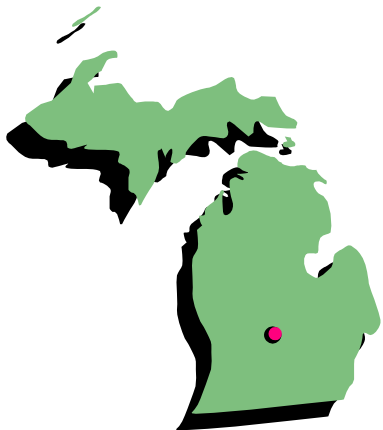


## Michigan Law

Except as otherwise provided in this section, for a child who turned age 11 before December 1, 2009 or who entered grade 6 before 2009, the child shall be sent to a public school during the entire school year from the age of 6 to the child's sixteen birthday. Or, for a child who turns age 11 on or after December 1, 2009 or a child who was age 11 before that date and enters grade 6 in 2009 or later, that child shall attend public school during the entire school year from the age of 6 to the child's eighteenth birthday. MCL 380.1561. Failure to comply with compulsory education can subject a person to criminal prosecution and if convicted, to not less than two days nor more than ninety days in jail or a fine of not more than \$50 or both. Also, an educational neglect petition in family court can be filed. MCL 380.1561, 380.1599, 712A.2.



For More Information  
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TIP is a collaborative effort with many Eaton County community partners: local school districts, Family Court, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Eaton County Sheriff, Community Mental Health, and local businesses

*This program is made possible  
with funding support from  
The Eaton County Juvenile  
Justice Millage and Eaton  
Intermediate School District*



# Truancy Intervention Program

An Eaton County program designed to provide positive support to parents and students while at the same time enforcing Michigan's mandatory school attendance law.

## Truancy Reduction

- Truancy is often a sign of trouble, a critical indicator that a young person is at-risk for educational failure. High-risk behaviors such as substance abuse, violence, criminal and sexual activity are related to truancy.
- Reducing truancy requires highlighting the importance of parental and child responsibility and accountability.
- TIP works with school staff, students, parents, law enforcement, and prevention and treatment service agencies to ensure that long-term solutions are in place for families with truant students.
- Benefits to student and family include enhanced educational success and reduction in negative behaviors such as substance abuse and delinquency.

### Incentives Program

Local businesses donate reward incentives for students whose attendance has improved.



## About the Truancy Intervention Program (TIP)

TIP holds parents accountable, while giving students the education, assessment, and services they need to address the underlying causes of their truancy. Local school districts may refer truant students aged 6-15 to the Eaton Intermediate School District (EISD). In most cases, the referral generates a truancy hearing at Juvenile Court. The Court requires the parent or guardian **and** student to participate in the age appropriate TIP program until the attendance problem is resolved. Failure to do so will result in more formal court involvement.

### Middle School/Early High School TIP:

Truant students aged 11-15 will:

- Meet, along with their parent/guardian, with their school administrator to discuss their plan for increased attendance.
- Have the opportunity to meet with a mental health professional to discuss available resources.
- Meet regularly with an adult mentor in their school.
- Have school attendance monitored for **a minimum of 45 consecutive school days**. If attendance improves significantly, the truancy petition is dismissed and the student's record is cleared. If truancy continues to be problematic, more formal court involvement will follow.
- Face strong sanctions for continued truancy. The Court can place a student on probation, order substance abuse assessment, counseling, and as a last resort, detention. Over 80% of students participating in TIP complete the program successfully and have regular school attendance.
- Have the opportunity to attend a free, seven-week parenting class, *Nurturing Parenting Program*.

The Elementary Truancy Intervention Program (E-TIP) recognizes that it is the parents' responsibility to make sure their young child attends school on a daily basis. By holding the parents accountable when an early pattern of truancy develops, *and* by offering supportive school and social services, the intention is to prevent a chronic pattern of truancy that will follow the student through their school years.

Parents/guardians of truant students aged 6-10 will:

- Meet with an EISD employee for home and school visits to develop a plan to successfully increase school attendance.
- Have the opportunity to attend a free, six-week parenting class, *Parent Nurturing Program*.
- Receive other social services for additional support. If truancy continues to be a problem, further court action will follow.