

# Join Washington's 5-year Challenge to Cut Chronic Absence in Half

## What is the National Chronic Absence Challenge?

Washington has joined a [nationwide effort](#)—led by Attendance Works, EdTrust, and AEI to cut chronic absenteeism in half over 5 years. The challenge calls on education leaders to ensure students attend 90% or more of their school days. OSPI is inviting school districts leaders to join the challenge to reduce chronic absence in Washington from 27% to 14% by 2029.



## Benefits of Participation

- **District Recognition:** Your district will be featured on OSPI's website and in OSPI publications.
- **Statewide Community of Practice:** Opportunity to join a community of practice to share strategies and learn from peers.
- **Highlight your Success:** Highlight your successful attendance practices with OSPI to be highlighted across the state.
- **Improved Academics:** [Research shows](#) that better attendance results in better academic outcomes.
- **Improved Student Well-being:** [Research shows](#) that attendance builds belonging through relationships and access to resources and opportunities that support success beyond academics.

## Commitments as a Participant

- **Share Goal & Plan:** OSPI will ask participating districts to share their 5-year attendance goal and their plan for reducing chronic absence.
- **Share Progress, Successes and Challenges:** OSPI will periodically connect with districts to learn about their progress, successes and challenges.

Addressing chronic absenteeism is a shared priority between school districts, OSPI and our partners. **Your leadership makes the difference.**

By filling out this [form](#), District Superintendents (or their designees) can pledge your district's commitment to the 50% Challenge.

## Contact

For more information contact **Vicki Wood** at [attendance@k12.wa.us](mailto:attendance@k12.wa.us).

