

**SC Code of Law 59-65-10**

“South Carolina Compulsory Attendance Law requires that a parent or guardian shall require his child to attend regularly a public or private school or kindergarten of this State which has been approved by the State Board of Education, a member school of the South Carolina Independent Schools and Association, a member school of the South Carolina Association of Christian Schools, or some similar organization, or a parochial, denominational, or church-related school, or other programs which have been approved by the State Board of Education from the school year in which the child is five years of age before September first until the child attains his seventeenth birthday or graduates from high school.”

**LAWFUL ABSENCES**

- Absences caused by a student's own illness and whose attendance in school would endanger his or her health or the health of others,
- Absences due to an illness or death in the student's immediate family,
- Absences due to a recognized religious holiday of the student's faith, and
- Absences due to activities that are approved in advance by the principal.

**UNLAWFUL ABSENCES**

- Absences of a student without the knowledge of his or her parents, and
- Absences of a student without acceptable cause with the knowledge of his or her parents.

**Note!** Suspension is not to be counted as an unlawful absence for truancy purposes.

South Carolina Department of Education



ATTENDANCE  
EVERY DAY!



South Carolina Department of Education  
Office of Student Intervention Services

