

Tuscola Intermediate School District
2023 - 2024 Truancy Services
Referral Guidelines

Working in collaboration with the Tuscola County Family Court and the Tuscola County Prosecutor's Office the following truancy guidelines are being implemented for the 2023-2024 school year.

Pursuant to the Michigan Compulsory School Attendance Law, MCL 380.1561, the child's parent, guardian, or other person in this state having control and charge of the child shall send the child to a public school during the entire school year from the age of 6 to the child's eighteenth birthday.

The following should be considered guidelines for local districts in making truancy referrals to the Tuscola ISD Truancy Services Program:

- ❖ A truancy referral may be made once a student accumulates nine undocumented full day absences per semester or six undocumented full day absences per trimester.
- ❖ **Virtual Learners:** Truancy referral may be made only if virtual learners fail to log on and are not completing any coursework.
- ❖ The local school district administration must prove they have attempted to meet with the parent and student regarding the attendance issue.
- ❖ Referrals may be accepted or rejected at the discretion of the Tuscola ISD Truancy Services Coordinator.
- ❖ For elementary students, if the problem cannot be corrected after working with TISD Truancy Services, a petition may be filed and parents may be prosecuted. Parents may incur fines and court costs, jail time and/or probation.
- ❖ For middle school and high school students, if the problem cannot be corrected after working with TISD Truancy Services, a petition may be filed with the prosecutor's office. Parents may incur fines and court costs. Students may incur a juvenile record and intensive probation services.

Consistent Attendance = Positive Academic Performance