

CHESTER COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT 24

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ATTENDANCE

ADOPTED: June 15, 2011

REVISED: October 16, 2019

204. ATTENDANCE	
<p>1. Purpose SC 1301, 1326, 1327 Title 22 Sec. 11.12, 11.41, 12.1</p>	<p>The Board requires that school age students enrolled in Intermediate Unit programs attend school regularly, in accordance with Pennsylvania state laws. The educational programs offered by the Intermediate Unit are predicated upon the presence of the student and require continuity of instruction and classroom participation in order for students to achieve academic standards and consistent educational progress.</p>
<p>2. Authority SC 1327, 1329, 1330 Title 22 Sec. 11.23, 11.25, 11.41, 12.1</p>	<p>Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in Intermediate Unit programs during the days and hours that such programs are in session, except that an administrator or program supervisor may excuse a student for temporary absences when receiving satisfactory evidence of mental, physical, or other urgent reasons that may reasonably cause the student's absence in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code. Urgent reasons shall be strictly construed and do not permit irregular attendance.</p> <p>The member school district shall be responsible for enforcing the compulsory attendance laws for its students.</p>
<p>3. Definitions</p>	<p>Compulsory school age shall mean the period of a student's life from the time the student's person in parental relation elects to have the student enter school, which shall be no later than eight (8) years of age, until the student reaches seventeen (17) years of age. Beginning with the academic year 2020-2021, compulsory school age shall mean no later than age six (6) until age eighteen (18). The term does not include a student who holds a certificate of graduation from a regularly accredited, licensed, registered or approved high school.<u>[8][12]</u></p> <p>Person in parental relation shall mean a:<u>[8]</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Custodial biological or adoptive parent. 2. Noncustodial biological or adoptive parent. 3. Guardian of the person of a student. 4. Person with whom a student lives and who is acting in a parental role of a

<p>4. Guidelines</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 11.25</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 11.26</p> <p>SC 1327 Title 22 Sec. 11.8, 11.22, 11.23, 11.28 Pol. 115, 117</p>	<p>student.</p> <p>The Board considers the following conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Illness. 2. Quarantine. 3. Recovery from accident. 4. Required court attendance. 5. Death in family. 6. Family educational trips. 7. Other reasons specific to the Intermediate Unit program, as approved by the Board and disseminated in the appropriate student handbook. 8. Participation in a musical performance in conjunction with a national veterans' organization or incorporated unit, as defined in law, for an event or funeral.^[6] <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The national veterans' organization or incorporated unit must provide the student with a signed excuse, which shall include the date, location, and time of the event or funeral. b. The student shall furnish the signed excuse prior to being excused from school. 9. Other urgent reasons that may reasonably cause a student's absence, as well as circumstances related to homelessness and foster care.^{[3][6][20]} <p>Absences shall be treated as unexcused/unlawful until the Intermediate Unit receives a written excuse explaining the absence, to be submitted upon return from the absence within the number of days required by the Intermediate Unit program.</p> <p>Attendance need not always be within school facilities. A student will be considered in attendance if present at any place where an educational program is in session by authority of the Board; the student is receiving approved tutorial instruction or health or therapeutic services; the student is engaged in an approved and properly supervised independent study, work-study or career education program; the student is receiving approved homebound instruction; the student is enrolled in an approved online program.</p>
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<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.21</p>	<p>Upon written request by a parent/guardian, all absences occasioned by observance of the student's religion on a day approved by the Board as a religious holiday shall be excused. A penalty shall not be attached to an absence for a religious holiday.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.23, 11.25</p>	<p>The Board will recognize other justifiable absences for part of the school day. These shall include medical or dental appointments, court appearances, family emergencies, and other urgent reasons.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.26</p>	<p><u>Educational Tours And Trips</u></p> <p>The Board may excuse a student from school attendance to participate in an educational tour or trip not sponsored by the member school district if the following conditions are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The parent/guardian submits a written request for excusal prior to the absence. 2. The student's participation has been approved by the Superintendent or designee of the member school district and the Executive Director. 3. The adult directing and supervising the tour or trip is acceptable to the parents/guardians, the Superintendent of the member school district and the Executive Director. <p>The Board may limit the number and duration of tours or trips for which excused absences may be granted to a student during the school term, in conjunction with the member school district.</p>
<p>5. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p><u>Enforcement of Compulsory Attendance Requirements</u></p> <p>Proper child accounting is an important aspect of education that is mandated by law and shall be strictly adhered to in all programs operated by the Intermediate Unit.</p> <p>Professional employees shall be responsible for preparing and submitting complete and accurate child accounting information for those students enrolled in their programs.</p> <p>The Executive Director or designee shall ensure school age students enrolled in Intermediate Unit programs comply with Pennsylvania state attendance laws.</p> <p>Intermediate Unit staff shall report attendance information, including any unexcused absences of a student, to the member school district.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.41</p>	<p>The Executive Director or designee shall ensure the annual distribution to staff, students and parents/guardians of the Board policies and program rules and</p>

	<p>regulations governing student attendance, absences and excusals.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 914-A, 1301, 1326, 1327, 1329, 1330, 1332, 1333, 1338, 1339, 1354</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 11.8, 11.12, 11.21, 11.22, 11.23, 11.25, 11.26, 11.28, 11.34, 11.41, 12.1</p> <p>Board Policy – 115, 117, 131, 132, 133, 136, 141</p>
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