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SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER I: STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUBCHAPTER a: PUBLIC SCHOOL RECOGNITION

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS EVALUATION, RECOGNITION AND SUPERVISION

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SUBPART B: SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

Section 1.280  Discipline

Section 24-24 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5] provides for teachers, other licensed educational employees (except for individuals employed as a paraprofessional educator), and persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student as determined by the board of education to maintain discipline in the schools.

a) The board of education shall establish and maintain a parent-teacher advisory committee as provided in Section 10-20.14 of the School Code.
b) The board of education shall establish a policy on the administration of discipline in accordance with the requirements of Sections 10-20.14 and 24-24 of the School Code and disseminate that policy as provided in Section 10-20.14 of the School Code. Under no circumstance shall the policy authorize the use of time out or physical restraint as a form of discipline or punishment.

c) Any use of isolated time out or physical restraint permitted by a board's policy shall conform to the requirements of Section 1.285. If isolated time out or physical restraint is to be permitted, the policy shall include:

1) the circumstances under which isolated time out or physical restraint will be applied;

2) a written procedure to be followed by staff in cases of isolated time out or physical restraint;

3) designation of a school official who will be informed of incidents and maintain the documentation required pursuant to Section 1.285 when isolated time out or physical restraint is used;

4) the process the district or other administrative entity will use to evaluate any incident that results in an injury that the affected student (or the responsible parent or guardian), staff member, or other individual identifies as serious;

5) a description of the alternative strategies that will be implemented when determined advisable pursuant to Section 1.285(f)(4); and

6) a description of the district's or other administrative entity's annual review of the use of isolated time out or physical restraint, which shall include at least:

   A) the number of incidents involving the use of these interventions,

   B) the location and duration of each incident;

   C) identification of the staff members who were involved;

   D) any injuries or property damage that occurred, and
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E) the timeliness of parental notification and administrative review.

c) In addition to, or as part of, its policy on the maintenance of discipline, each board of education shall adopt policies and procedures regarding the use of behavioral interventions for students with disabilities who require intervention. Each board's policies and procedures shall conform to the requirements of Section 14-8.05(c) of the School Code.

(Source: Amended at 44 Ill. Reg. ________, effective __________)

Section 1.285 Requirements for the Use of Isolated Time Out and Physical Restraint

Time isolated time out and physical restraint, as defined in this Section, shall be used only when the student’s behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures have been tried and proven ineffective in stopping the imminent danger of serious physical harm, as means of maintaining discipline in schools (that is, as means of maintaining a safe and orderly environment for learning) and only to the extent that they are necessary to preserve the safety of students and others. Neither isolated time out nor physical restraint shall be used in administering discipline to individual students, i.e., as a form of punishment. Nothing in this Section or in Section 1.280 of this Part shall be construed as regulating the restriction of students' movement when that restriction is for a purpose other than the maintenance of an orderly environment (e.g., the appropriate use of safety belts in vehicles). The use of isolated time out, defined as the involuntary confinement of a student alone in a room or a clearly defined area from which the student is physically prevented from leaving, is prohibited.

a) “Time isolated 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 an adult trained under subsection (i) for part of the school day, only for a brief time, in a non-locked setting the confinement of a student in a time out room or some other enclosure, whether within or outside the classroom, from which the student's egress is restricted. The use of isolated time out shall be subject to the following requirements. “Time out” does not include a student-initiated or student-requested break, a student-initiated or teacher-initiated sensory break, including a sensory room containing sensory tools to assist a student to calm and de-escalate, an in-school suspension or detention, or any other appropriate disciplinary measure, including a student’s brief removal to the hallway or similar environment.

1) Any enclosure used for isolated time out shall:
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A) meet all of the health/life safety requirements of 23 Ill. Adm. Code 180;

B) have the same ceiling height as the surrounding room or rooms and be large enough to accommodate not only the student being placed in time out isolated but also the any other individual who is required to accompany that student under this Section; and

C) be constructed of materials that cannot be used by students to harm themselves or others, be free of electrical outlets, exposed wiring, and other objects that could be used by students to harm themselves or others, and be designed so that students cannot climb up the walls, (including walls far enough apart so as not to offer the student being isolated sufficient leverage for climbing), and

C) be designed to permit continuous visual monitoring of and communication with the student.

2) If an enclosure used for isolated time out is fitted with a door, the door shall not be locked or physically blocked by furniture or any other inanimate object at any time during the time out. Either a steel door or a wooden door of solid core construction shall be used. If the door includes a viewing panel, the panel shall be unbreakable.

3) An adult trained under this subsection (i) who is responsible for supervising the student must remain in the same room as the student at all times during the time out within two feet of the enclosure.

4) A student placed in time out must have reasonable access to food, medication, and toileting facilities. Except in circumstances in which there is a risk of self-injury, a student in time out shall not have his or her clothing removed, including, but not limited to, a belt. The adult responsible for supervising the student must be able to see the student at all times. If a locking mechanism is used on the enclosure, the mechanism shall be constructed so that it will engage only when a key, handle, knob, or other similar device is being held in position by a person, unless the mechanism is an electrically or electronically controlled one that is automatically released when the building's fire alarm system is triggered. Upon release of the locking mechanism by the supervising adult, the door must be able to be opened readily.
b) "Physical restraint" means holding a student or otherwise restricting a student’s movements. "Physical restraint" as permitted pursuant to this Section includes only the use of specific, planned techniques (e.g., the "basket hold" and "team control").

c) The requirements set forth in subsections (d) through (i) of this Section shall not apply to the actions described in this subsection (c) because, pursuant to Section 10-20.33 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/10-20.33], "restraint" does not include momentary periods of physical restriction by direct person-to-person contact, without the aid of material or mechanical devices, accomplished with limited force and designed to:

1) prevent a student from completing an act that would result in potential physical harm to himself, herself, or another or damage to property; or

2) remove a disruptive student who is unwilling to leave the area voluntarily.

d) The use of physical restraint shall be subject to the following requirements and limitations.

1) Pursuant to Section 10-20.33 of the School Code, physical restraint may only be employed when:

   A) the student poses a physical risk to himself, herself, or others,

   B) there is no medical contraindication to its use, and

   C) the staff applying the restraint have been trained in its safe application as specified in subsection (i) of this Section.

2) Physical restraint must end immediately when:

   A) the threat of imminent serious physical harm ends;

   B) the student indicates that he or she cannot breathe; or

   C) except if ending the restraint would cause serious physical harm, the student is observed to be in severe distress.

3) The staff involved in physically restraining a student must periodically
halt the restraint to evaluate if the imminent danger of serious physical harm continues to exist. If the imminent danger of serious physical harm continues to exist, staff may continue to use the physical restraint and the continued use may not be considered a separate instance of physical restraint.

4) A physical restraint shall not impair a student’s ability to breathe or communicate normally, obstruct a student’s airway, or interfere with a student’s ability to speak. If physical restraint is imposed upon a student whose primary mode of communication is sign language or an augmentative mode, the student shall be permitted to have his or her hands free of restraint for brief periods, unless the supervising adult determines that this freedom appears likely to result in harm to the student or others.

5) Time out or physical restraint shall not be used:

A) as discipline or punishment;
B) as convenience for staff;
C) as retaliation;
D) as a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support;
E) as a routine safety matter; or
F) to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

6) Prone physical restraint is prohibited.

7) Supine physical restraint is prohibited, except if all of the following criteria are met:

A) Before using a supine physical restraint, the school district or other entity serving the student shall review and determine if there are any known medical or psychological limitations that contraindicate the use of a supine restraint.

B) The school district or other entity serving the student deems the situation an emergency, defined as a situation in which immediate
intervention is needed to protect a student or other individual from imminent danger of causing serious physical harm to himself, herself, or others and less restrictive and intrusive interventions have been tried and proven ineffective in stopping the imminent danger.

C) Supine physical restraint is used in a manner that does not restrict or impair a student’s ability to breathe or communicate normally, obstruct a student’s airway, or interfere with a student’s primary mode of communication.

D) Supine physical restraints are used only by personnel who have completed required training under subsection (i).

E) Supine physical restraints are used only if those interventions are the least restrictive and intrusive interventions to address the emergency and stop the imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others. During each incident, one school staff person trained in identifying the signs of distress must be assigned to observe and monitor the student during the entire incident. That staff person may not be involved in the physical holding of the student. The number of staff involved in physically restraining the student may not exceed the number necessary to safely hold the student. Staff involved in the restraint must use the least amount of force and the fewest points of contact necessary and must afford the student maximum freedom of movement while maintaining safety.

F) The supine physical restraint ends immediately when the threat of imminent serious physical harm ends, but in no event shall supine physical restraint last longer than 30 minutes. If, after 30 minutes, the emergency has not resolved or if an additional emergency arises the same school day that meets the standards under this subsection, a school administrator, in consultation with a psychologist, social worker, nurse, or behavior specialist, may authorize the continuation of the restraint or an additional supine restraint. No restraint may be continued nor may additional restraints be applied unless it is authorized by a school administrator.
G) If the student is restrained in a supine physical restraint in at least 2 separate instances within a 30-school day period, the school personnel who initiated, monitored, and supervised the incidents shall initiate a Supine Review, which is a review of the effectiveness of the procedures used. If the personnel involved in the restraints do not include a psychologist, social worker, nurse, or behavior specialist, at least one of those staff members must be included in the Supine Review. The Supine Review must include, but is not limited to:

i) conducting or reviewing a functional behavioral analysis, reviewing data, considering the development of additional or revised positive behavioral interventions and supports, considering actions to reduce the use of restrictive procedures, or, if applicable, modifying the student’s individualized educational program or the behavior intervention plan, as appropriate; and

ii) reviewing any known medical or psychological limitations that contraindicate the use of a restrictive procedure, considering whether to prohibit that restrictive procedure, and, if applicable, documenting any prohibitions in the student’s individualized education program or behavior intervention plan.

8) Students shall not be subjected to physical restraint for using profanity or other verbal displays of disrespect for themselves or others. A verbal threat shall not be considered as constituting a physical danger unless a student also demonstrates a means of or intent to carry out the threat.

9) Except as permitted by the administrative rules of another State agency operating or licensing a facility in which elementary or secondary educational services are provided (e.g., the Illinois Department of Corrections, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, or the Illinois Department of Human Services), mechanical restraint or chemical restraint, as defined under this subsection, (i.e., the use of any device other than personal physical force to restrict the limbs, head, or body) shall not be employed.

10) Medically prescribed restraint procedures employed for the treatment of a physical disorder or for the immobilization of a person in connection with
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a medical or surgical procedure shall not be used as means of physical restraint for purposes of maintaining discipline.

11) Any application of physical restraint shall take into consideration the safety and security of the student. Physical restraint shall not rely upon pain as an intentional method of control.

12) In determining whether a student who is being physically restrained should be removed from the area where the restraint was initiated, the supervising adult shall consider the potential for injury to the student, the student's need for privacy, and the educational and emotional well-being of other students in the vicinity.

7) If physical restraint is imposed upon a student whose primary mode of communication is sign language or an augmentative mode, the student shall be permitted to have his or her hands free of restraint for brief periods, unless the supervising adult determines that this freedom appears likely to result in harm to the student or others.

13) Mechanical restraint is prohibited. "Mechanical restraint" means the use of any device or equipment to limit a student's movement or hold a student immobile. “Mechanical restraint” does not include any restraint used to:

A) treat a student's medical needs;

B) protect a student known to be at risk of injury resulting from lack of coordination or frequent loss of consciousness;

C) position a student with physical disabilities in a manner specified in the student's individualized education program, federal Section 504 plan, or other plan of care;

D) provide a supplementary aid or service or an accommodation, including, but not limited to, assistive technology that provides proprioceptive input or aids in self-regulation; or

E) promote student safety in vehicles used to transport students.

14) Chemical restraint is prohibited. “Chemical restraint” means the use of medication to control a student’s behavior or restrict a student’s freedom of movement. “Chemical restraint” does not include medication that is
legally prescribed and administered as part of a student’s regular medical regimen to manage behavioral symptoms and treat medical symptoms.

e) Time Limits

1) A student shall not be kept in isolated time out for longer than is reasonably therapeutically necessary. No less than once every 15 minutes, an adult trained under subsection (i) must assess whether the student has ceased presenting the specific behavior for which the time out was imposed, which shall not be for more than 30 minutes after he or she ceases presenting the specific behavior for which isolated time out was imposed or any other behavior for which it would be an appropriate intervention.

2) A student shall be released from physical restraint immediately upon a determination by the staff member administering the restraint that the student is no longer in imminent danger of causing serious physical harm to the student himself, herself, or others.

f) Documentation and Evaluation

1) In a form and manner prescribed by the State Superintendent, a written record of each episode of isolated time out or physical restraint shall be maintained in the student's temporary record. The official designated under this Section pursuant to Section 1.280(e)(3) of this Part shall also maintain a copy of each of these records. Each record shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

A) the student's name;

B) the date of the incident;

C) the beginning and ending times of the incident;

D) a description of any relevant events leading up to the incident;

E) a description of any interventions used prior to the implementation of isolated time out or physical restraint;

F) a description of the incident and/or student behavior that resulted in isolated time out or physical restraint;
G) a log of the student's behavior in isolated time out or during physical restraint, including a description of the restraint techniques used and any other interaction between the student and staff;

H) a description of any injuries (whether to students, staff, or others) or property damage;

I) a description of any planned approach to dealing with the student's behavior in the future, including any de-escalation methods or procedures that may be used to avoid the use of time out or physical restraint;

J) a list of the school personnel who participated in the implementation, monitoring, and supervision of isolated time out or physical restraint; and

K) the date on which parental or guardian notification took place as required by subsection (g) of this Section.

2) The school official designated under this Section pursuant to Section 1.280(c)(3) of this Part shall be notified of the incident as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the school day on which it occurred.

3) The record described in subsection (f)(1) of this Section shall be completed by the beginning of the school day following the episode of isolated time out or physical restraint.

3) 4) The requirements of this subsection (f)(3) (f)(4) shall apply whenever an episode of isolated time out exceeds 30 minutes, an episode of physical restraint exceeds 15 minutes, or repeated episodes have occurred during any three-hour period.

A) A licensed educator knowledgeable about the use of isolated time out or trained in the use of physical restraint, as applicable, shall evaluate the situation.

B) The evaluation shall consider the appropriateness of continuing the procedure in use, including the student's potential need for medication, nourishment, or use of a restroom, and the need for
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alternate strategies (e.g., assessment by a mental health crisis team, assistance from police, or transportation by ambulance).

C) The results of the evaluation shall be committed to writing and copies of this documentation shall be placed into the student’s temporary student record and provided to the official designated under this Section pursuant to Section 1.280(c)(3) of this Part.

4) § When a student experiences has first experienced three instances of isolated time out or physical restraint, the school personnel who initiated, monitored, and supervised the incidents shall initiate a review of the effectiveness of the procedures used and prepare an individual behavior plan for the student that provides either for continued use of these interventions or for the use of other, specified interventions. The plan shall be placed into the student’s temporary student record. The review shall also consider the student’s potential need for an alternative program, or for special education eligibility, or, for a student already eligible for special education, for a change in program.

A) The district or other entity serving the student shall invite the student’s parents or guardians to participate in this review and shall provide ten days’ notice of its date, time, and location.

B) The notification shall inform the parents or guardians that the student’s potential need for special education, or an alternative program, or, for students already eligible for special education, the student’s potential need for a change in program, will be considered and that the results of the review will be entered into the temporary student record.

g) Notification to Parents or Guardians

1) A district whose policies allow for on the maintenance of discipline include the use of isolated time out or physical restraint shall notify parents or guardians to this effect as part of the information distributed annually or upon enrollment pursuant to Sections 10-20.14 and 14-8.05(c) of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/10-20.14 and 14-8.05(c)].

2) If a student is subject to time out or physical restraint, the school must make a reasonable attempt notify the student’s parent or guardian on the same day the time out or physical restraint is imposed.
3) Within 24 hours after any use of isolated time out or physical restraint, the school district or other entity serving the student shall send the form required under subsection (f)(1) written notice of the incident to the student's parents or guardians, unless the parent has provided the district or other entity with a written waiver of this requirement for notification. The notification shall include the student's name, the date of the incident, a description of the intervention used, and the name of a contact person with a telephone number to be called for further information.

h) Report to the State Superintendents

1) No later than 2 school days after any use of time out or physical restraint, the school district or other entity serving the student shall, in a form and manner prescribed by the State Superintendent, submit the information required under subsection (f)(1) to the State Superintendent.

2) The State Superintendent reserves the authority to require districts to submit the information required under subsection (f)(1) for previous school years.

i) Requirements for Training

1) Any adult who is supervising a student in time out or who is involved in a physical restraint shall receive at least 8 hours of training annually in the following:

   A) crisis de-escalation;
   B) restorative practices;
   C) identifying signs of distress during physical restraint and time out;
   D) trauma-informed practices; and
   E) behavior management practices.

4) Isolated Time Out

Each district, cooperative, or joint agreement whose policy permits the use of isolated time out shall provide training, orientation to its staff members covering at least the written procedure established pursuant to Section
2) Physical Restraint

2) A) Time out or physical restraint, as defined in this Section, shall be applied only by individuals who have received annual systematic training on less restrictive and intrusive strategies and techniques to reduce the use of time out and physical restraint based on best practices and how to safely use time out and physical restraint when those alternative strategies and techniques have been tried and proven ineffective. This training must include all the elements described in this subsection (b)(2)(B) of this Section and must result in the receipt of a certificate of completion or other written evidence of participation. No individual may use time out or physical restraint before receiving the required training and certificate. An individual who applies time out or physical restraint shall use only techniques in which he or she has received prior annual training within the preceding two years, as indicated by written evidence of participation.

3) B) The training required under this Section training with respect to time out or physical restraint may be provided either by the employer or by an external entity. All persons or entities who provide training must be trained and certified in the effective use of less restrictive and intrusive alternatives to prevent imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and the safe application of time out and physical restraint when less restrictive and intrusive alternatives have been tried and proven ineffective. The training shall include, but need not be limited to:

A) the dangers associated with the use of time out and physical restraint and the need to use interventions that are less restrictive and intrusive to reduce the risk of harm to students.

B) appropriate procedures for preventing the need for time out or physical restraint, including the de-escalation of problematic behavior, relationship-building, and the use of alternatives to restraint;

C) recognizing and responding appropriately to the antecedent of a student’s behavior;

D) recognizing contraindications and other conditions and events that
increase risk of death;

E) ii) a description and identification of dangerous behaviors on the part of students that may indicate the need for time out or physical restraint and methods for evaluating the risk of harm in individual situations in order to determine whether the use of restraint is warranted;

F) iii) the simulated experience of administering and receiving a variety of time out and physical restraint techniques, ranging from minimal physical involvement to very controlling interventions;

G) iv) instruction regarding the effects of time out and physical restraint on the person in restraint or time out restrained, including instruction on monitoring physical signs of distress and obtaining medical assistance;

H) v) instruction regarding documentation and reporting requirements and investigation of injuries and complaints; and

I) vi) demonstration by participants of proficiency in administering time out and physical restraint.

4) An individual may provide training to others in a particular method of time out and physical restraint only if he or she has received written evidence of completing training in those techniques that meet the requirements of this subsection (h)(2)(B) of this Section within the preceding one-year period.

j) Any use of time out or physical restraint permitted by a board's policy shall include:

1) the circumstances under which time out or physical restraint will be applied;

2) a written procedure to be followed by staff in cases of time out or physical restraint;

3) designation of a school official who will be informed of incidents and maintain the documentation required under this Section when time out or physical restraint is used;
4) the process the district or other entity serving public school students will use to evaluate any incident that results in an injury to the affected student; and

5) a description of the district's or other entity's annual review of the use of time out or physical restraint, which, at a minimum, shall include:
   
   A) the number of incidents involving the use of these interventions;
   
   B) the location and duration of each incident;
   
   C) identification of the staff members who were involved;
   
   D) any injuries or property damage that occurred; and
   
   E) the timeliness of parental or guardian notification, timelines of agency notification, and administrative review.

k) Complaint Procedures

1) Any parent or guardian, individual, organization, or advocate may file a signed, written complaint with the State Superintendent alleging that a local school district or other entity serving the student has violated this Section. The complaint shall include all of the following:

   A) the facts on which the complaint is based;
   
   B) the signature and contact information for the complainant;
   
   C) if known, the names and addresses of the students involved and the name of the school of attendance;
   
   D) a description of the nature of the problem, including any facts relating to the problem; and
   
   E) a proposed resolution of the problem to the extent known.

2) The State Superintendent shall only consider a complaint if it alleges a violation occurring not more than one year prior to the date in which the complaint is received.
3) The State Superintendent must issue a written decision to the complainant that addresses each allegation in the complaint and that contains all of the following:

A) findings of fact and conclusion;
B) the reasons for the State Board of Education’s final decision; and
C) orders for any action, including technical assistance.

4) The complaint procedure under this Section does not limit, diminish, or otherwise deny the federal and State rights and procedural safeguards afforded to students.

(Source: Amended at 44 Ill. Reg. _______, effective __________)