

## STUDENTS MUST ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

# IT'S THE LAW!

*Any child at the age of 6 by September 1 (2017) must attend school until his/her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Any child who is younger than 6, once enrolled, is subject to Compulsory Attendance Laws.*

### When is a student in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law?

A student who is absent on 10 or more days or parts of days within a 6-month time period in the same school year is determined to be in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law.

### What happens if a student is in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law?

- Parents are subject to prosecution for “Contributing to Non-Attendance” if their child is absent from school on 10 or more days or parts of days within a 6-month period (unexcused absences, unverified absences and LOSITS).
- Secondary students are subject to prosecution for Truant Conduct. Student’s unexcused and unverified absences are counted for each class period.
- Students, grades K-12 must be in attendance 90% of the days the class is offered in order to receive credit or a final grade.

### What is an unexcused absence?

An unexcused absence is an absence that does not fall within state or district guidelines despite documentation meeting district time lines.

### What is an unverified absence?

No documentation was turned in to explain the absence or was turned in after the 72 hour timeline.

### What is a LOSIT?

Loss of Significant Instructional Time (LOSIT)

- When a student is tardy 15 minutes or more in the morning, or leaves school early exceeding 15 minutes at the end of the day.

### What is the 72 Hour Rule?

When a student is absent, documentation must be turned in within 72 hours (3 school days) from the student’s return to school. Notes must be turned in to the office. Do not turn in notes to the teachers.

### What is an excused absence?

The following is a list of absences approved by the State of Texas and Denton ISD:

- Medical Illness
- Death and/or serious illness of an immediate family member
- Sounding “Taps” at a military funeral
- Religious holy days
- Medical appointment, screening, etc.
- Required court appearance
- Board approved extracurricular activities
- Deployment of immediate family member
- Family emergencies (approved by administrator)
- Absences required by state or local welfare authorities
- Quarantine
- Approved college visits (juniors and seniors only)
- Service as an election clerk
- Activities related to obtaining US citizenship

**Note:** A student absent five or more consecutive days because of a personal illness must bring a statement from a doctor or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student’s extended absence from school. [FEC (LOCAL)] If a student has excessive absences, the superintendent’s designee, the campus attendance committee and/or the court may require a doctor’s note for all future absences for the remainder of the school year.

If you have questions about documentation, please contact your school attendance office. If there is a situation that does not meet the above criteria, contact your **Principal** who will review individual situations.

**For additional information, please contact the Denton ISD Attendance office:**

**(940) 369-0292 ☎ (940) 369-0293**

**High School Students, please contact your Campus.**