

**ATTEND** TODAY • **ACHIEVE** TOMORROW



## School Attendance Resources For Parents



updated: 11/22/2024

# Chronic Absenteeism Overview

School attendance is essential to academic success, but too often students, parents and schools do not realize how quickly absences — excused or unexcused — can add up to academic trouble. Chronic absence is defined as missing 10 percent of the school year, or just 2-3 days every month.

## Did You Know?

- Missing just 2-3 days every month can translate into third-graders unable to read at grade level, sixth-graders failing courses, and ninth-graders dropping out of high school.
- Being chronically late to school often leads to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect other students if a teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.
- Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school — and themselves.
- Good attendance established in early grades will help children do well in high school, college and at work.
- By junior high and high school, chronic absence is the leading warning sign that a student will drop out of school.
- High school graduates make, on average, a million dollars more than a dropout over a lifetime.

## California Law

California State Law requires that a student attend school: EVERY DAY - ALL DAY. 48200 from the Education Code of the State of California states the following: *Each person between the ages of 6 and 18 years is subject to compulsory full-time education . . . and shall attend the public full-time school or continuation school for the full school day.*

## What Can I Do?

**Getting your child to school on time, every day, unless he or she is sick, is something that you can do to ensure your child has a chance to succeed in school. While others can help, you are the bottom line. You can promote good attendance when you:**

Establish and stick to the basic routines (i.e., setting a bedtime and sticking to it, laying out clothes and packing a backpack the night before, waking up on time, etc.) that will help your child develop the habit of on-time attendance.

Talk to your child about why going to school every day is critical and important unless he or she is sick. If your child seems reluctant to go to school, find out why and work with the teacher, administrator or after school provider to get them excited about going to school.

Come up with back up plans for who to turn to (another family member, a neighbor or fellow parents) to help you get your child to school if something comes up (e.g. another child gets sick, your car breaks down, etc.).

If your child is absent, work with the teacher to make sure she or he has an opportunity to learn and make up for the academics missed.

Reach out for help if you are experiencing tough times (i.e., transportation, unstable housing, loss of a job, health problems) that make it difficult to get your child to school. Other parents, your child's teacher, principal, social worker, school nurse, after school providers or community agencies can help you problem solve or connect you to a needed resource.



# Community Resources

Often there are extenuating circumstances that make it difficult for parents to ensure their children are in school all day, every day. The following pages contain some community resources that may be helpful if you find your family needing extra support.

## Kern County Help Line

**Community Action Partnership of Kern** — Dial 2-1-1 to be connected to comprehensive information and referral services that link Kern County residents to community health and human services and support. Available 24/7

**Findhelp** – [www.findhelp.org](http://www.findhelp.org) search database for local organizations in your Zip code.

## Mentoring Programs

**Garden Pathways**— Comprehensive mentoring services, life skills, vocational training, tattoo removal, West Tech Program Certification for Oil industry jobs, DV and anger management court appointed courses, must have a referral from an agency / 661-633-9133 / 1616 29th St. Bakersfield, CA

**Kern Community Mentor AmeriCorps** — Middle school/ high school mentoring services, grades 3-12 school based mentoring / 661-852-5674 / <https://kernmentoringamericorps.org/>

**StayFocused/Reach 4 Greatness** — Mentoring services, after school program, school assemblies, community outreach, food pantry, hygiene, and cleaning supplies / 661-322-4673

**Youth for Christ/Campus Life** — Engages youth in life skills, teen parenting, mentoring, service-learning, and camps for kids in grades 6-12 / 661-323-9041, [www.yfckern.org](http://www.yfckern.org)

## Counseling Programs

**Action Family Counseling** — Substance abuse treatment / 661-249-0218 (24 Hr. Hotline 800-367-8336), [intake@actionfamily.org](mailto:intake@actionfamily.org)

**Al-Anon Groups for Teens** — Counseling programs for victims of substance abuse / 661-330-1964 / 664-340-1165 / [www.kernal-anon.org](http://www.kernal-anon.org)

**Aspiranet** — Wrap around services: Services for parents who are at risk of or who have already had their children removed by the Child Welfare System and AB12 program for transitional youth. Must have a referral from a county social worker. 661-323-1233 or 661-859-2135

**Behavioral Health & Recovery Services** — Crisis Hotline (800) 991-5272 / Suicide Hotline 988 / Substance Use Division Access line 1-(866) 266-4898 / Non-Crisis Adult Care 661-868-8080

**Clinica Sierra Vista Behavioral Health** — Individual, family, and group counseling, case

management, psychiatric evaluations and medication support/ 661-397-8775  
**Cognitive Center, United Way of Kern County** – Individual therapy, therapeutic exercises, group therapy, education/ 661-282-9027/ [info@pheccinc.com](mailto:info@pheccinc.com)/ 5300 California Ave Suite 220 Bakersfield, CA 93309

**CSUB Counselor Training Clinic** — Low cost counseling services / 661-654-3402

**East Bakersfield Community Health** — Counseling services, case management, WIC / 661-862-5422

**Henrietta Weill Child Guidance Center** — Early intervention programs, individual, family & group therapy, parenting classes/ 661-322-1021 / [www.hwmcgc.org](http://www.hwmcgc.org)

**The Opendoor Network** — Counseling, education, child abuse prevention, domestic violence prevention, substance abuse prevention / 661-322-9199 / (24 Hr. Hotline 661-327-1091) other LGBTQ 661-332-1506 / [info@opendoorhelps.org](mailto:info@opendoorhelps.org)

## **Parenting Education**

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**Edison School District Community Services Center** – parenting classes, community referrals, district closet, district pantry, health support, transportation assistance / M-F 8:00am- 3:30pm / 661-366-1263

**Family & Community Engagement (F.A.C.E.)** — Provides Parent University services to any parent of a BCSD student throughout the school year / 661-631-4766 / [www.bcsd.com/Page/327](http://www.bcsd.com/Page/327)

**First 5 Kern** – Court mandated parenting classes available at Family Resource Centers throughout the county/ 661-328-8888 / [www.first5kern.org](http://www.first5kern.org)

**Friendship House Community Center** — Provides educational and recreational services, after school and summer programs, medical services, food distribution, job training and an outreach center / 661-369-8922

**Henrietta Weill Memorial Child Guidance Clinic** — Early intervention programs, individual, family & group therapy, parenting classes / 661-322-1021 / [www.hwmcgc.org](http://www.hwmcgc.org)

**KCSOS School-Community Partnerships** – Parent Project and Loving Solutions classes – Virtual parenting classes, court approved / Jeff Hill 661-636-4056, Natalie Echeverria 661-636-4057

**[Parent Resources \(Norris School District\)](#)** – District school resources / 661-387-7000

**[Parent Resource Center \(Greenfield Union School District\)](#)** - District School Resources / 661-837-6000 / [www.gfusd.net](http://www.gfusd.net) (click on “Parent Resources” button)

**[Parent Resources \(Richland School District\)](#)** – District school resources / 661-746-8600

**[Parent Resources \(Rosedale Union School District\)](#)** — District school resources / 661-588-6000 / [www.rosedalecurriculum.com/parent-resources.html](http://www.rosedalecurriculum.com/parent-resources.html) / [www.rosedalecurriculum.com/parent-workshop.html](http://www.rosedalecurriculum.com/parent-workshop.html)

**[Parent Resources \(Sierra Sands Unified School District\)](#)** – District school resources / 760-499-1600 / [www.ssusd.org/for\\_parents](http://www.ssusd.org/for_parents)

**[Resources for Parents & Families \(Kern High School District\)](#)** — District school resources / 661-827-3100 / [www.kernhigh.org/apps/pages/parentresources](http://www.kernhigh.org/apps/pages/parentresources)

## **Pregnancy Services**

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**Adolescent Family Life Program** — Clinica Sierra Vista program offering, case management and parenting skills for expecting teens up to 21, referral needed by CPS / Monica Romero-661-324-0293

**Bakersfield Pregnancy Center** — Free pregnancy tests, free ultrasounds, parenting classes, purchase items, baby shower, car seat safe gift box before they are due, 661-464-7698 / [www.wehelpyou.org](http://www.wehelpyou.org) / email [counselor@wehelpyou.org](mailto:counselor@wehelpyou.org)

**Planned Parenthood** — Reproductive health, birth control, primary care 661-634-1000 / [www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org)

## **Basic Needs Assistance**

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**Catholic Charities** — Assistance with rent, utilities, food, formula, and hygiene/diapers donations / 661-281-2130

**Community Action Partnership of Kern** — Provides emergency food assistance, food drive, giveaways, pantry partnership program / 661-398-4520

**FLOOD Bakersfield Ministries** — Housing assistance, food assistance, case management / 661-323-5663 / 661-578-5346/ [frontdesk@floodbako.com](mailto:frontdesk@floodbako.com)

**Golden Empire Gleaners**— Food baskets and volunteer opportunities, referral or volunteering needed to receive food basket / 661-324-2767

**Home Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)** — Help with electric and gas bills / 661-336-5203

**Hope Center** — Clothing and food, no referral needed / 661-399-2119

**The Mission at Kern County** — Housing assistance and clothing / 661-325-0863

**The Open Door Network** — Shelter for women, single dads, children, and families, food, clothing, hygiene, referrals / 1600 E. Truxtun Ave / 661-322-9199

**Pacific Healthcare Services Inc. (PHSI) Family Resource Center** — essential food and other key resources / 661-633-5304 / 5300 California Ave #200 Bakersfield, CA 93309

**Standard Family Advocate Services & Resources** — 1200 N. Chester Ave. Bakersfield, CA 93308/ JDavid Stricker / 661-392-2110 Ext. 106

**Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** — Nutrition and breastfeeding education, helps families by providing checks for healthy foods and offers referrals for other community services / 661- 862-5422

## **After school Programs**

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**Boys & Girls Club** — Organized sports, homework assistance, health and nutrition, arts and crafts, after school program and day camp / 661-325-3730 / [www.bgckc.org](http://www.bgckc.org)

**Boy Scouts of America** — Mentoring, outdoor activities, leadership, for ages 5-17 /

661-325-9036

**[BPD Explorer Program/ Cadet program](#)** — For youth 14- high school age, interested in a career in law enforcement. / Lead Cadet Mentor Janeth Vega [jvega@bakersfieldpd.us](mailto:jvega@bakersfieldpd.us) / 661-326-3848

**Friendship House** — Homework assistance, tutoring, recreational activities, summer program, mentor program, aggression replacement classes for ages 6-18y / 661-369-8926 / 2424 S Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Bakersfield, CA 93307

**Girl Scouts of America** — Mentoring, training, activities / 661-327-1409 / 1-800-490-8653

**NOR Recreation and Park District** — Organized sports, cheer, dance, martial arts, music lessons, cooking classes / 661-392-2000

**Police Activities League (PAL)** — Athletic program, tutoring, art, college initiative, recreation, social programs, jr police academy summer program. / 661-283-8880 extension 1 / [bakersfieldpal.org](http://bakersfieldpal.org)

**Sea Cadet Corps** — The mission of the Sea Cadets is to build leaders of character, open to young men and women ages 10 through completion of high school. / [www.bakersfieldseacadets.org](http://www.bakersfieldseacadets.org)

**Youth Connection Program** — Economic support for children interested in activities / 661-868-4131

## **Housing Assistance**

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**Building Blocks/Cornerstone: A Housing Programs for Foster Youth** — Transitional housing program for emancipated foster youth ages 18-21y. Applicants may apply with the Dream Center. / 661-829-6999 / Samantha Imhoof-Tran: [samantha@covenantcs.net](mailto:samantha@covenantcs.net)

**Housing Authority of the County of Kern** — Services for low-income residents of Kern County by providing safe, affordable housing and assisting residents towards self-sufficiency and home ownership. / 661-631-8500 / 601 24th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301 / [kernha.org](http://kernha.org)

## **Miscellaneous**

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**Advanced Center for Eyecare** — ACE's mission is to make high-quality eye care available in Kern County by offering an income-based sliding scale program and donation-supported grant program to uninsured patients. / 661-215-1006 / 1721 Westwind Dr Ste. B, Bakersfield, CA 93301/ <https://acecares.org/>

**Adventist Health Children's Immunization Mobile Clinic** — Mobile clinic offers immunizations free of charge to individuals who are uninsured, enrolled in Medi-Cal, or American Indian or Alaskan Native. / 661-869-6740/ [adventisthealth.org](http://adventisthealth.org)

**Children's Choice Dental Care** – Servicing children 6mo- 21yrs old, with a specialization in supporting those with special needs. Accept Medical, Kern Families, and PPO. Provide dental cleanings for students during school hours at school sites. / 661-401-5437 /

610-443-5243

**Community Action Partnership of Kern** — HIV/AIDS education and prevention, financial literacy services, food bank, fatherhood education program, WIC, Headstart. / 661-336-5236

**Community Connection for Childcare** — Provides child care payment assistance to income-eligible families or guardians. / 661-861-5200 / 2000 K Street, Suite 110, Bakersfield, CA 93301/ online application: <https://elistkern.nohosoftware.com/online/Start/Register>

**CSUB-High School Equivalency Program** — HEP is an educational program designed to assist farmworkers and members of their immediate family to complete their high school equivalency. / 661-654-2707

**Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance** — offers free legal services in civil matters to eligible low-income persons residing within Kern County. / 661-325-5943 (Local) / 1-888-292-GBLA (4252) (Toll Free) / 615 California Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93304

**Kern County Children’s Dental Health Network** — Free Dental screening and treatment for children 0-5 years. Available by appointment at 1675 Chester Ave Suite 120 Bakersfield, CA / 661-546-8904 / [www.kccdhn.org](http://www.kccdhn.org)

**Kern County Department of Human Services** — Medi-cal, Child Protective Services, Employment services, Benefits, 661-631-6000

**Kern County Network for Children** — 661-636-4488

**Speech and Grow Therapy Inc.** — Speech and language treatment services. Parent coaching classes to increase awareness of speech and language development. Bilingual / Speech and Language Pathologist, M.S. CCC, Sarai 661-800-1894/ 5102 Lisa Marie Ct Bakersfield, Ca 93313

## Hotlines

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**CA Smokers’ & Chewers’ Helplines** — 800-NO-BUTTS (66-28887)

**Child Abuse / Neglect Hotline** — 661-631-6011

**Crisis Behavioral Health & Recovery Services** — 800-991-5272

**Crisis Text Line** — text “home” 741-741

**Drug and Alcohol Hotline** — 800-662-4357

**Fair Housing Complaint Line** — 661-334- 4679 (Local) / 855-746-7958 (Toll Free)

**LGBT National Youth Talk Line** — 800-246-7743

**National Domestic Violence Hotline** — 800-799-SAFE (800-799-7233)

**National Gay & Lesbian Hotline** — 888-843-4564 (youth/adult)

**National Suicide Hotline** — 988



**National Suicide Prevention Line** — 800-273-TALK (8255)

**Self-Injury Hotline-Alternatives to Cutting** — 800-366-8288

**RAINN Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network** — 800-656-HOPE (4673)

## **Arvin/Lamont Community Resources**

**Arvin Family Resource Center** – Application Assistance, Unemployment and EDD, Legal Referrals, Medi-Cal Applications, Food Bank and Clothing Referrals, Case Management, Child Development Information, Crisis Assistance, School Readiness for Preschool, Nurturing Parent Classes. / 661-854-6526

**Kern County Library Arvin/Lamont** – Activities for kids and adults, computers, books, and warm dinners for kids ages 2-18y. /Arvin: 661-854-5934/ Lamont: 661-845-3471

**Lamont Weedpatch Family Resource Center** – Parenting classes for ages 0-5, court mandated classes, food baskets, support filling out paperwork/applications, translation, housing resources, preschool programs, nutrition classes. / 661-845-2724

**Parent Center (Lamont Elementary School District)** — District school resources / 661-845-0751 / Parent Center Lobby EXT 8237 /

[www.lamontschooldistrict.org/District/Department/12-Parent-Center](http://www.lamontschooldistrict.org/District/Department/12-Parent-Center)

## **Delano/McFarland/Pond Community Resources**

**Child Guidance** — Early intervention programs, individual, family & group therapy, parenting classes. /www.hwmcgc.org /375 Dover Parkway, Suite A, Delano/ 661-725-1042

**Community Connection Center** - Utility assistance, emergency food distribution, and clothing. / 661-721-7036 / 1842 Norwalk, Delano, CA

**Delano Area Regional Transit (DART)** — Fixed route bus service on four routes and demand responsive public transportation service. / cityofdelano.org / 661-721-3333

**DUSD Vision Center** located at **Pioneer Elementary** - Referrals are done through **DUESD** school nurses.

**Family Resource Center Program (McFarland School District)** - District school resources / 661-792-1883 /

[www.mcfarlandusd.com/District/Department/954-Family-Resource-Center-Program](http://www.mcfarlandusd.com/District/Department/954-Family-Resource-Center-Program)

**Kern County Library McFarland/Delano** – Activities for kids and adults, computers, books, and warm dinners for kids ages 2-18y. / McFarland: 661-792-2318 / Delano: 661-725-1078

**McFarland Family Resource Center** – Rental and Utility assistance, food pantry for McFarland residents. / 661-792-1883

## **Frazier Park/Lebec/El Tejon Community Resources**

**Children's Circle- First 5 Kern** – Wednesday's 11am-12pm, Spend meaningful time crafting with

your children while working on their developmental skills. / 3015 Mt. Pinos Way in Frazer Park

**Clinic Sierra Vista** – 661-245-0250

**Kern County Library Frazier Park** – Activities for kids and adults, computers, books. / 661-245-1267

**Mountain Communities Family Resource Center** –Food, hygiene, housing/rental assistance, case management. / 661-245-4303

## **Kern Mountain and Lake Isabella Community Resources**

**America's Job Center** – Full range of assistance to job seekers / 5540 Suite E Lake Isabella Blvd, Lake Isabella CA 93240 / 760-379-2074

**Kern County Library Kern River Valley Branch** – Activities for kids and adults, computers, books, and warm dinners for kids ages 2-18y. / 760-549-2083

## **Ridgecrest Community Resources**

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**College Community Services** — Therapeutic behavioral services, crisis intervention, and psychological evaluations. 661-758-4029

**Crisis Stabilization Unit** — 760-463-2880

**Dept. of Human Services** — 760-499-5200

**Kern County Library Ridgecrest** – Activities for kids and adults, computers, books, and warm dinners for kids ages 2-18y. / 760-384-5870

**Oasis Family Resource Center** – Case management, WIC, Food pantry, dmv vouchers, hygiene, summer bridge program, tax preparation, HEAP Program. / 760-248-3221

**Rural Health Clinic & Dentistry** — 760-499-3855

**The Salvation Army Ridgecrest Corps** – Food distribution every Tuesday & Friday at 12:30 pm/ 151 N. DOWns St Ridgecrest, CA 93555/ 760-375-7219

**Southern Sierra Clinic** — Family practice, pediatrics, dermatology, pain management, plastic surgery, and urology services for Indian Wells Valley families. / 760-446-6404

**Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)** — phone 866-327-3074 / text 888-826-9867

**Women's Center High Desert** —For victims of domestic violence, child abuse, assault. For men, women, and kids. Support with restraining orders and advocates for court appointments. / 760-371-1969

- Domestic Violence - 760-375-7525
- Sexual Assault - 760-375-0745
- National Human Trafficking - 888-373-7888

# **Taft Community Resources**

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**College Community Services** — Therapeutic behavioral services, crisis intervention, and psychological evaluations. / 661-765-7025

**Kern County Library Taft** – Activities for kids and adults, computers, books, and warm dinners for kids ages 2-18. / 661-763-3294

**Taft Recreation Center** – Kern County Aging & Adult services provides seniors in-person assistance every 4th Thursday of the month/ 10am-12:30pm / Samantha Ortega  
661-868-0885

## **Tehachapi/Rosamond/California City/Mojave/Boron Community Resources**

**CapK Food Bank** – Food Distributed every 3rd Wednesday each month / Mojave Elks Lodge  
16200 K Street, Mojave, Ca 93501

**East Kern Family Resource Center** –First 5 Case Management, Play and Learn, Summer Bridge Program, court mandated parenting class, emergency food and clothing, fax and copies, Utility assistance. / 661-824-4118

**Kern County Library Rosamond/Boron/California City/Tehachapi/Mojave**– Activities for kids and adults, computers, books, and warm dinners for kids ages 2-18y. / Rosamond:  
661-256-3236 / Boron:760-762-5606 / California City: 760-373-4757/  
Tehachapi-661-822-4938 / Mojave: 661-824-2243

## **Wasco/Buttonwillow/Shafter/Lost Hills/Semitropic Community Resources**

**Clarvida** — Therapeutic behavioral services, crisis intervention, and psychological evaluations / 661-758-4029 / [www.clarvida.com](http://www.clarvida.com)

**Kern County Library Wasco/Buttonwillow** –Activities for kids and adults, computers, books, and warm dinners for kids ages 2-18y / Wasco: 661-758-2114 / Buttonwillow: 661-764-5337

**Parent Resources (Lost Hills Union School District)** - District school resources / 661-797-2941

- [www.losthills.k12.ca.us/documents/parent-resources/81278](http://www.losthills.k12.ca.us/documents/parent-resources/81278)
- [www.losthills.k12.ca.us/page/parent-resource-center](http://www.losthills.k12.ca.us/page/parent-resource-center)

**Shafter Healthy Start** — Court mandated nurturing classes, free health screens, Medi- Cal enrollment assistance, and nutrition classes / 661-746-8690

**Shafter Recreation & Park District** – Youth, Adult, and Senior Citizen Programs: Sports, after-school activities, fitness, etc/ M-Th 9am-5pm, Friday 9am-3pm/ 661-746-3303/ 700 E. Tulare Ave Shafter, CA 93263

**Sheriffs' Activities League** — Sports geared mentoring programs, football, baseball, skateboarding, and boxing. 661-868-1519

- Deputy Boyles 661-484-9535

**Wasco Recreation and Parks** — After school sports and activities, senior center, art classes for kids, food boxes monthly with phit / 661-758-3081