

Students

Use of Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

Neither isolated time out, time out, nor physical restraint shall be used to discipline or punish a student. These methods are only authorized for use as permitted in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.33, State Board of Education rules (23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 1.280, 1.285), and the District's administrative regulation(s). Isolated time time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used when:

- a student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others,
- other less restrictive and intrusive measures have been tried and proven ineffective in stopping the imminent danger of serious physical harm,
- there is no known medical contraindication to its use on the student, and
- the school staff members, or members applying the intervention, have been trained in its safe application, as established by the ISBE rules.

“Time out” means a behavior management technique for the purpose of calming or de-escalation that involves the involuntary monitored separation of a student from classmates with a trained adult for part of the school day, only for a brief time, in a nonlocked setting.

“Isolated time out” means the confinement of a student alone in a time-out room or other enclosure, outside of the classroom without a supervising adult in the time out room or enclosure. Use of isolated time out is prohibited unless it is authorized in writing by the Executive Director of Special Education, and the use of isolated time out is identified in an Individualized Education Plan as an appropriate method to deescalate a specific student. This prohibition does not extend to ISBE approved, third party educational or residential facilities with which the District contracts to provide educational programing to appropriately identified District students.

“Physical restraint” or “restraint” means holding a student or otherwise restricting a student’s movements. “Physical restraint” or “restraint” does not include momentary periods of physical restriction by direct person-to-person contact, without the aid of material or mechanical devices, that are accomplished with limited force and that are designed to prevent a student from completing an act that would result in potential physical harm to himself, herself, or another or damage to property.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.33.

23 Ill. Admin. Code §§ 1.280 and 1.285.

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