

Engaging Families and Supporting School Attendance

Absence Assessment Tool – Family (AAT-F)

The Absence Assessment Tool – Family (AAT-F) is designed to help identify various factors or barriers contributing to a child's school absences. It serves as part of a comprehensive assessment designed to assist districts with identifying the underlying reasons for a child's absence patterns. The goal is to gather a holistic view of the factors affecting the child's school attendance. This assessment should be provided to the parents/guardians, and if appropriate, the student, in the language that is most accessible.

Demographic Information (optional)

Name of Student:

Grade Level:

Parent/Guardian Name(s):

Phone Number:

Additional Contact Information:

Attendance Patterns

Instructions: The Absence Assessment Tool – Family (AAT-F) is designed to help identify various factors or barriers contributing to a child's school absences. Please provide parents/guardians with the following questions to better understand factors affecting school attendance.

- Does you feel your child misses school frequently? Yes/No/Unsure
- Are there specific days or times when attendance is more challenging? Yes/No/Unsure
 - If Yes, what are those days or times?

Identification of Potential Barriers to School Attendance

General Barriers	Yes	No	Unsure
1. Is illness a barrier to your child's school attendance?			
2. Does your child have a chronic health condition that affects their ability to attend school regularly?			
3. Do family matters impact your child's ability to attend school regularly?			
4. Are there family responsibilities that interfere with your child's school attendance?			
5. Does your child need to care for a family member, leading to missed school days?			
6. Is transportation a challenge for your child in getting to school?			
7. Is there reliable transportation available for your child to travel to and from school?			

General Barriers (continued)	Yes	No	Unsure
8. Are there issues with public transportation or distance to school affecting attendance?			
9. Are housing issues affecting your child's attendance at school?			
10. Does your family experience unstable housing situations that impact school attendance?			
11. Are there concerns about safety or living conditions that contribute to school absences?			

Aversion to School	Yes	No	Unsure
12. Does your child seem unsure or hesitant about going to school?			
13. Does your child mention feeling overwhelmed by schoolwork or assignments?			
14. Does your child mention feeling anxious or stressed about school attendance?			
15. Is there a fear of bullying or social challenges at school?			
16. Does your child's absences coincide with specific school-related events or activities?			

Disengagement from School	Yes	No	Unsure
17. Does your child seem disengaged or uninterested in school activities?			
18. Are there particular subjects or classes where your child shows disinterest?			
19. Does your child mention feeling disconnected from peers or teachers at school?			
20. Is there a lack of extracurricular activities or interests at school for your child?			
21. Does your child struggle with understanding the relevance of school to their future?			
22. To the best of your knowledge, have any situations with teachers or staff made it harder for your child to feel engaged at school?			

Misconceptions about the Impact of Absences	Yes	No	Unsure
23. Do your family's cultural beliefs or traditions affect how you think about going to school or school attendance?			
24. Do you think missing school affects how much your child learns?			

Additional Information

- Would additional support services help address your child's attendance?
- Do you require assistance overcoming these challenges to improve your child's attendance?
- Please share any additional information or concerns about your child's attendance.

Yes/No

Yes/No