Credit Hour Determination (Mergener Formula)

Child & School Psychology CE · NASP Approved Provider #1152

Course	Chronic Absenteeism and School Avoidance: Assessment, Intervention, and Systems Support
Instructor	Jaime Flowers, Ph.D., NCSP, LEP, BCBA
Format	Online independent study with assigned reading, embedded activities, applied cases with AI feedback, and a final assessment
Audience / level	Practicing school psychologists; difficulty index 4 (difficult)
CPD credits awarded	9.0
Revision	Revised October 24, 2026. Supersedes the October 2026 determination, which listed 17,000 words, 138 embedded items, and a 54-item assessment. This revision uses verified counts and reflects 10 embedded items and 6 assessment items added on this date.

Method

Estimated completion time was calculated with the Mergener formula for self-study continuing education:

Minutes = 0.9 × [−22.3 + (0.00209 × words) + (2.78 × questions) + (15.5 × difficulty)]

Inputs (measured from the published course)

Component	Instructional words	Learner-response items
Lesson 1: Understanding Chronic Absenteeism and School Avoidance	2,845	7
Lesson 2: Psychological, Behavioral, and Environmental Contributors	3,583	7
Lesson 3: Identifying Patterns Through Attendance Data	3,310	6
Lesson 4: Assessment of Attendance Barriers	4,107	11
Lesson 5: Tier 1: Schoolwide Prevention and Connectedness	3,909	8
Lesson 6: Tier 2: Targeted Attendance Interventions	3,867	9
Lesson 7: Tier 3: Intensive Supports	3,957	9
Lesson 8: Family Engagement and Collaborative Problem-Solving	4,404	11
Lesson 9: Monitoring Attendance and Intervention Response	3,875	8
Lesson 10: Applied Psychology Consultation Cases	1,207	6 (3 knowledge checks, 3 AI-feedback cases)

Component	Instructional words	Learner-response items
Assigned reading: FutureEd Attendance Playbook (2023), 147 assigned printed pages (estimated)	56,400	—
Final assessment (54 multiple-choice items, 80% to pass)	not counted as reading	54
Total	**91,464**	**136**

Difficulty index: 4. The course requires calculating and interpreting attendance data, differential assessment of complex avoidance cases, and multi-tiered intervention planning.

Calculation

Term	Value
Constant	–22.30
0.00209 × 91,464 words	191.16
2.78 × 136 questions	378.08
15.5 × difficulty 4	62.00
Sum	608.94
× 0.9 = estimated minutes	548.0 minutes
Estimated hours	9.13 hours

Result

The Mergener estimate is **9.13 hours**. The course awards **9.0 CPD credits**, which does not exceed the estimated learner time.

Counting notes

• Instructional words were counted from the published lesson content: lesson introductions, objectives, reading guidance, instructional sections, case scenarios, activity prompts and options, applied practice examples, and key takeaways.

• Navigation, buttons, progress indicators, section titles repeated in the interface, headers, footers, and menus were excluded.

• Each learner-response item is counted once in the question term and is not also counted as reading.

• Assigned reading: FutureEd (2023), *Attendance Playbook: Smart Strategies for Reducing Student Absenteeism Post-Pandemic*. Each lesson assigns specific printed pages (147 page-assignments in total, including pages re-assigned in later lessons for a new purpose). Reading words are estimated at about 384 words per printed page from the guide's overall length; pages assigned more than once are counted each time. AI-feedback cases are counted as one item each, although each case contains multiple prompts.

Prepared for Child & School Psychology CE records. Counts were taken from the live course on October 24, 2026.