

Understanding Absences

Exempt vs. Excused vs. Unexcused

State of Indiana Attendance Expectation: **94% (10 or fewer days missed per year)**

Exempt	Excused	Unexcused
<p>Pre-Arranged Exempt Absences per Indiana Code:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page for General Assembly • Election Day Worker • Court Witness • IN National Guard Active Duty • Civil Air Patrol • Educationally related non-classroom activity as defined in IC 20-33-2-17.5 • Exhibiting/participating in state fair 	<p>An excused absence occurs when a parent or guardian chooses to keep their student home in the student's best interest.</p> <p>Acceptable reasons include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illness (parent verified) • Verified medical visit (note must be returned within 1 week or absence will be unexcused) • School sends the student home sick • Professional appointments (medical, dental, legal) • Death in the family • Religious holiday • Military connected families' absences related to deployment <p>A parent/guardian must notify the school <u>on the day of the absence</u>.</p>	<p>Students should have ZERO unexcused absences</p> <p>An unexcused absence is any absence that is not classified as exempt, excused, or is not verified within 24 hours of an absence (i.e. the school was not notified in time).</p> <p>If a student accumulates 5 unexcused absences within a 9 week grading period, an attendance meeting will be held, as required by law.</p> <p>A student who accumulates 10 or more unexcused absences is considered <u>habitually truant</u> and will be referred to juvenile services in accordance with Indiana Code 20-33-2-25.</p>
<p>A student who misses 10% or more of the school year for any reason (18 days) is considered <u>chronically absent</u> by the state of Indiana. After 18 total absences, all absences beyond that will be marked as unexcused.</p>		



**MISS A DAY,
MISS A LOT.**
Attendance Matters