

DAY IN COURT | Frequently Asked Questions

When is this program offered?

This program is offered Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. until noon, on selected dates from mid-September through late April.

Where do we meet?

The attorney tour guide will meet the student group at the San Francisco County Superior Courthouse, located at 400 McAllister Street (between Van Ness and Polk Street, across from City Hall), at 9:30 a.m. We will confirm the specific room number beforehand.

What will my students get out of this?

Something most students never experience: The chance to observe actual cases being tried in front of real judges, and to see how different lawyers present their cases. Your students will also develop a greater respect and understanding of the judicial system, as well as be introduced to careers available within the judicial system.

Will the students sit in one courtroom the whole time?

No, the students and their chaperones will move to several courtrooms to hear various cases. This will allow students to get the maximum exposure to different types of cases and different courtrooms.

What types of cases will the children get to watch?

Civil cases are litigated at the courthouse (e.g., employment discrimination, evictions, medical malpractice, and personal injury cases). There are few criminal cases at this courthouse.

What is the role of the attorney tour guide?

Upon first meeting the group, the attorney tour guide will provide a brief orientation on the courthouse, the California judicial system, and civil trial procedures.

Do the students get to meet a judge?

From 11:30 until noon the students meet with a judge who will answer their questions.

Will any written materials be provided?

No.

Who is in charge of transportation?

Each school is responsible for its own students' transportation to and from the courthouse.

Will there be chaperones? Who provides them?

We ask each school to provide parent chaperones, on a ratio of 8 students to 1 chaperone, to facilitate this exciting opportunity.

Will there be food and drink available?

Sorry, no food or beverage will be served.

Will the program be offered again next year?

The BASF and the Superior Court offers this program on a regular basis each school year.