

Consequences

A student who has poor attendance:

1. Misses very important instructional/ educational time with the teacher and the other students.
2. May earn a lower grade, or even fail, due to missing the instructional time with the teacher and the other students.
3. May not earn a promotion to the next grade level.
4. May not graduate, or graduate with his/her class.
5. May be excluded from school activities, such as sports, school clubs, cheerleading, student council, musical groups, etc.
6. May be experiencing more severe problems, such as alcohol or drug use/ abuse, emotional difficulties, social pressures, peer/friend complications, girl/boyfriend stress, etc.
7. May be referred to the Department of Student Services at the Lincoln Public Schools District Offices for further assistance.
8. May be referred to the County Attorney's Office for truancy from school. **(State Statute 79-201)**
9. May be referred to the County Attorney's Office for parental neglect. **(State Statute 79-201)**
10. May be referred to Child Protective Services for parental neglect. **(State Statute 79-201)**

All this can happen if a student does not attend regularly. **By working together, we hope this will be prevented.**

Benefits

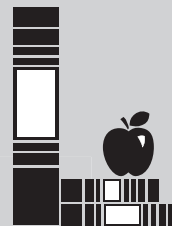
A student who has good attendance:

1. Has good self-esteem. Feels good about self.
2. Has better relationship with parents.
3. Has better relationship with teachers.
4. Is a positive role model for brothers and sisters and friends.
5. Has better basic skills (knowledge) of subject matter.
6. Is better prepared for tests.
7. Earns better grades.
8. Is better prepared for next grade level.
9. Is likely to earn a promotion to the next grade level and graduate.
10. Is better prepared to enter the job market.
11. Will have a better choice of jobs.
12. Is better prepared to enter college.
13. Will have a better choice of colleges.
14. Is better prepared to enter the military.

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ATTENDANCE

THE KEY TO SUCCESS



**Department of Student Services
Lincoln Public Schools
Lincoln, Nebraska**

Regular attendance at school is crucial in helping students to reach their maximum academic potential. Uninterrupted attendance in class allows students to obtain the greatest benefit from the school's instructional program. Consistency in attendance is an important habit for students to develop.

Nebraska Statute 79-201 states that every person who has legal or actual custody of a child of school age must cause such child to attend school regularly.

If you are unsure of the attendance procedures of the school your student attends, contact the school for this information. Attendance information is included in the student handbook and the parent information received from the school. You received this information at the beginning of the school year or when you enrolled your student.

If a student will be absent from school, all schools request the parent or guardian to call the school office, or attendance office, that day.

What absences are excused?

Lincoln Public Schools Policy 5140 states: Student illness, parental requests due to family emergency, special family/student need, or attendance at a school approved activity and student participation in a school-approved, faculty-sponsored school activity.

What absences may be excused?

Lincoln Public Schools Regulations 5140.1 and 5140.2 (Parent Requested Prearranged Absences) states: Parents may request that the student be absent from school for reasons such as medical and dental appointments, religious observance, court-ordered appearance, family trip, college visit, etc. **Credit may be granted, provided that arrangements have been made several days in advance of the absence.**

What absences are NOT excused?

Oversleeping, car not starting, caught in a traffic jam, leaving school without permission, etc.

What is a truancy?

An absence which neither the parents, or the school, condones. **Lincoln Public Schools Regulation 5140.3** states: Principals shall be responsible for classifying absences according to reason and taking appropriate action for absences due to unacceptable reasons.

What to do about make-up work?

Students who have had an excused absence will be allowed a reasonable amount of time to make up their class work. The student must discuss this with each teacher.

Lincoln Public Schools Regulations 5140.1 and 5140.2 states: It is the responsibility of the student to make up work which has been missed because of an absence.

The school staff will support the student's initiative to make up the work. However, it is important to understand that there is no way to recreate an equivalent experience for the one presented in the classroom.