

SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDANCE

School Calendar Requirements for LEAs

Information in this section is meant to provide supplemental guidance to the information in Chapter 7 of the [School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual \(SASA\)](#), School Calendar.

This is not a legal document or official State Board of Education (SBE) policy. Please consult the local board attorney or local board policy manual in addition to this document.

General Requirements

Minimum Instructional Days or Hours: 185 days or 1,025 hours

LEAs, charter schools, cooperative innovative high schools, and regional schools must provide minimum of 185 days or 1,025 hours of instruction covering at least nine calendar months within the fiscal year. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

Start and End Date: Monday closest to August 26 / Friday closest to June 11

Except for year-round schools, the opening date for students shall be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26, and the closing date for students shall be no later than the Friday closest to June 11. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

Overall Calendar Length: 215 days, covering at least 9 calendar months

215 days, covering 9 calendar months. Each local board of education shall adopt a school calendar consisting of 215 days from the first staff day to the last staff day. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

Saturdays

Instructional days or workdays should not be scheduled on Saturdays. A Saturday may be used as a makeup day for an inclement weather day when the school has been closed. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

Sundays

School shall not be held on Sundays. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

Inclement Weather

The school calendar shall include a plan for making up instructional days or hours missed due to inclement weather, and may include the use of remote instruction in accordance with [G.S. 115C-84.3](#).

- A Saturday may be used as a makeup day for an inclement weather day when the school has been closed.
- In order to make up days for school closing because of inclement weather, the local board may designate additional make-up days to be scheduled after the last day of student attendance.

Required Working Days for Teachers

Working Days: 195 days

The total number of working days for teachers employed for a 10 month term shall not exceed 195 days. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

Scheduled Annual Leave: 10 days

A school calendar shall include a minimum of 10 annual vacation leave days for teachers. Annual Leave days should be non-instructional days on the school calendar. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

Holidays: 11 days (for 10-month employees); must include Veteran's Day

The same or an equivalent number of legal holidays occurring within the school calendar as those designated by the [State Human Resources Commission](#) for State employees. (12 days if Independence Day is included in a year-round school calendar). Veterans' Day shall be a holiday for all public school personnel and for all students enrolled in the public schools. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

Remaining Days: (215 days – (# of instructional days [at least 185] + 11 holidays + 10 annual leave days)) Minimum Instructional Days or Hours: 185 days or 1,025 hours

The remaining noninstructional days are scheduled by the local board for use as teacher workdays, additional instructional days, or other lawful purposes. [\(G.S. 115C-84.2\)](#)

- Each school's principal shall work with the school improvement team to determine the days to be scheduled and the purposes for which they should be scheduled before consulting with the local board.
- Local boards shall designate at least two of the remaining days as days on which teachers may take accumulated vacation leave. Teachers shall be given at least 14 calendar days' notice if required to work instead of taking vacation leave, and may choose to waive the notice requirement for one or more of these days.

Summer: 42 consecutive days

The calendar shall include at least 42 consecutive days when teacher attendance is not required unless the school is a year round school or the teacher is employed for a term in excess of 10 months. At the request of the local board of education or of the principal of a school, a teacher may elect to work on one of the 42 days in lieu of another scheduled workday. ([G.S. 115C-84.2](#))

Exemptions

Calendar Waivers due to Inclement Weather: Can Start Monday closest to August 19

LEAs with schools that have been closed eight days per year during any four of the last 10 years because of severe weather conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations are eligible for a waiver. ([G.S. 115C-84.2](#))

[Calendar Waiver application](#)

Exempt PSU Categories

Most PSUs are required to comply with calendar start/end date requirements. School types not required to comply with the calendar law are listed in the [School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual \(SASA\)](#) on page 51.

References

[G.S. 115C-84.2](#)

[G.S. 115C-84.3](#)

[School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual \(SASA\)](#)

[Calendar Waiver application](#)

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