The Truancy Center accepts public and charter school students ages six to fifteen years old.

**Definition of Habitual Truancy**

The State of Florida considers a child “truant” if she/he has accumulated 5 or more unexcused absences in a calendar month and/or 10 unexcused absences in a 90-day period. Florida law states that a school district may choose to file a truancy petition against a parent/guardian or may recommend filing a “Child-in-Need of Services” referral for family support and or counseling.

**Community Resources**

Gracepoint, Inc. 813-744-8880  
Northside Mental Health 813-977-8700  
Hispanic Services Council 813-936-7700  
Children’s Stabilization Unit 813-272-2882  
Florida Kid Care 1-888-540-5437  
Child/ Family in Need of Services 813-264-3807  
Success for Kids and Families 813-490-5490  
Parent Helpline 211  
ACTS Detox 813-933-4446  
13th Judicial Circuit Court 813-272-5894  
Supervisor of Attendance 813-273-7345

**What can I do if my child won’t go to school?**

Parents can call the Truancy Intake Center.

8620 N. Dixon Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33604  
(813) 975-2018 or (813) 975-2019

**Hillsborough County Public Schools**

Division of Student Services  
Department of Student Support Services  
1202 East Palm Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33605
What is truancy?

Anytime a student is absent and it is unexcused he or she is truant.

What can I do if my child won’t go to school?

- Contact your child’s school—Student Affairs Office.
- Contact your child’s School Social Worker.
- Contact the Truancy Intake Center.

What will happen when I call the Truancy Intake Center?

- Truancy Center staff will listen to your concerns and help you problem-solve getting your child to school.
- A Truancy School Social Worker is available for your support.
- At your request, law enforcement can respond to your home to transport your child to the Truancy Intake Center.

What happens at the Truancy Intake Center?

- The student is counseled about the consequences of truancy.
- The Truancy School Social Worker will help the student identify barriers and provide resources and strategies to improve attendance.
- Lunch will be provided.

What happens next?

- The parent must pick up the child no later than 3 pm.
- The parent will meet with the Truancy School Social Worker to discuss available resources and next steps.
- The parent will contact a school administrator to address the student returning to school.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What ages does the Truancy Center serve?
A: Ages 6—15

Q: Will there be legal consequences?
A: No, there are no legal consequences for the parent or the student.

Q: Will my child be taken away?
A: No, however respite care may be available.

Q: What if my child still won’t go to school?
A: A parent should contact school personnel to explore more intensive interventions.