

Attendance at Grasso Tech



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Tardies/Early Dismissals

Tardies and early dismissals cause students to lose instructional time with their teachers and make it harder to do well in school.

Parents/guardians are expected to schedule medical, dental, and other appointments outside of school hours.

Frequent unexcused tardies will lead to discipline and be monitored closely with parent/guardian and counselor involvement.

1. What should I do if my child is going to be absent from school?

- ♦ Call 860-441-0323 and leave a message stating your child's name, grade, date, and reason for the absence. It is also helpful to leave your name, phone number, and relationship to the student.
- ♦ Email/text written documentation of the absence to Jonathan.Grossman@cttech.org or 860-415-3750.

2. Is there a limit to the number of absences I can excuse as a parent?

- ♦ Yes. The first nine (9) times a student is absent, a parent may excuse the absence regardless of the reason. If documentation is provided from an outside source for any of the student's first nine (9) absences, the day is considered excused by the parent.
- ♦ A student's tenth (10th) and all future absences can be considered excused only with appropriate documentation. If the absence cannot be excused, it is considered an unexcused absence.

3. Could my child be considered absent even if he or she was in school for part of the day?

Students are considered absent if they are not in school for at least half the day. This includes coming to school after OR leaving school before 10:40 a.m. on a full day or 9:40 a.m. on a half day. If a student arrives tardy AND leaves early on the same day, they still must be present for at least half the school day or they are considered absent for the day. We encourage students to be in school even if they are considered absent so they can be successful in the classroom.

4. How may unexcused absences can my child have before credit is lost for the whole year?

A student is allowed only nine (9) unexcused absences in a school year. Credit denial occurs when a student reaches ten (10) or more unexcused absences. If a student is credit denied at Grasso, they lose credits for the entire year even if they are passing their classes. To appeal this decision, a hearing must be requested.

5. How many days are Grasso students absent each year?

On average, students at Grasso miss only ten (10) days of school per year. Since students must learn the required academic material in half as much time as students in a regular high school, attendance at Grasso is extremely important. If a student's total number of absences becomes too high at any point during the year, Grasso will implement interventions in order to address the concerns.

6. What is "chronic absenteeism"?

Students are chronically absent if they miss 10% or more of the school year. If a student is absent 18 days in a year (about 2 days per month), they would be considered chronically absent. With chronic absenteeism, all days a student is not in school are counted regardless of whether those days are excused, unexcused, or suspensions. Chronically absent students miss a lot of class time and must work harder to earn good grades.

7. Where can I learn more?

- ♦ Refer to the Student/Parent Handbook on the Grasso website: grasso.cttech.org
- ♦ Contact the Dean of Students