

YOUR CHILD BELONGS IN AHISD EVERY DAY

Student Attendance and State Funding



WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

Every day a student is absent it has a cost to learning, to the school environment, and to the district.

Texas public schools are funded based on student attendance, more specifically, on the average daily attendance of students. The more students that are on campus each day, the more funding a school gets.

When students are not in school- whether the absence is excused or not- it negatively impacts our funding.

QUESTIONS

1. How much funding does the district lose when students are absent?

On average, the cost per student per day they are absent is \$43.78. Based on February 2024 data, AHISD lost an estimated \$198,021.72 due to absences in the month of February.

2. Can't I just write a note for my student's absence?

While the state allows the principal to excuse an absence from school with a parent note for the purposes of compulsory school attendance laws, an excused absence still counts as an absence for state funding and it negatively impacts school funding. For school funding purposes, either a student is present at school or a student is not present.

3. What about doctor's appointments?

On a day when your child visits the doctor, if your student starts or ends the day at school and is in class, and you turn in a signed note from a licensed, certified, and registered health-care provider upon your student's return to school, your student will be counted present for state funding purposes and the absence does NOT negatively impact school funding.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Encourage your child's daily attendance
- Be mindful when scheduling family trips/vacations
- Schedule appointments with daily attendance times in mind
- Obtain a doctor's note when applicable



WHAT TIME IS ATTENDANCE TAKEN EACH DAY?

- Howard - 9 a.m.
- Cambridge/Woodridge- 9:30 a.m.
- Junior School - 9:35 a.m. (2nd period)
- High School - 9:55 a.m. (2nd and 6th period)

Appointments/absences after attendance time do not have a negative impact on attendance funding.