

Students

Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, to observe a religious holiday or for religious instruction. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the Building Principal at least 5 calendar days before the student's anticipated absence.

This notice shall satisfy the District's requirement for a written excuse when the student returns to school.

The Superintendent shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for religious holiday(s). The procedures will include **1)** a list of religious holidays on which a student shall be excused from school attendance, **2)** how teachers are notified of a student's impending absence, and **3)** the State law requirement that teachers provide the student with an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

LEGAL REF.: Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/5.
105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2b.

CROSS REF.: 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

Adopted by the Board of Education September 2001
Revised and Adopted: December 2006