

GILMER COUNTY SCHOOLS
POLICY MANUAL

POLICY #6141.01

TITLE: INDIVIDUAL EXCEPTION TO FOUR YEAR ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTState Board of Education Ref: 2444.01, 2510, West Virginia Code
§2.0-A-46141.01 GENERAL POLICY: Attendance

Attendance for all four years during grades 9-12 is important to attain full benefit from the educational programs offered in the schools of West Virginia. Therefore, all students shall be scheduled for the full instructional day for all four years.

Exceptions may be made by County Boards of Education to accomodate placement into:

- College courses,
- Advanced vocational programs, or for other
- Compelling circumstances.

The Gilmer County Board of Education shall make the following exceptions available to its students:

6141.02 Exceptions for Educational Reasons

A student may be excused to:

- Enroll in college courses, which are the equivalent of or in excess of high school courses, (refer to Board Policy 6141.01 which defines instructional day restraints.)
- Travel abroad as an exchange student in another country, or
- Extend their educational program as prescribed in the I.E.P.

6141.03 Exceptions for compelling circumstancesFamily Responsibilities:

- A student who is married and/or a parent who must work to support a family or who because of a disability to their parents, must be available to assist with home/financial obligations.

Health

- A student who needs to modify their education program upon the recommendation of the attending physician.

Other

- The Board may consider a compelling circumstance not listed herein if the circumstance can be adequately documented to qualify for an exemption.

6141.04 Conditions that do not require exceptions

- Students who participated in a supervised work study program as a part of their instructional program.
- Students who have already attended four years in grades 9 through 12 and need only to be scheduled for those classes to meet graduation/warranty requests.
- Students whose individual needs are addressed in their I.E.P.

6141.04 Procedural Guidelines

The Gilmer County Board of Education promulgates the following regulations as a guideline for parents and students who are seeking an exception to the attendance requirement.

- Exemptions for Educational Reasons:
 1. The guidance counselor must recommend a student for an educational experience based on available documentation of:
 - ACT, SAT, and CTBS test scores,
 - GPA grades 7 through 10, and
 - records of advanced placement/honors classes completed.
 2. The principal must recommend a student for an educational exemption.
 3. Students will be required to show evidence that they are enrolled in a college or post secondary vocational school.
 4. Student will be required to provide a copy of their grades to the high school counselor upon completion of each semester of college courses.
- Exemptions for compelling circumstances
 1. Students who request an exception for compelling circumstances must present documentation to verify the uniqueness of their individual case. Illustrative examples would be:
 - I.R.S. Returns
 - Social Security Records
 - Fiscal Records
 - Medical Records
 - Etc.

2. All requests for exceptions shall be investigated and documented by the Guidance Counselor and Building Principal.
3. The Building Principal's recommendation is required . . . in writing,

° Time Restraints for Requests

All requests for exception to the attendance requirements shall be processed and placed before the Gilmer County Board of Education on or before the fifth day of the semester/year for which the exception is requested.