



ONLINE ATTENDANCE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide the definition of “attendance” to provide notice to students and families regarding Nextide Academy’s attendance policy.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

Because of the competency based learning approach, Nextide Academy shall not track student attendance as long as the grading requirements for a course are met. Nextide Academy set no time limit for graduation or even for a completion of an individual course.

III. POLICY TERMS

A. Course Participation. Each student may actively participate in the course activities outlined in the syllabus for each course in which they are enrolled. This could include, but is not limited to, participating in threaded discussions, responding to teacher inquiries, posting papers or engaging in other required learning activities that earn points.

B. Ongoing Communication. Each student may maintain regular and responsive communication with teachers and counselors. This includes responding to email and text messages and/or returning calls from school faculty and staff.

IV. TIME SPENT

Students are encouraged to spend as much time possible to learn a course and Nextide Academy shall not enforce time limitation spent on a course.

V. ABSENCE

Students are initially contacted by the instructor if a student has not logged into the system for more than 14 days. If there's no response, the instructor then contacts the parent and also notifies administration via the Helpdesk. Student Counselor follows up with a probation letter to the parent. After 60 days of consecutive absence, a dismissal letter is sent to the parent and the student will be made inactive.

A. Excused Absences. A student may be excused for:

1. Illness. Because a student in an online educational environment requires no transportation, cannot spread communicable diseases and can access classes from

home, an illness or injury will only be excused if it prevents the student from “regular attendance” as defined in this policy.

2. Release Time for Religious Education. A student may be excused from attendance for “religious instruction”.



3. Extreme Family Emergencies. A student may receive an excused absence if he/she has an immediate family member who is critically ill or injured or is attending a funeral for a close family member, has an immediate family member who is critically ill or injured or has another extreme family emergency such as a house fire, flood, etc.

4. Medical absence. Because online classes are flexible in terms of attendance, a student may only receive an “excused” absence for a medical, dental or orthodontic appointment if the appointment will significantly interfere with the student’s ability to participate in online classes (i.e. a full-day observation, recovery from surgery, physical therapy, intensive psychiatric counseling, etc.).

5. Active Duty in Any Military Branch of the United States. A student may be excused from attendance if he or she is on active duty in any military branch of the United States.

6. Ongoing Treatment for a Mental Health Diagnosis. A student may be excused from attendance if he or she is receiving ongoing treatment for a mental health diagnosis provided that such treatment interferes with their ability to access and participate in online courses.

B. Dropping Students. A student who fails to adhere to Nextide Attendance policy he/she may be withdrawn from course.