



ATTENDANCE TIPS FOR FAMILIES

of Secondary School Students

● Did You Know...

- School attendance plays a major part in academic achievement.
- Being chronically absent or missing 10% of the school year (about 18 days) for lawful or unlawful reasons can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Being late to school can lead to missing important learning activities
- Students should miss no more than 18 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.

● What You Can Do To Help

- Make school attendance a priority by setting the expectation of showing up to school daily and setting regular routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Help your child stay engaged by staying on top of academic progress and seeking help from teachers or tutors if necessary or encourage meaningful afterschool activities, including sports and clubs.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments or extended trips during school days.
- Make back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up.

● How to Communicate with the School

- First, read the Prince George's County Public Schools Attendance Policy.
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. Make sure teachers and school staff have your up-to-date contact information.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up.
- Ask for help from school officials, afterschool programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.

Adapted from Attendance Works

