**Date: October 29, 2026**

MLS NEXT
2 Pennsylvania Plaza
15th Floor
New York, NY 10121
registration@mlsnext.soccer
https://www.mlssoccer.com/mlsnext/

**Re: 2026 MLS NEXT Fest Travel**

**Student Name: _____**

On behalf of MLS NEXT, I write in support of the release of the above-named MLS NEXT player from a limited number of days missed from school to participate in their 2026 MLS NEXT Fest matches December 2-13, 2026. We realize the importance of a player's education and strive to accommodate the academic calendar as much as possible. Regrettably, the long distances some clubs travel may result in a limited number of days missed from school during this year's MLS NEXT Fest Event.

MLS NEXT is designed to identify, develop, and showcase the best youth soccer talent in North America and prepare its players for international, professional, and collegiate soccer. We expect that over 90% of the current youth national team player pools will participate in the MLS NEXT program during the 2026-27 season, and we expect that games will be regularly attended by youth national team scouts. Players' participation should improve their chances for selection to represent their country at the Olympic and World Cup levels. MLS NEXT also features the highest-level youth teams from all the clubs in Major League Soccer, the highest level of professional soccer in the United States and Canada. For the majority of the players who do not pursue an international or professional soccer career, the MLS NEXT program aims to provide them with the best opportunity to be identified by collegiate coaches and pursue their soccer careers in tandem with their academic goals. Last season's MLS NEXT Fest Event was attended by over 300 College Programs, and we expect a similar number for 2026. Players' commitment to the year-round program will teach them valuable lessons about the pursuit of excellence and provide them with opportunities for a better future both on and off the field.

Thank you for your understanding regarding this absence of MLS NEXT players from school during the Fest Event. Please feel free to contact the above-named MLS NEXT player, the player's club, or MLS NEXT (registration@mlsnext.soccer) with any questions.

Warm regards,



Luis Robles
General Manager, MLS NEXT