

Students Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because the student's religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the Building Principal at least five calendar days before the student's anticipated absence.

This notice shall satisfy the District's requirement for a written excuse when the student returns to school.

The Superintendent or a designee shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for religious reasons, including how teachers are notified of a student's impending absence, and the State law requirement that teachers provide the student with an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2b.
775 ILCS 35/5, Religious Freedom Restoration Act

CROSS REF.: 7.70 (Attendance and Truancy)

Adopted: April 25, 1996
Revised: August 25, 1999
Revised: November 15, 2006
Revised: November 2021