

Date Approved
April 2, 2019

VIRTUS ACADEMY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for student attendance.

State law requires all children between the ages of five and 17 to attend regularly a public or private school or kindergarten approved by the state Board of Education or the South Carolina Independent Schools Association, or to be approved by the district for home schooling. A parent/legal guardian whose child is not six years old on or before September 1st of the school year may elect for the child to not attend kindergarten.

Children are expected to attend school regularly. Regular attendance is necessary if students are to make the desired and expected academic and social progress.

Attendance is the presence of a student on days when school is in session. Schools may count students present only when they are actually at school, on homebound instruction, in a home-based program, ISS, or are present at a school activity that is authorized by the school. This may include field trips and similar curriculum-related activities.

The school year consists of 180 school days. For elementary and middle school, a student must attend a minimum of 170 of the 180 school days. In order to receive one Carnegie unit of credit for high school, a student must be in attendance at least 120 hours per unit, regardless of the number of days missed.

All absences accrued by the student in a given school year should be accounted for by the parent/legal guardian/student according to the process outlined in policy **Student Absences and Excuses**.