



STUDENT ATTENDANCE MATTERS

THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 6-8 MILLION STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES WHO ARE CHRONICALLY ABSENT FROM SCHOOL.

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM MEANS MISSING 10% OF THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR ANY REASON, EXCUSED OR UNEXCUSED. THIS TRANSLATES TO 2 DAYS EACH MONTH, TOTALING 18 DAYS OF A 180 DAY SCHOOL YEAR.

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM HURTS STUDENTS IN A VARIETY OF WAYS AS THEY PROGRESS THROUGH THEIR SCHOOL CAREER, STARTING WITH KINDERGARTEN.



Kindergarten & first-grade students who are chronically absent have an **81% chance** of **reading below grade level** in third grade.



Chronic absenteeism puts **adolescents at risk** for **unhealthy behaviors** and **mental health concerns**.



By **ninth grade**, chronic absence becomes a **better predictor** of a student dropping out **than any eighth grade test score**.



When students **improve their attendance rates**, they improve their **academic prospects** and **chances for graduating**.



Students with **frequent absences** have **difficulty establishing** and **maintaining positive peer relationships**.



Chronic absenteeism **starting as early as kindergarten** has been related to **poor academic achievement** particularly for **reading** and **social skills**.

By **sixth grade**, chronic absence becomes a **leading indicator** that a student will **drop out** of high school.

