

7351	Authorization of the Use of Physical Restraints
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The use of physical restraint is authorized in very limited cases and only where it is determined that an emergency exists to such an extent that physical restraint is necessary to:

- a. Protect oneself from imminent risk of physical injury;
- b. Protect another student or teacher or another person from imminent risk of physical injury.

An emergency physical intervention may be used only after other less intrusive interventions have been tried and failed, or when it is determined that the use of other less intrusive interventions and further delay in the use of an emergency physical intervention would, in all likelihood, increase the risk of harm to self or others.

Less intrusive approaches include but are not limited to the use of de-escalation diversions or verbal interventions.

A physical restraint shall only be utilized in those circumstances listed above, and only in the presence of another staff member who shall remain present at all times until the person restrained is released and movement is no longer limited.

The sole exception that another person be present when a physical restraint is determined necessary is upon a determination that any delay would heighten the risk of harm or damage. In such cases, the individual using the restraint shall take immediate steps to engage another staff member as an observer as soon as possible.

The District shall provide training on key elements needed for de-escalation and restorative practices strategies, and physical restraint training including but not limited to Response to Intervention tiered strategies.

In such cases, where it has been determined that a physical restraint is necessary, only those individuals who are trained and certified to administer such restraints shall do so.

When determined necessary, the physical restraint shall be discontinued as soon as the danger of serious physical harm to self or others prompting the use of force is no longer present.

State regulations expressly prohibit the use of corporal punishment as a consequence, punishment, a means of retaliation, coercion, or to exercise dominance over a student by physical means.

Administrative regulations on the use of Emergency Physical Interventions and required documentation shall be developed, consistent with this policy.

8 NYCRR §§ 19.5(a); §100.2(l); §200.1(r); §200.15(f); § 200.22 (a), (c) and (d).

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