Here + Healthy

WHAT IS CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM?

Missing 10% of the school year for any reason, including both excused and unexcused absences.

10% of the school year is an average of about two days per month, but it adds up to almost a full month of school missed.

HEALTH + CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

Health issues are a leading cause of chronic absenteeism.

Health-related conditions resulting in missed school include:

- Asthma
- Diabetes
- Influenza
- Obesity issues
- Parental health issues
- Seizure disorders
- Oral health
- Vision problems
- Mental health
- Anxiety
- Trauma

PROVEN SOLUTIONS

What can schools and districts do to address the health-related causes of absenteeism?

- Create a supportive school climate that promotes health and wellbeing
- Implement an early warning system to identify students at greatest risk
- Improve the indoor and outdoor environment of the school to reduce asthma triggers
- Ensure that students have chronic disease management plans
- Utilize staffing structures to support students with a range of needs
- Partner with community entities to create wrap-around models of care

AWARENESS LEADS TO ACTION

This year, for the first time, all states are required to include chronic absenteeism rates in their school report cards. This can encourage schools and districts to:

- Track reasons for absences and identify the underlying health causes
- Use ESSA funds to deliver evidence-based programs
- Ensure school staff receive professional development
- Collaborate with community partners

Here + Healthy is raising awareness about the connection between health, attendance and learning. Learn more, find resources and sign on to the campaign! Visit hereandhealthy.org.