

**2011-2012 Released Time Program for Religious Instruction
September 14, 2011**

Pursuant to Chancellor’s Regulation A-630, “a student shall be released for the last hour of the instructional day on Wednesdays to participate in a program of religious instruction.” This memorandum indicates the start and end dates of the Released Time Program for Religious Instruction and the exceptions to that schedule for the 2011-2012 school year.

1. Scheduled Start and End Dates and Citywide Exceptions

In accordance with Chancellor’s regulation A-630, principals shall release a student for religious instruction upon receipt, from the parent, of a written request to authorize the release of the student and a copy of the student’s registration in the religious instruction program. For school year 2011-2012, the Released Time Program for Religious Instruction is scheduled for every Wednesday from: **Wednesday, September 14, 2011 to Wednesday, June 20, 2011**, except as follows:

		Which students Not to Release	Rationale for Not Releasing¹
1.1	September 14, 2011	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faith	No religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths.
1.2	September 21 & 28, 2011	Students of the Protestant faith	Religious instruction programs for students of the Protestant faith start on October 5, 2011.
1.3	November 23, 2011	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths.
1.4	April 4, 2012	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths.
1.5	June 13, 2012	Students of the Roman Catholic	Religious instruction for students of the Roman Catholic faith end on June 6, 2012.
1.6	June 20, 2012	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	Religious instruction for students of the Protestant faith end on June 13, 2012.

2. Reporting Requirements

In order for the ATS system to appropriately reflect the Released Time Program attendance data, please ensure that **Reason Code 56** (Present, Released for “Religious Instruction-Part of the Day”) is properly entered for students. For additional information, contact the Office of Mandated Responsibilities at (212) 374-6095.

3. Student transportation

The Office of Pupil Transportation provides school bus or metro card transportation only for transportation to and from school. Arrangements to travel to and from religious instruction are the sole responsibility of the parent. For questions, contact OPT customer service at (718) 392-8855. Schools may also contact their network’s Transportation Liaison.

4. Additional Information

For additional information regarding Released Time for Religious Instruction, please refer to [Chancellor’s Regulation A-630](#), entitled “Religious Accommodation of Students.”

Questions related to the Released Time Program schedule should be directed to calendars@schools.nyc.gov.

¹ The dates when the private religious programs are not in operation have been verified by the various religious organizations.

