



A PARENT'S QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO STUDENT ATTENDANCE FOR 2019-2020

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.

BISD'S STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Student attendance goals are:
**Elementary Schools...97.5%,
Middle School...97%, & High School...96%.**

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. (2) The parent may be subject to criminal prosecution. (3) A conference between 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 LIMITS

Elementary Schools: 18 days per year

Middle Schools: 9 days first semester,
9 days second semester

Early College High Schools: 9 days first semester,
9 days second semester

ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT

Any student with less than 90 percent attendance for the days the class is offered shall be subject to loss of credit in the course(s) where excessive absences have been recorded according to Policy FEC (Legal). Simply, a student may lose credit in a class whether he/she is passing or not, if he/she is absent over the limit.

A student can submit an appeal in writing to the campus administration requesting removal of the "NO CREDIT" status. The student may be asked to make up work and time and no longer be absent as part of the conditions. A committee will review each case based on phone calls and written documentation of absences reported. For details, call your campus administrator.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

As per policy FEA (Legal), the District shall excuse a student from attending school for the following purposes:

▶ **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.

For more information, call the BISD Pupil Services Department at **(956) 544-3966**. Revised 7/19