

HAVE A GOOD REASON FOR MISSING SCHOOL !

Excused Absences

A parent or guardian may seek an excused absences from school for his/her child. A school has the right to accept or deny an application for an excuse absence.

VALID Excuses for Missing School:

- Sickness - you may be required to prove documentation from your doctor
- Medical treatment, including mental health
- Religious holidays

INVALID Excuses for Missing School:

- Staying at home to babysit
- Work
- Being tired
- Travel/vacation
- Needed at home
- Cold weather
- Missed bus
- Being an language interpreter

**GRADUATION
IT'S MORE THAN JUST A
GOOD IDEA!**

Higher Income Potential

Education is important to everyone! A high school graduate will earn nearly \$1 million more than a dropout in his or her lifetime. High school graduates, on average, have more opportunities.

Check Out the Ave. Incomes:

- \$18,734 *high school drop-out*
- \$27,915 *high school graduate*
- \$51,206 *college graduate*



Attend School for Better Health

Students who are chronically truant from school are much more likely to:

- engage in crime
- be unemployed
- be under-employed
- abuse drugs & alcohol
- practice risky sexual activity

In other words, a high school diploma pays out for a lifetime and is linked to better health of the students, families and the community in which we all live.

**SCHOOL SUCCESS
BENEFITS ALL OF US**

**Scott County Truancy
Diversion Services**

A COLLABORATION OF:

- Scott County Schools,
- County Attorney's Office,
- Community Corrections
- Health and Human Services

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

- ▶ **Scott County Health and Human Services**
952-496-8550
- ▶ **Scott County Community Corrections**
952-496-8871
- ▶ **Scott County Attorney's Office**
952-496-8648

KNOW THE LAW!

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED

A child between ages of 7 & 16 years of age must attend school & a child 16 or 17 years of age cannot drop out of school without the permission of their parents. Written forms must be completed at a school meeting.

TRUANCY CONSEQUENCES FOR JUVENILES

- Court adjudication as a “child in need of protection or services”
- Mandatory meetings with probation or social services
- Community Service or Sentence to Serve (including weekends)
- Fines up to \$100
- Suspension or denial of driving privileges (to age 18)
- Counseling for child and parents
- Chemical or mental health evaluations / services / programs
- Any other activities or . . . treatment programs deemed appropriate by the court, etc.).

PLAN FOR SUCCESS

Parent Responsibilities

- Tell your children school is important to you
- Help with homework questions
- Have set bedtime & morning routine
- Communicate with school & know the attendance policy
- Set expectation that homework get done everyday
- Don't cover for your child's unexcused absence
- Ask why your child does not want to attend school
- Give your child an alarm clock
- Attend school meetings
- Get your child services if problems interfere with school attendance



Student Responsibilities

- Attend school every day & be on time
- Talk to someone at school if you are having problems
- Attend school meetings
- Know the school policies
- Complete homework
- Be involved in groups or activities that interest you
- Know & follow school policies & rules

PLAN FOR SUCCESS (Cont'd)

School Responsibilities

- Provide a program/schedule that meets the students educational needs
- Address problems identified as barriers to the student's ability to attend & learn
- Maintain accurate attendance records & document communication with parents/guardians and student about attendance

SCOTT COUNTY TRUANCY DIVERSION SERVICES

Diversion is a way of working with youth who are referred for a truancy offense. Instead of having the case held in a formal courtroom setting before a judge, the youth and his or her family meet with a truancy worker to develop a plan to resolve the truant behavior. Services are voluntary as an effort to prevent unnecessary court interventions.

Truancy Diversion Services start by assessing the factors contributing to truancy. Together, your truancy worker will assist student & parents in developing a plan to address factors interfering with school attendance. Truancy workers will connect student and family to support services and monitor school attendance .

If you successfully return to school, your case is closed. Those with continued truancy behaviors may be referred to court interventions. *See Truancy Consequences for Juveniles in this brochure.*