



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**Dr. Jennifer McCormick**  
Superintendent of Public Instruction

*Working Together for Student Success*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Superintendents and Principals  
**FROM:** Robin LeClaire, Director of School Improvement  
Lisa Truitt, State Attendance Officer  
**DATE:** May 29, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** State Fair Absences (IC 20-33-2-17.7)

This memorandum is to provide information regarding I.C 20-33-2-17.7 that allows the governing body of a school corporation or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school to authorize and excuse the absence of a student if the student or a member of the student's household exhibits or participates in the Indiana State Fair for educational purposes.

Under this statute:

- The parent must make the request in writing and the request must be approved in writing by the school principal
- The number of excused absences may not exceed five (5) instructional days in a school year.
- The student excused from school attendance under this section may not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative and may not be penalized by the school in any manner (the student would be counted in attendance).
- The student must be in good academic standing as determined by the school corporation.

Please contact Robin LeClaire at 317/232-0524, [rleclaire@doe.in.gov](mailto:rleclaire@doe.in.gov) or Lisa Truitt, State Attendance Officer, 317-233-6016, [ltruitt1@doe.in.gov](mailto:ltruitt1@doe.in.gov) if you need additional information.