

# Exemptions from compulsory schooling and compulsory participation

## Circumstances where an exemption may be granted

An exemption may be appropriate in the following circumstances:

- diagnosis of terminal medical condition
- illness or hospitalisation (including recovery period at home) for a period greater than 10 consecutive school days
- 'carer' responsibilities
- diagnosed mental health condition
- temporary interstate or overseas relocation where the family intends to return to Queensland.

## Circumstances where an exemption may not be granted

Exemptions may not be granted where the absence is recognised as a [reasonable excuse](#) in accordance with the [Roll marking in state schools](#) procedure. For example:

- illness or hospitalisation for a period of less than 10 consecutive school days
- cultural or religious reasons including Sorry Business, or participation in religious observance events
- attendance at funerals.

In such circumstances, the student is to be marked as absent from school using the appropriate absence reason code.

An exemption may also not be appropriate, and should not be granted, for the following circumstances:

- difficulty with school curriculum
- reluctance to attend school
- response to incidents at school such as bullying
- employment (for compulsory school-aged child) or desire to seek employment
- desire to become an apprentice or trainee but without an established training contract with an employer or Registered Training Organisation.

## Circumstances where an exemption is not required

An exemption is not required where the child or young person is:

- undertaking activities under Commonwealth law
- provisionally registered, or registered, for home education
- suspended from school
- excluded from all state schools
- excluded from a state school or certain state schools, during the time reasonably required to enrol the student in another state school (which is not affected by the exclusion) or non-state school, or to provisionally register or register for home education
- prevented from attending because they are subject to a direction given, or declaration, order or requirement made, under an Act or other law about an infectious or contagious disease or condition
- waiting for a decision on an enrolment application that is pending at a school
- an apprentice or trainee under the [Further Education and Training Act 2014 \(Qld\)](#)
- engaged in paid employment (25 hours per week or more) (*for young people in the compulsory participation phase only*)
- enrolled in and attending a non-departmental employment skills program (*for young people in the compulsory participation phase only*)
- in a youth detention centre or attending a hospital school.