

ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR EXCUSED STUDENTS ABSENCES

(46010 and 8205 Ed. Code)

Student must be given an opportunity to complete work which is reasonably close to, but not necessarily identical to, missed work.

1. Personal illness (school may require doctor's note verifying absence after 10 days).
2. Quarantine under the direction of a health officer.
3. Personal medical, dental, optometric or chiropractic appointment.
4. Funeral services for a member of the immediate family (limited to one day **or** three days if traveling more than 300 miles).
5. Student serving on jury duty.
6. Exclusion for illness or medical appointment of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.
7. Personal court appearance (requires verification).
8. Prior Principal approval for employment conference.
9. Observance of a religious holiday or ceremony (recommended three days advance notice to school).
10. Religious retreat.
11. Prior Principal approval for reasons, which may not be included elsewhere, but are pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.



COLUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Attendance Review Team
(DART)

Information Pamphlet

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TRUANCIES & UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Reasons **NOT** acceptable for being absent from school and are considered truancies or unexcused absences during the regular school year.

A truancy occurs if a student does the following:

1. Going to work with parent or other family member
2. Going to beach, lake, river, mountains or desert
3. Going to a concert, shopping, camping, or getting ready for a date.
4. Babysitting or caring for other family members
5. Under the influence of alcohol or drugs
6. Joyriding or partying
7. Personal problems
8. Repairing car or household items
9. Waiting for service or repair people to arrive
10. Attending sporting event
11. Any other reason not included in "Acceptable Reason for Excused Student Absences." See other side of the pamphlet.
12. Bus not available/missing bus
13. Participating in a student demonstration off campus.
14. 7 tardies = 1 unexcused absence

ALL absences must be verified or the absence becomes an unexcused absence or truancy.

The DART Process

As established by LAW

Third (3) - unexcused absence:

Classified as a Truant by Attendance Administrator. **1st letter** sent home.

Fifth (5) - unexcused absence:

Second truancy—reported again to attendance administrator. **2nd letter & District Attendance Review Team (DART)** meeting or meeting with administrator.

Seventh (7) - unexcused absence:

Third truancy—Classified as a habitual truant and subject to a summons to appear at a **District Attendance Review Team (DART)**.

NOTE: Ten (10) excused absences is considered to be excessive. Education Code Sec 48260—Any pupil subject to full-time education or to compulsory education who is absent from school without valid excuse more than three days or tardy or absent for more than any 30 minute period during the school day without a valid excuse **or** three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof, is a truant and shall be reported to the attendance administrator or superintendent of the school district.

When a parent takes their child out of school early, for reasons not acceptable as excused, for longer than a 30 minute period, more than three times during the year, that child becomes truant.

A parent may only excuse their child 10 times per year for medical reason that do not have a doctor's note.

PENALTIES

48293 Education Code

DART Hearing—The District Attendance Review Team will ask the parent and the student to sign an attendance contract. Failure to comply with the contract will result in the order of a citation to appear in court. 48293 Ed C.

1st Conviction—A fine of not more than \$100.00 plus penalties could amount to as much as \$2,000.

2nd Conviction— A fine of not more than \$250.00 plus penalties could amount to as much as \$2,000 (Penal Code Section 270.1)

3rd or Subsequent Conviction—A fine of not more than \$500.00 plus penalties could amount to \$2,000 (Penal Code 270.1)

13202.7 V.C.— Any minor under the age of 18 years, but 13 years of age of older who is a habitual truant, may have his/her driving privileges suspended for one year.

272 (a) (i) P.C.—Failure to enroll your student in an approved educational program could result in a \$2,500.00 fine + 1 year county jail + probation up to 5 years.

Parents are responsible for a child's attendance from the age of 6 until the age of 18 (48200 Ed. Code).