



What can I do as a student?

- Attend all of your classes
- Talk to your teacher
- Talk to your parents
- Talk with your counselor
- Get involved in school activities
- **Don't wait until it's too late!**

What is Truancy?

Benton Franklin Juvenile Justice Center
5606 W. Canal Drive, Suite 106
Kennewick, WA 99336

Phone: 509-783-2151
Fax: 509-736-2728

What is Truancy?



Benton Franklin Counties
Juvenile Justice Center

509-783-2151



The Law

Washington State Law requires that children between the ages of 8 and 18 attend school regularly (if the child is between the ages of 6-8 and enrolled in school, the law applies).

You are in violation of Washington State Truancy Law if one or more of the following is true:

- If a student has five (5) or more unexcused absences in one month; or
- If a student has ten (10) or more unexcused absences in one year.

What happens if my child misses school?

A truancy petition can be filed.

A parent must be able to show that they have done all they can to help their child attend school.

If a Truancy Petition is entered against a parent and the student continues to miss school then the court may find the parent in contempt.

1. A Parent may be fined \$25.00 per each unexcused day from school
2. Community service hours may be ordered.

If a parent fails to pay the fine

- Debt goes to collection agency
- Possible judgement against property
- May affect ability to receive state assistance.

If a truancy petition is filed against a student and the student continues to miss school then the court may find the student in contempt and order:

1. Community service hours
2. Work crew
3. Detention

What can I do as a Parent?

- Talk to your student
- Communicate with your student's teacher/s
- Develop a relationship with your student's counselor
- Stay in contact with the attendance office at your student's school
- Make sure the school has correct information to contact you if needed
- Get involved!



What is Truancy?

Benton Franklin Juvenile Justice Center
5606 W. Canal Drive, Suite 106
Kennewick, WA 99336

Phone: 509-783-2151
Fax: 509-736-2728

Attendance + Academic Achievement = Graduation