



**MOBILE COUNTY**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

# Helping Families Initiative

Connecting families to resources in an effort to strengthen families, improve student behavior and academic engagement before families encounter the juvenile justice system.



Keith M. Blackwood  
Mobile County District Attorney  
13th Judicial Circuit

## Know the Limits

- ↳ 10 unexcused = Truancy / Educational Neglect Petition
- ↳ 7 unexcused = Final Warning
- ↳ 5 unexcused = District Attorney's Office Intervenes / Early Warning Truancy Session
- ↳ Suspensions are unexcused absences
- ↳ Excessive tardies count as absences
- ↳ Parents must present a Physician's Statement of Chronic Illness each semester. A parent note for each absence is still required.

## Parent Notes

A written excuse from the parent/guardian explaining the absence OR a doctor's note stating the reason for the absence must be provided to the school within three (3) days of the student's return to school to be counted as an excused absence.

The written statement must include:

1. date(s) of absence
2. reason for absence
3. parent signature

Absences may be excused for the following reasons:

- ↳ Personal illness of the student
- ↳ Death in the immediate family
- ↳ Prior permission from the Principal (upon request)
- ↳ Inclement weather (as determined by the Principal)
- ↳ Legal quarantine
- ↳ Emergency Conditions (as determined by the Principal)

## What You Can Do

- ↳ Set a regular bedtime
- ↳ Lay out clothes and pack book bags the night before
- ↳ Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up
- ↳ Avoid medical appointments or extended trips when school is in session
- ↳ Talk to your child about the importance of going to school everyday

CONTACT HFI

 **251-574-3306**



[hfi@mobileda.org](mailto:hfi@mobileda.org)



[www.mobileda.org](http://www.mobileda.org)