Chronic Absenteeism/Truancy

Secondary Schools



Student attendance is vital for success in school. Once attendance begins to significantly impact the ability of a student to be successful in school, teachers, administrators, and counselors must intervene and work with parents to create interventions to change behaviors and improve school success. Failing to do so can result in students falling further behind in their work-load, loss of credit, jeopardizing the ability to graduate, and in some cases, the increased likelihood of criminal conduct.

Students may be identified as "at-risk" and having a chronic attendance problem if it can be demonstrated that the student's pattern of absenteeism if having a significant impact on their success at school by:

- 1. An attendance-related failure or loss of credit in one or more classes during a term
- 2. A drop in GPA of at least 1.0 when compared to terms prior to the attendance problem
- 3. A cumulative GPA of less than 2.0

Schools are encouraged to implement interventions in order to create an Earnest and Persistent Effort involving the parent and student in correcting the absenteeism by implementing a:

- Parent Conference/Student Conference
- Referral to Counselor/Social Worker
- Complete a Written Attendance Plan
- Suspension/Detention or Attendance Make-up
- Tracker Referral/Progress Reports
- · Testing and Evaluation
- Counseling and Mediation
- Class/Schedule Change
- Home Visits
- Other appropriate intervention

If the absenteeism continues despite Notification Letters and interventions, the student may be referred to Truancy School and ultimately, to Juvenile Court for truancy intervention, or to the Division of Child and Family Services, (ASD Rules & Regulations No. 4082). For more detailed information about Alpine School District's Attendance Policy, please view Policy 5156

