

Effective July 1, 2021

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section 22-90 and by changing Sections 26-13 and 27A-5 as follows:

(105 ILCS 5/22-90 new) Sec. 22-90.

Absenteeism and truancy policy. (a) Each school district, charter school, or alternative school or any school receiving public funds shall develop and communicate to its students and their parent or guardian, on an annual basis, an absenteeism and truancy policy, including at least the following elements: (1) A definition of a valid cause for absence in accordance with Section 26-2a of this Code. (2) A description of diagnostic procedures to be used for identifying the causes of unexcused student absenteeism, which shall, at a minimum, include interviews with the student, his or her parent or guardian, and any school officials who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problem. (3) The identification of supportive services to be made available to truant or chronically truant students. These services shall include, but need not be limited to, parent conferences, student counseling, family counseling, and information about existing community services that are available to truant and chronically truant students and relevant to their needs. (4) Incorporation of the provisions relating to chronic absenteeism in accordance with Section 26-18 of this Code.

(b) The absenteeism and truancy policy must be updated every 2 years and filed with the State Board of Education and the regional superintendent of schools.

(105 ILCS 5/26-13) (from Ch. 122, par. 26-13) Sec. 26-13. Absenteeism and truancy policies. School districts shall adopt policies, consistent with rules adopted by the State Board of Education and Section 22-90, which identify the appropriate supportive services and available resources which are provided for truants and chronic truants.