

New Jersey Department of Education




The List of Religious Holidays Permitting Student Absence from School - Discussion Resolution

Division of Field Support and Services

March 1, 2023





N.J.S.A 18A:36-14 through 16



According to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14 through 16 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3(j), regarding student absence from school because of religious holidays, the Commissioner of Education, with the approval of the State Board of Education, is charged with the responsibility of prescribing such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of the law.



Purpose



- The list of religious holidays requires districts to excuse students for religious observance upon written request of the parent or guardian. The list of religious holidays is established by resolution and is annually adopted by the State Board of Education.
- This year we plan to include additional Sikh holidays to the 2023-24 calendar.





Timeline



Adoption planned for May 3, 2023, after opportunity for public comment.





Thank You!



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Division of Field Support & Services

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