



# WILMINGTON

## CITY SCHOOLS

### Religious Expression Absence Notification

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3320.04, students are given up to three religious expression days per school year provided that the parent or guardian provides written notice to the school or district of the selected days within 14 school days of the start of school (or within 14 days of a newly enrolled student's first day in the school or district). These three religious expression days do not count toward parental notification requirements under ORC 3321.191 (C)(1) for excessive absences.

**To request absences for religious expression, please follow the guidelines below:**

- Submit 1 form for each child to their building Principal.
- Limit of three (3) school days during one (1) school year per student.
- Submit your request within fourteen (14) days of the start of the school year, or within fourteen (14) days of enrollment during the school year.
- Details and a non-exhaustive list of major religious holidays are available for reference on the district's website at [wilmingtoncityschools.com/attendance](http://wilmingtoncityschools.com/attendance). The list is non-exhaustive and may not be used to deny accommodations to a student for a holiday, festival, or observation that is not included in the list.

Student Name (first and last): \_\_\_\_\_ Bldg: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Date 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Religious reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Date 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Religious reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Date 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Religious reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### OFFICE USE

Student Status: ☐ currently enrolled when school started or enter enrollment date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Notice Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Request received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Signature

Date

5/28/2025js

WILMINGTON CITY SCHOOLS

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# Religious Expression in Ohio Schools

Pursuant to [Ohio Revised Code 3320.04](#), which becomes effective on Oct. 24, 2024, the Department of Education and Workforce compiled this non-exhaustive list of major religious holidays for the next two school years which schools and districts may use and add to when creating their policy for excusing students for religious expression.

Schools and districts must adopt a policy that reasonably accommodates a student's sincerely held religious beliefs and practices for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system. Students are given up to three religious expression days per school year provided that the parent or guardian provides written notice to the school or district of the selected days within 14 school days of the start of school (or within 14 days of a newly enrolled student's first day in the school or district). The policy must allow students to participate in interscholastic athletics or other extracurricular activities on a religious expression day.

Schools and districts must post and communicate the policy to families and students. Each school or district must collaborate with the student and family on accommodations needed when there is a conflict between a religious expression day and a school assessment or academic requirement. No inclusion or exclusion of a religious holiday or festival on this list shall preclude a student from full and reasonable accommodations for any sincerely held religious beliefs and practices for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system.

These three religious expression days do not count toward parental notification requirements under [ORC 3321.191 \(C\)\(1\)](#) for excessive absences.

## Non-exhaustive List of Major Religious Holidays

Rosh Hashanah	Sept. 22-24, 2025
Yom Kippur	Oct. 1-2, 2025
Diwali	Oct. 20-21, 2025
Hanukkah	Dec. 21-29, 2025 (no school)
Ramadan	Feb. 17 - March 18, 2026
Ash Wednesday	Feb. 18, 2026
Eid al-Fitr	March 19-20, 2026
Pesach (Passover)	April 1-9, 2026
Good Friday	April 3, 2026 (no school)
Easter	April 5, 2026 (Sunday - no school)
Eid al-Adha	May 26-27, 2026 (no school - spring break)