

#### **D. Lawful Absences:**

The superintendent, principal, or teacher who is in charge of a school has the right to excuse a student temporarily from attendance on account of sickness or other unavoidable cause. (Below are the valid/lawful excuses for temporary nonattendance of a student at school.)

1. **Illness or Injury:** When the absence results from illness or injury which prevents the student from being physically able to attend school.
2. **Quarantine:** When isolation of the student is ordered by the local health officer or by the State Board of Health.
3. **Death in the Immediate Family :** When the absence results from the death of a member of the immediate family of the student. For the purpose of this regulation, the immediate family of a student includes, but is not necessarily limited to, grandparents, parents, brothers, and sisters.
4. **Medical or Dental Appointments :** When the absence results from a medical or dental appointment of a student.
5. **Court or Administrative Proceedings :** When the absence results from the attendance of a student at the proceedings of a court or an administrative tribunal if the student is a party to the action or under subpoena as a witness. The Local Board of Education can be considered an administrative tribunal.
6. **Religious Observance:** When the student is absent due to a religious observance in accordance with local school board policy.
7. **Educational Opportunity:** When it is demonstrated that the purpose of the absence is to take advantage of a valid education opportunity, such as travel. Approval for such an absence must be granted prior to the absence. This would include, but is not limited to, a student serving as a legislative page or a governor's page.
8. **Local School Board Policy.** LEAs may excuse temporary or occasional absences for other reasons in accordance with local school board policies, provided that the student has been in attendance for at least one-half of a schoolday during the current school year.
9. **Absence related to deployment activities:** - A student whose parent or legal guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting for the purpose of visiting said parent or legal guardian. ( G.S. 115c-407.5 Article V (E) )
10. **Child Care** - A student who is also a parent that is absent due to taking care of their child. *added after December 2010 Upgrade*