

This policy shall apply to a student who has not been in attendance for 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Consideration of All Absences

All absences shall be considered in determining whether a student has attended the required percentage of days under this policy.

Attendance Committees

The Board shall establish an attendance committee or as many committees as necessary for efficient implementation of Education Code 25.092.

The Superintendent or designee shall make the specific appointments in accordance with legal requirements.

Parental Notice of Excessive Absences

A student and the student's parent or guardian shall be given written notice prior to and at such time when a student's attendance in any class drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Excessive Unexcused Absences

For Regular Courses

A student who has three unexcused absences in any class during a semester shall be advised by the teacher that if three more unexcused absences are accrued, credit shall not be earned. The teacher shall send written notice to the office, and the principal shall mail a copy to the student's parent(s). After six unexcused absences during a semester, a student and his or her parent(s) shall be notified by the principal that the student has exceeded the maximum number of unexcused absences, and credit shall not be granted.

For Accelerated Block Courses

After three unexcused absences in an accelerated block course during a semester, a student and his or her parent(s) shall be notified by the principal that the student has exceeded the maximum number of unexcused absences, and credit shall not be granted.

Methods for Regaining Credit or Awarding a Final Grade

When a student's attendance drops below 90 percent but remains at least at 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student may earn credit for the class or a final grade by completing a plan approved by the principal. This plan must provide for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class as determined by the principal.

If the student fails to successfully complete the plan, or when a student's attendance drops below 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student, parent, or representative may request award of credit or a final grade by submitting a written petition to the appropriate attendance committee.

Petitions for credit or a final grade may be filed at any time the student receives notice but, in any event, no later than 30 days after the last day of classes.

The attendance committee shall review the student's entire attendance record and the reasons for absences and shall determine whether to award credit or a final grade. The attendance committee may also, whether a petition is filed or not, review the records of all students whose attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Students who have lost credit or have not received a final grade because of excessive absences may regain credit or be awarded a final grade by fulfilling the requirements established by the attendance committee.

Personal Illness

When a student's absence for personal illness exceeds three consecutive days, the principal or attendance committee may require that the student present a statement from a physician or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's extended absence from school as a condition of classifying the absence as one for which there are extenuating circumstances.

If a student has established a questionable pattern of absences, the principal or attendance committee may require that a student present a physician's or clinic's statement of illness after a single day's absence as a condition of classifying the absence as one for which there are extenuating circumstances.

**Guidelines on
Extenuating
Circumstances**

The attendance committee shall adhere to the following guidelines to determine attendance for award of credit or a final grade:

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| Days of Attendance | 1. If makeup work is completed satisfactorily, excused absences that are allowed under compulsory attendance requirements shall be considered days of attendance for award of credit or final grade. [See FEA(Legal) at EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE DETERMINATIONS] |
| Transfers / Migrant Students | 2. A transfer or migrant student incurs absences only after his or her enrollment in the District. |
| Documentation | 3. The committee shall consider the acceptability and authenticity of documented reasons for the student's absences. |
| Consideration of Control | 4. The committee shall consider whether the absences were for reasons out of the student's or parent's control. |
| Student's Academic Record | 5. The committee shall consider whether or not the student has completed assignments, mastered the essential knowledge and skills, and maintained passing grades in the course or subject. |

Information from
Student or Parent

6. The student or parent shall be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit or be awarded a final grade.

Best Interest
Standard

In reaching consensus regarding a student's absences, the committee shall attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student. The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations addressing the committee's documentation of the decision.

**Imposing Conditions
for Awarding Credit
or a Final Grade**

The committee may impose any of the following conditions for students with excessive absences to regain credit or be awarded a final grade:

1. Completing additional assignments, as specified by the committee or teacher.
2. Attending tutorial sessions as scheduled, which may include Saturday classes or before- and after-school programs.
3. Maintaining the attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
4. Taking an examination to earn credit. [See EHDB]
5. Attending a flexible school day program.
6. Attending summer school.

In all cases, the student must also earn a passing grade in order to receive credit.

Appeal Process

A parent or student may appeal the decision of the attendance committee in accordance with FNG(LOCAL).