

2013-2014 Released Time Program for Religious Instruction

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 2013-2014 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 2013-2014, the Released Time Program for Religious Instruction is scheduled for every Wednesday from: **Wednesday, September 11, 2013** to **Wednesday, June 25, 2014**, except as follows:

| | Which students Not to Release | Rationale for Not Releasing¹ |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| September 11, 2013 | Students of the Roman Catholic faith | Religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic faith begin on September 18, 2013 |
| November 27, 2013 | Students of the Roman Catholic faith | No religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic faith |
| December 25, 2013 & January 1, 2014 | No students to release | NYC Public schools closed (Winter Recess) |
| February 19, 2014 | No students to release | NYC Public schools closed (Midwinter Recess) |
| April 16, 2014 & April 23, 2014 | No students to release | NYC Public schools closed (Spring Recess) |
| June 18 - 25, 2014 | Students of the Roman Catholic faith | Religious instruction for students of the Roman Catholic faith end on June 11, 2014 |

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 School and Youth Development 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.”

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