

Inclement Weather Make-up

Weather Make-up Calculator

A weather make-up calculator can be found on the School Finance Calculation Tools webpage under Miscellaneous Tools. <https://dese.mo.gov/financial-admin-services/school-finance/calculation-tools>

Inclement Weather Make-Up Requirements

Districts and charter schools must comply with Section 163.021.1, RSMo, which requires compliance with the minimum term, which is a minimum of 1,044 hours, to be eligible for state aid. Additionally, Section 171.033.2(2), RSMo, provides forgiveness for inclement weather days after a specified number of inclement weather hours have been reached by a school district or charter school. Below is specific information regarding inclement weather forgiveness information and a short FAQ regarding inclement weather.

Inclement Weather Make-up Hours

Some school districts and charter schools may miss hours during the school year due to inclement weather. Per 171.033.3(2), RSMo:

“In school year 2019-20 and subsequent years, a school district may be exempt from the requirement to make up school lost or cancelled due to inclement weather in the school district when the school district has made up the thirty-six hours required under subsection 2 of this section and half the number of additional lost or cancelled hours up to forty-eight, resulting in no more than sixty total make-up hours required by this section.”

“Inclement weather”, for purposes of this section, shall be defined as ice, snow, extreme cold, excessive heat, flooding, or a tornado.

Per 171.033.5, RSMo., starting in 1920-21 an approved alternative method of instruction can be used for any hours of school lost or cancelled due to exceptional or emergency circumstances during a school year which shall include, but not be limited to, inclement weather, a utility outage, or an outbreak of a contagious disease. The alternative method of instruction, provided for in a DESE approved plan, can be used for up to 36 hours during the school year pursuant to 171.033.5, **however, since these are considered hours of instruction they will not count towards weather make-up hours.**

Hours that are missed for reasons other than inclement weather, such as illness, have to be made up and are not included in this provision of law unless provided under an approved alternative method mentioned above (limited to 36 hours).

The Office of Quality Schools and the Office of Special Education have created guidance documents to assist LEAs wishing to utilize this provision during the 2020-21 school year. The guidance documents and AMI Plan application can be found here: <https://dese.mo.gov/quality-schools/alternative-methods-instruction>.

Hours that are forgiven due to inclement weather will not have an adverse impact on the average daily attendance (ADA) calculation. This will create a situation which will have an effect on both components (both the total attendance hours and the hours in session) of the ADA calculation and, therefore, will not have a negative impact on the ADA.

The following charts and scenarios illustrate the make-up requirements associated with this statute.

School district or charter school plans 1,080 hours (1,044 plus 36 hours). Thirty-six weather make-up hours must be shown as planned weather make-up hours. School was dismissed for five full inclement weather days resulting in a loss of 32.5 hours. The school district or charter school does not have to make-up the hours missed for inclement weather since they were included in the original planned calendar and the calendar would remain greater than the 1,044 hour requirement.

1. School district or charter school plans 1,080 hours (1,044 plus 36 hours). Thirty-six weather make-up hours must be shown as planned weather make-up hours. School was dismissed for seven full inclement weather days resulting in a loss of 46 hours. The school district or charter school would be forgiven a total of five weather hours ($46-36=10$ $10/2=5$) and be required to make-up five hours missed for inclement weather to meet the 1,039 hour calendar requirement.
2. School district or charter school plans 1,104 hours (1,044 plus 60 hours) 36 weather make-up hours must be shown as planned weather make-up hours. School was dismissed for 10 full inclement weather days resulting in a loss of 65 hours. School district or charter school does not have to make-up any weather days missed weather since the maximum required make-up hours were included in the original planned calendar. The district or charter school would be forgiven the 14.5 additional hours lost due to weather allowing the calendar to be no less than 1,029.50 hours at the end of the school year.
3. School district or charter school plans 1,104 hours (1,044 plus 60 hours) 36 weather make-up hours must be shown as planned weather make-up hours. School was dismissed for 13 full inclement weather days resulting in a loss of 90 hours. School district or charter school does not have to make-up any weather days missed since the maximum required make-up hours were included in the original planned calendar. The district or charter school would be forgiven the 30 additional hours lost due to weather allowing the calendar to be no less than 1,014 hours at the end of the school year.

An Excel spreadsheet tool has been created to assist with determining the number of weather hours required to be made up. This can be found on the School Finance website under [Calculation Tools](#).

Begin and End Grade	Planned Calendar Hours	Planned Weather Make-Up Hours	Total Planned Calendar	Total Weather Hours	Weather Hours Forgiven	Weather Hours Required to be Made Up*	Total Calendar Hours Cannot be Less Than
Scenario 1	1,044.0000	36.0000	1,080.0000	13.0000	0.0000	13.0000	1,044.0000
Scenario 2	1,044.0000	36.0000	1,080.0000	32.5000	0.0000	32.5000	1,044.0000
Scenario 3	1,044.0000	36.0000	1,080.0000	46.0000	5.0000	41.0000	1,039.0000
Scenario 4	1,044.0000	60.0000	1,104.0000	65.0000	14.5000	50.5000	1,029.5000
Scenario 5	1,044.0000	60.0000	1,104.0000	90.0000	30.0000	60.0000	1,017.0000

* Weather make-up hours can be built into the planned actual calendar.

Make-Up Hours Required Example

Number of Weather Hours	Weather Hours to Make-up	Number of Weather Hours	Weather Hours to Make-up	Number of Weather Hours	Weather Hours to Make-up
1	1	30	30	59	48
2	2	31	31	60	48
3	3	32	32	61	49
4	4	33	33	62	49
5	5	34	34	63	50

6	6	35	35	64	50
7	7	36	36	65	51
8	8	37	37	66	51
9	9	38	37	67	52
10	10	39	38	68	52
11	11	40	38	69	53
12	12	41	39	70	53
13	13	42	39	71	54
14	14	43	40	72	54
15	15	44	40	73	55
16	16	45	41	74	55
17	17	46	41	75	56
18	18	47	42	76	56
19	19	48	42	77	57
20	20	49	43	78	57
21	21	50	43	79	58
22	22	51	44	80	58
23	23	52	44	81	59
24	24	53	45	82	59
25	25	54	45	83	60
26	26	55	46	84	60
27	27	56	46	85	60
28	28	57	47	86	60
29	29	58	47	87	60

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Can inclement weather hours be made up by adding minutes/hours to the end of some or all of the remaining school hours?**

Yes, only hours are required.

- 2. Does the inclement weather forgiveness apply to districts and charter schools that are attending less than 174 days?**

Yes, the inclement weather forgiveness applies to all districts and charter schools regardless of the planned days or hours-in-session of school for the year. All districts and charter schools are required to follow the guidelines for missed school days described above.

- 3. What are considered to be inclement weather days that can be forgiven?**

Per 177.033, RSMo, "Inclement weather", for purposes of this section, shall be defined as ice, snow, extreme cold, excessive heat, flooding, or a tornado. Other circumstances, such as, water main breaks and power outages are not considered inclement weather and should be made up independently.

- 4. Can a district or charter school make up inclement weather hours with a partial day of school instead of a full day of school?**

Yes, only hours are required. The district or charter school will also need to be conscientious of the minimum hours required in a school year of 1,044.

5. How is funding affected if a district or charter school is forgiven hours due to inclement weather?

As mentioned above, hours that are forgiven due to inclement weather will not have an adverse impact on the average daily attendance (ADA) calculation. This will create a situation which will have an effect on both components (both the total attendance hours and the hours in session) of the ADA calculation and, therefore, will not have a negative impact on the ADA. Since the ADA is not affected there also isn't a decrease in funding associated with the forgiven inclement weather days.

6. How should planned hours-in-session be reported on the calendar entered on Core Data Screen 10?

Planned hours-in-session should be the number of hours the district or charter school plans to attend less any planned weather make-up hours. The hours-in-session represents the instructional time for students and does not include planned professional development days for staff.

7. How should the hours forgiven be reported on the calendar entered on Core Data Screen 10?

All weather hours, those required to be made up, as well as, those forgiven should be reported as weather hours on the actual calendar on Core Data Screen 10.

8. How does a district submit a plan for the alternate method of instruction for inclement weather?

The Office of Quality Schools is working on a process for districts and charter schools to use to submit plans for approval.

9. How should it be reported if the district or charter school has scheduled to make up inclement weather hours and the make-up hours cannot be attended due to inclement weather?

If a district or charter school is unable to attend make-up hours planned for previous weather hours, then those hours are considered not-in-session hours and are not reported as a weather hours. Note, since the district or charter school was unable to be in session for these hours the district or charter school will still need to make up the original inclement weather hours.