



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DR. TERRY BERGESON OLD CAPITOL BUILDING • PO BOX 47200 • OLYMPIA WA 98504-7200 • <http://www.k12.wa.us>

February 7, 2003

(X) Action Required
Date Due: 8-15-03
() Informational

BULLETIN NO. 13-03 LEARNING AND TEACHING SUPPORT

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
Chief School District Administrators

FROM: Dr. Terry Bergeson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Reporting Unexcused Absences as Required by RCW 28A.225.151

Attached to this bulletin are:

- Form SPI 1302A/B BLDG (Rev. 12/02) which is to be used by individual schools within districts for reporting unexcused absences to their district office.
- Form SPI 1302A/B DIST (Rev. 12/02) which is to be used by school districts in their summary report to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).
- A copy of RCW 28A.225.

The 2002–03 school year is the eighth-year implementation of the Becca Bill requiring reporting of absences and information on petitions, special programs, or schools to reduce truancy. **Reporting of excused absences is no longer required.** School buildings must send their building report to their district by June 30 of each year. Districts are then required to compile the building reports and send that summary report to OSPI by August 15 of each year. **Districts that do not file this form are subject to recovery of 25 percent of their learning improvement allocation and local program enhancement allocator.**

NOTE: Truancy forms are **no longer being sent directly to school buildings**, and are being sent to school districts for distribution. Please ensure that appropriate individuals and buildings are provided with these forms. Copies of the forms are also available on the OSPI Web site at <http://www.k12.wa.us/learnteachsupp/Truancy/>.

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Note: School districts **no longer** file separate reports (Forms SPI 1302C or 1302D) to receive state reimbursement for truancy petitions. Reimbursement for filing of petitions has been eliminated, as funding for these programs is currently addressed in the flexible education program fund. Guidance for the use of these funds is addressed in the ABRF and Accounting manual under revenue account 4175 or expenditure program 75.

As required by law, ten school districts are being notified by OSPI that they have been selected to reply more fully on actions taken to implement this law. The ten school districts selected for the 2002–03 school year are Aberdeen, Bremerton, Davenport, Ellensburg, Garfield, Kelso, Kent, Kiona-Benton, Washougal, and West Valley (Yakima). All other schools in the state are to report using Form SPI 1302A/B BLDG and Form SPI 1302A/B DIST.

Under RCW 28A.225.020, all districts must keep information in the students' record on actions taken to reduce truancy. Otherwise, OSPI must require the district to file a full report. A copy of chapter 28A.225 RCW is attached.

For more information, please contact Craig D. Apperson, Program Supervisor, Learning and Teaching Support at 360-725-6051. The agency TTY number is 360-664-3631. This bulletin is available on the agency Web site at the following URL: <http://www.k12.wa.us/bulletinsmemos/>. Bulletin attachments are available in hard copy format or on our Web site at <http://www.k12.wa.us/learnteachsupp/Truancy/>.

STUDENT SUPPORT AND OPERATIONS

Marcia L. Riggers
Assistant Superintendent

Martin T. Mueller, Director
Learning and Teaching Support

Craig D. Apperson, Program Supervisor
Learning and Teaching Support

TB:CA:adm

Attachments