

Career Academy of Utah

Attendance and Compulsory Education Policy

Adopted: November 21, 2022

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish Career Academy of Utah's attendance policy per the State of Utah's compulsory education laws, Utah Code § 53G-6-201 through § 53G-6-208, as well as Utah Administrative Code Rule R277-607-4. The law requires a parent, legal guardian, or other person having control or charge of a child of school age, at least six (6) years of age and younger than eighteen (18), to attend school during the entire school year, except under the limited circumstances specified in Utah Code Section § 53G-6-204 or 53G-6-702.

Policy

Definitions

The Board adopts for application in this policy the definitions in the Act at Utah Code § 53G-6-202.

Attendance Responsibilities

Attendance is expected and recorded daily through the Learning Management System (LMS) or Online School (OLS). Schedules may be blocked or flexible; however, attendance in each course is required. Except during regular school vacation periods, extended family travel requires written notification and approval by the CAU's Executive Director or designee. The family must maintain regular communication with the Career Academy of Utah's teachers.

Excused Absences

The school recognizes circumstances as specified in Utah Code Section § 53G-6-204 or 53G-6-702, and others including but not limited to student illness, death in the family, approved college visitations, required court appearance, religious observations, family emergencies, counseling, or administrative appointments may need to be excused. Remember that regardless of the absence reason, students are expected to make up work in the OLS/LMS. Unexcused Absences: An unexcused absence is an absence not recognized by state law or CAU.

Excessive Absences

Excessive absences adversely affect a student's academic performance and relationship with the school. Students who amass excessive absences or have long periods of a lack of engagement will fall under the administrative processes for truancy.

No Internet Access or Power Outage

Students who are unable to log into school or have a power outage must have an alternative plan to go to a public library/public location with computer access to do their schoolwork. If the student does not have a backup plan and cannot go to the library, the student must notify their teacher to excuse the absence.

Notice of Compulsory Education Violation

In alignment with Utah Code 53A-11-101.5, the school's administrator may issue a "Notice of Compulsory Education Violation" to a parent/guardian of a student, who is between six (6) and thirteen (13) years of age, if the student is truant (absent without a valid excuse) at least five (5) times during the school year.

This "Compulsory Education Notice" shall include the following:

- 1) Parent/guardian must meet with a designated school administrator to discuss the student's attendance problem and cooperate to secure regular attendance by the student.
- 2) Parent/guardian is notified it is a Class B misdemeanor to intentionally or recklessly fail to meet with the school administration to discuss the student's attendance problems (or) to fail to prevent the student from being truant an additional five (5) more times during the remainder of the school year.

Notice of Truancy

In alignment with Utah Code 53-A-11-101.7, the school's administrator may issue a "Notice of Truancy" to a student, twelve (12) years of age or older, who has been truant (absent without a valid excuse) five (5) times during the school year.

This "Notice of Truancy" shall include the following:

- 1) Parent/guardian must meet with a designated school administrator and cooperate with the school in securing regular attendance.
- 2) Parent/guardian may provide a written appeal to the school administrator for any absences resulting in the "Notice of Truancy."

Habitual Truant Citation

In alignment with Utah Code 53-A-11-101.7, a designated school administrator may issue a "Habitual Truant Citation" to a student, twelve (12) years of age or older, who has been absent without a valid excuse for ten (10) or more times during one school year. This Citation will be issued after the school has made reasonable efforts to resolving the school attendance problems. The school shall refer the habitual truant student to juvenile court, and the habitual truant is then subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.