



MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership, and the U.S. Department of Education understand the impact quality, evidence-based mentoring can have on attendance and making sure ensuring students make it to school every day. We are [teaming up](#) to reduce chronic absenteeism by calling for caring adults to help young people stay connected to school.

Mentoring & Academic Achievement:

MENTOR's [The Mentoring Effect](#) report shows that mentoring has a significant impact on academic achievement. The report's nationally representative survey of young people ages 18-21 found that those who were at-risk for not graduating high school but who had a mentor were 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college.

- Quality mentoring is proven to increase attendance by reducing the likelihood of students skipping class.
- Students who faced many challenges to graduation, including attendance, but who had a mentor were more likely to aspire to college, participate in sports and activities, and volunteer in their communities.
- Mentors can help foster and encourage a positive academic future by stressing the importance of attendance.
- Creating and maintaining positive connections between adults and youth is a key ingredient in each young person's social, emotional, and academic development.

Studies of formal mentoring programs have shown:

- Students who meet regularly with their mentors are **52% less likely** than their peers to skip a day of school.
- Students who meet regularly with their mentors are **37% less likely** than their peers to skip a class.
- Students at-risk for not graduating were **36% more likely** to aspire to enroll in and graduate from college if they had a mentor.

Youth who had a mentor growing up are **55% more likely** to later be enrolled in college.

How Can I Help Tackle Chronic Absence

We need community partners, schools, teachers, parents, mentors and friends to come together to collectively combat chronic absence. You can follow these five simple steps, with the goal of more youth learning, growing and achieving.

- Check in with your mentee/young person in your life about school attendance on a regular basis.
- Have conversations that help connect school with their future dreams and goals.

- Connect school, home, and mentors/mentoring programs to support young people in attending school regularly.
- Troubleshoot any barriers to getting to school.
- Celebrate regular attendance!

In addition, you support quality mentoring attendance outcomes and broader academic outcomes by:

- Incorporating chronic absence messages and mentoring messages into scheduled events, speaking engagements and programming.
- Sending an e-blast or social media messages about this effort about attendance to your supporters, programs, policymakers, education contacts and even funders.
- Writing an article for your organization’s blog.
- Submitting an op-ed or a letter-to-the-editor to your local newspaper.
- Hosting a special event that focuses on attendance awareness and the importance of going to school every day.

The following are a list of tools and resources to learn more about ways to implement and integrate mentoring to curb chronic absenteeism and give guidance to mentors to help be part of the solution.

Tools & Resources

- [Power of positive connections toolkit](#) – (Attendance Works)
- [Attendance buddy tools](#) (Success Mentors)
- [Principal toolkit](#) (Attendance Works)
- [Teacher toolkit](#) (Attendance Works)
- [Parent handouts](#) (Attendance Works)
- [Creating an internal success mentor corps](#) (NYC.gov)
- [Success mentor corps guide](#) (NYC.gov)
- [Success mentor checklist](#) (NYC.gov)