EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS
Attend to Achieve

UPDATED

K–12 Attendance Law

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

UNDERSTANDING THE CHANGES

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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66% Rule

Students must now attend at least **66% of their school day** to be counted as “present.” Check with your child’s school to see what that timeframe is locally.

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Documentation

Excuses for **all** medical and dental appointments now require documentation from your provider. Please submit these on time based on your district's policy.

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Excused Absence Limit

Students are limited to **5 excused absences per semester** unless the superintendent or designee approves more for extenuating circumstances.

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Timely Notice

Once a student has 3 (excused or unexcused) absences, **schools are required to check in** with parents/guardians to identify any attendance barriers.

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2
DAYS
A MONTH
That's all it takes to be
CHRONICALLY ABSENT
EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS
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MAKE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE A PRIORITY
Schedule trips when school isn't in session
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