



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Excused School Absences

In 2008 Governor Schwarzenegger signed SB 278 (Lowenthal) allowing California YMCA Model United Nations (MUN) to be considered excused absences from school. Since the MUN requires delegates to miss at least two days of school, it is important that you contact your local school and secure their cooperation.

The full text of the section is below and may also be found at <http://leginfo.ca.gov> by searching the education code for section 48205.

48205. (a) Notwithstanding Section 48200, a pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:

- (1) Due to his or her illness.
- (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer.
- (3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic services rendered.
- (4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of his or her immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside California.
- (5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
- (6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.
- (7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion, attendance at religious retreats, attendance at an employment conference, **or attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative** pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.

The decision of whether or not to excused absences and award course credit for Youth & Government is up to each district. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson serves on our Advisory Board. His letter in support of awarding course credit for Y&G is available for download at calymca.org.

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