

Excused Absences for Compulsory Attendance Determinations

A district shall excuse a student from attending school for the following purposes:

Religious Holy Days

1. Observing religious holy days. A student who is observing holy days is allowed up to one day of excused travel for traveling to the site where the student will observe the holy days and up to one day of excused travel for traveling from that site.

Other Excused Absences

A person required to attend school may be excused for temporary absence resulting from any cause acceptable to the teacher, principal, or superintendent of the school in which the person is enrolled. *Education Code 25.087(a)*

August 2019

Date	Observance	Description	Absence Code	Comment
*August 12-15	EID AL-ADHA	Islamic The "Feast of Sacrifice" concludes the Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca), and is a three-day festival recalling Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience to God.		*Currently enrolled students observing this holiday that do not attend school the 14 th and 15 th will be considered a "no show". Their first day of attendance on campus will be their enrollment date.

September 2019

Date	Observance	Description	Absence Code	Comment
*September 10	ASHURA	Islamic A day of fasting observed on the 10th day of the month of Muharram to celebrate Moses' exodus from Egypt. For Shi'a Muslims, it also marks the climax of the ten-day Remembrance of Muharram, which mourns the martyrdom of Hussein at the Battle of Kerbala in 680 CE.	REL	*September 10th is coded as Religious, any other days associated with this observance are coded Excused/Unexcused
September 29-October 7	NAVARATRI	Hindu Nine-day festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil. It worships God in the form of the universal mother commonly referred to as Durga, Devi or Shakti, and marks the start of fall.	Excused/Unexcused	Observance not generally requiring student absence
September 30-October 1	ROSH HASHANAH	Jewish Beginning of the Jewish New Year and first of the High Holy Days, which marks the beginning of a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.	REL	

October 2019

Date	Observance	Description	Absence Code	Comment
October 9	YOM KIPPUR	Jewish The "Day of Atonement" marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begin with Rosh Hashanah.	REL	
*October 14-20	SUKKOT	Jewish The week-long "Feast of Booths" commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.	Excused/Unexcused	*Actual day of observance falls on a school holiday. If students are absent during the week, absences would be considered excused/unexcused
October 21	SHEMINI ATZERET	Jewish "The Eighth (Day) of Assembly" is observed on the day immediately following Sukkot.	REL	

November 2019

Date	Observance	Description	Absence Code	Comment
November 5	ELECTION DAY	A day set by U.S. law for the election of public officials.	V – working as voting staff O – if voting	
November 12	BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH	Bahá'í Observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1817 of Bahá'u'lláh.	REL	
November 12	GURU NANAK DEV JI'S BIRTHDAY	Sikh A very important holiday in the Sikh faith as Guru Nanak Dev's was the First Guru of the Sikhs and the Founder of Sikhism. the holiday is celebrated according to the lunar date.	REL	
November 15	MAWLID AL-NABI (Also known as MILAD AL-NABI)	Islamic (Shi'a) The observance of the birthday of Islam founder Prophet Muhammad, which is celebrated in Rabi' al-awwal, the third month in the Islamic calendar. Sunni Muslims celebrate it five days earlier than Shi'a Muslims.	REL	

February 2020

Date	Observance	Description	Absence Code	Comment
February 26	ASH WEDNESDAY	Western Christian The first day of Lent for Western Christian churches, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, not counting Sundays.	Excused/Unexcused	Observance not generally requiring student absence

April 2020

Date	Observance	Description	Absence Code	Comment
April 2	RAMA NAVAMI	Hindu Celebrates the birthday of Rama, king of ancient India, hero of the epic Ramayana, and seventh incarnation of Vishnu.	REL	

April 9-16	PASSOVER/PESACH	Jewish The eight-day “Feast of Unleavened Bread” celebrates Israel’s deliverance from Egyptian bondage.	Excused/unexcused	Observance not generally requiring student absence
April 14	VAISAKHI (also spelled Baisakhi)	Sikh The festival that celebrates the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa (community of the initiated). On this day, Sikhs gather and celebrate Vaisakhi at their local Gurdwaras (Sikh house of worship) by remembering this day as the birth of the Khalsa.	REL	
*April 20– May 2	FESTIVAL OF RIDVÁN	Bahá’í Annual festival commemorating the 12 days when Bahá’u’lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá’í Faith, resided in a garden called Ridván (Paradise) and publicly proclaimed his mission as God’s messenger for this age. The first (April 21), ninth (April 29), and twelfth (May 2) days are celebrated as holy days when Baha’is suspend work.	REL April 21 April 29 May 2	* Any other absent days associated with this observance are coded Excused/Unexcused
April 24- May 23	RAMADAN	Islamic Observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting to commemorate the first revelation of the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad.	Excused/Unexcused	Observance not generally requiring student absence

May 2020

Date	Observance	Description	Absence Code	Comment
May 7	VISAKHA PUJA	Buddhist Also known as Vesak or Buddha Day, it marks the birth, spiritual awakening and death (nirvana) of the historical Buddha.	REL	
May 28	ASCENSION OF BAHÁ’U’LLÁH	Bahá’í Observance of the anniversary of the death in exile of Bahá’u’lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá’í Faith.	REL	