. The plan may include mandatory tutorials or instructional academies.

Helpful Tips:

Access STISD Attendance Website:

- Access important attendance information, including instructions for submitting absence documentation.



Skyward Family Access:

View your child's attendance, grades and other student information.

ParentSquare:

- Receive important campus and district communications and message your child's teachers directly.

Excused & Unexcused Absence

All absences count! Students who fall **below 90% with absences** are at risk of failing and subject to loss of credit. Parents/Guardians may also be issued a municipal court warning and possibly pay a fine.

Medical Appointments:

Student will be considered **Medical Present** if absence is due to an appointment with a health care professional licensed to practice in the U.S. if:

- 1) Student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment
- 2) And provides a medical excuse

Allowable Absences:

As per policy FEA (Legal), the District shall excuse a student from attending school for the following purposes: Supporting documentation is required. (ex. court documents with student's name, etc.)

- **Religious Holy Days** - One day of excused travel for traveling to and from the site where the student will observe holy days
- **Court Appearances** - One day of excused travel for traveling to and from the site where the student will attend required court appearance
- **Citizenship Proceedings** - Appearing at a government office to complete citizenship proceedings
- **Election Clerks** - serving as an election clerk or student early voting clerk, maximum 2 days per year
- **Health Care Appointments** - Temporary absence resulting from an appointment with a health care professional if the student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of appointment
- **Campus Visits** - To visit an institution of higher education during student's junior and senior year of high school, maximum 2 days per year
- **Military** - Children of military personnel who will be or have been deployed within 60 days before deployment or up to 30 days after arrival date, maximum 5 days per year
- **Military Enlistment** - Student pursuing enlistments in the military, maximum 4 days per year
- **Driver's License Office** - 1) The purpose of visiting a driver's license office to obtain a driver's license or learner permit ; 2) Student must be enrolled in high school and 15 years of age or older; 3) The district must verify the student's visit to the driver's license office in accordance with the procedures adopted by your district.

For more information and clarification about allowable absences, please contact the campus.

For more information, please contact your child's campus.