



ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR EXCUSED STUDENT ABSENCES

(Ed Code 46010, Ed Code 46010.3, Ed Code 48205) Student must be given an opportunity to complete work which is reasonably close to, but not necessarily identical to, missed work.

1. Personal illness.
2. Quarantine under the direction of a health officer.
3. Personal medical, dental, optometric or chiropractic appointment.
4. Funeral services for a member of the immediate family (limited to one day in the state, and three days out of state).
5. Student serving on jury duty.
6. Exclusion for illness or medical appointment of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.
7. Personal court appearance (requires verification).
8. Prior Principal approval for employment conference.
9. Employment in the Entertainment Industry for a maximum of up to five absences per school year.
10. Observance of a religious holiday or ceremony (recommend three (3) days advance notice to school).
11. Religious retreat (limited to four hours per semester).
12. Prior Principal approval for reasons, which may not be included elsewhere, but are pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.
13. For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.

14. For the purpose of spending time with a member of the pupil's immediate family who is an active duty member of the military.
15. Other reasons that are within the discretion of school administrators and, based on the factors of the pupil's circumstances, are deemed to constitute a valid excuse.

46014 ED. Code – The following requires a Board-adopted resolution:

Religious observance or exercise for moral or religious instruction limited to four (4) days per month. Student must attend minimum school day hours.



UNACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR STUDENT ABSENCES

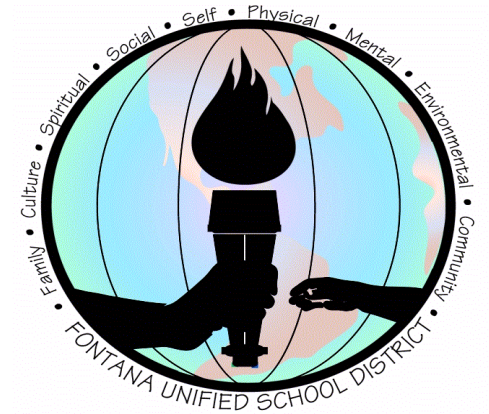
Reasons NOT acceptable for being absent from school and are considered truancies or unexcused absences during the regular school year. A truancy occurs if a student does the following:

1. Going to work with parent or other family member.
2. Going to the beach, lake, river, mountains or desert.
3. Going to a concert.
4. Getting ready for a date.
5. Babysitting, taking care of other family members.
6. Under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
7. Joyriding or partying.
8. Personal problems.
9. Repairing car or household items.
10. Waiting for service or repair people to arrive.
11. Shopping.
12. Camping.
13. Attending a sporting event.
14. Any other reason not included in "Acceptable Reason for Excused Student Absences."
15. Bus not available/missing bus.
16. Participating in a student demonstration off campus.

All absences must be verified or the absence becomes an unexcused absence or truancy.

Fontana Unified School District Child Welfare and Attendance

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REVIEW BOARD (SARB)



Parent and Student INFORMATION PAMPHLET

Fontana Unified School District
9680 Citrus Ave.
Fontana, CA 92335
909-357-5000 ext. 7238
FAX 909-357-5098

**Coordinator
Child Welfare and Attendance
Dawn Marmo**

CWA Attendance Liaisons:

Connie Aramburo	909-357-5000 ext. 7089
David Matuguina	909-357-5000 ext. 7224
Lydia Wibert	909-357-5000 ext. 7283

The Fontana Unified School District SARB PROCESS

Third (3rd) - unexcused absence:

Classified as a Truant, SART 1 Letter sent to home.

Sixth (6th) - unexcused absence: SART 2 letter sent to home.

Ninth (9th) - unexcused absence: SART 3 letter sent to home and conference scheduled at school site.

10 or more excused/unexcused absences: LAMP Referral to CWA Attendance Liaison is made. Ten (10) excused absences are considered to be excessive.

If the attendance pattern continues to be unsatisfactory, then a referral to SARB is made by the school site for the parent and the student to be summoned to appear at a SARB Hearing.

NOTE:

Education Code Sec. 48260: Any pupil subject to full-time education or to compulsory education who is absent from school without valid excuse more than three days or **tardy or absent for more than any 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year**, or any combination thereof, is a truant and shall be reported to the attendance administrator or superintendent of the school district.

Ed Code 48263.6: Chronic truant is defined as any pupil (K-8th grade) subject to compulsory full-time education or to compulsory continuing education who is absent from school without a valid excuse for 10% or more of the school days in one year, from the date of enrollment to current date.

When a parent takes their child out of school early, for reasons not acceptable as excused, for longer than a 30 minute period, more than three times during the year, that child is defined as a truant.

What is SARB?

School Attendance Review Board.

SARB was established by the California legislature in 1975 for the purpose of: making a better effort to meet the needs of students with attendance or behavior problems and promoting the use of alternatives to the juvenile court system. To achieve these goals, the legislation provides for a multi-agency **SARB** which includes many different agencies within the community.

The **SARB** process starts with the identification of attendance and/or behavior problems followed by classroom, school site and district level interventions.

SARB is specifically charged with finding solutions to unresolved student attendance and discipline problems by bringing together, on a regular basis, representatives of agencies that make up the board.

SARB further surveys available community resources, determines the appropriateness of their services, and makes recommendations to meet the needs of referred students.

SARB seeks to understand why students are experiencing attendance and behavior problems, and serves as a vehicle to correct those problems.

Who is referred to SARB? Students that are referred to SARB are those with chronic attendance problems and/or chronic behavior problems which have not been resolved through school and community efforts.

What does SARB do for students? **SARB** may do the following:

- Recommend changes in the student's program.
- Assist students to secure employment once attendance improves.
- Direct the student and/or family to counseling.
- Recommend and/or refer to parenting classes and/or truancy classes.

- Facilitate a student transfer to an alternative school or program when necessary.
- Request assistance from other county agencies and programs when needed.
- Arrange for tutoring when needed.
- Recommend the establishment of needed resources.
- Help students understand the importance of school, why they must attend school, and that there are consequences for failure to comply with the law.
- Refer chronic attendance and/or behavior problems to the District Attorney Truancy Mediation Program for further assistance.
- The School Attendance Review Board (SARB) will ask the parent and the student to sign an attendance contract. Failure to comply with the contract will result in the order of a citation to appear in court.

Specified Ed Codes relating to Attendance:

Ed Code 48293- Failure to comply with SARB is an infraction and parent may be fined up to \$500.00, plus penalties...

Ed Code 48200- Students, between the ages of 6 and 18, are required to attend school full-time, unless otherwise exempt.

Ed Code 48263- Habitually truant and habitually insubordinate students may be referred to SARB.

Ed Code 48292 and Penal Code, Section 272- Failure to attend school as required may result in the filing of a complaint against the parents with the DA's office.

Ed Code 48294- Fines paid as penalties by parents who violate provisions of the compulsory school attendance law are to be credited to the school fund of the school district in which the offense was committed.