

LEGAL: THE 2007 KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AMENDED KRS 159.150 TO REQUIRE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RECORDS TO BE CUMULATIVE AND TO TRANSFER WHEN A STUDENT MOVES FROM ONE KENTUCKY SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ANOTHER KENTUCKY SCHOOL DISTRICT.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

STUDENTS

XC09.1233

Secondary School Attendance

Pupils are required to attend regularly and punctually the school in which they are enrolled.

TRUANCY DEFINED

Any student who has attained the age of six (6), but has not reached his/her eighteenth (18th) birthday, who has been absent from school without valid excuse for three (3) days or more, or tardy without valid excuse on three (3) days or more, is a truant.

Any student who has been reported as a truant two (2) or more times is a habitual truant. A student who is absent for sixty (60) minutes or less of the regularly scheduled school day is tardy.

The class attendance requirements stated below do not in any way supersede or change the compulsory school attendance laws stated in KRS 159.010.¹ When a student is declared a habitual truant, the parent may be notified by a certified letter and/or by a personal visit. If truancy continues, both parent(s) and student may be required to attend the Truancy Mediation Program. As a final recourse, court proceedings will be instituted if truancy continues.

For the purposes of establishing a student's status as a truant, a student's attendance record is cumulative for an entire school year. When students transfer from one Kentucky district to another, attendance information from the previous district shall become part of their official attendance record for that school year.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

An excused absence or tardiness is one for which work may be made up, such as:

1. Death or severe illness in the pupil's immediate family;
2. Illness of the pupil;
3. **Medical, dental, or legal appointments that cannot be scheduled outside of school hours;**
4. **Family emergencies as determined by the Principal;**
5. **Educational trips that are pre-approved by the Principal and are aligned with content standards;**
6. Religious observances (holidays and practices);
7. One (1) day for attendance at the Kentucky State Fair (proof of attendance must be provided);
8. Documented military leave;
9. One (1) day prior to departure of parent/guardian called to active military duty;
10. Once (1) day upon the return of parent/guardian from active military duty; or
11. Other valid reasons as determined by the Principal, including trips qualifying as educational enhancement opportunities.