

Truancy and Chronically Absent

Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, student attendance will be a portion of individual school accreditation for Virginia's public schools.

Students who are defined as 'CHRONICALLY ABSENT' will be included as a portion of a school's accreditation and rating determination. Students who miss more than ten percent of the school year (eighteen (18) days of 180 day school term) for any reason including all excused absences (Medical, Doctor, or Court Note as well), will be considered chronically absent by the Virginia Department of Education. All absences are included in the 10 percent calculation.

For a student to not be considered 'CHRONICALLY ABSENT', they cannot miss 18 or more days the entire school year. Students are expected to be in attendance for all 180 scheduled instructional days, unless they are ill, have a legitimate family emergency, or have an extenuating circumstance which warrants the school principal's approval.

Truancy is when a student has accumulated a total of 6 unexcused absences, as defined by the Code of Virginia.

Truancy

- Typically refers only to unexcused absences
- 6 unexcused absences
- It signals the potential need for legal intervention

Chronic Absence

- Missing 10% or more of school for any reason:
 - Excused
 - Parent Notes
 - Doctor's Notes
 - Court Notes
 - Unexcused
 - Out of School Suspension

End of the year report cards will indicate if your child would be considered chronically absent based on 2018-2019 criteria