

To: School Administrators and Office Attendance Staff

From: Doug Taylor, Attendance Coordinator

Subject: The REL Attendance Code

As you may be aware AB 264 was passed during the 2023 Legislative Session. This bill establishes several new expectations outlined below:

- Students cannot be deprived of awards based on perfect attendance if the lack of perfect attendance is due to approved absences because of the observance of a religious holiday.
- Days on which a student is not in attendance due to the observance of a religious holiday must be credited towards the required days of attendance.
- Parents/guardians should notify schools 3 days before an absence in the case of an absence due to the observance of a religious holiday.
- A maximum of 5 of these absences may be approved in a school year.

In order to comply with these new requirements absences coded with the REL code will be set as exempt absences. Due to the limitation of 5 absences per school year it will be necessary to code no more than 5 full school day absences as REL for a given student during this school year. If parents/guardians request more than 5 full day REL absences during the year, all absences in excess of 5 will be coded as DOM.

If you need additional support or have questions about attendance coding, please contact Doug Taylor (dtaylor@washoeschools.net.) Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.