

What should I do if my child is the target of bullying?



Illinois is a locally controlled state whereby the authority and responsibility to respond to acts of bullying rest with the local school/district administration. The state of Illinois has laws and rules in place regarding school/district bullying prevention policies. Please refer to the following links for more information:

- [105 ILCS 5/27-23.7](#)
- [Ill. Admin. Code title 23, §1.295.](#)

The ISBE Student Care Department provides technical assistance to families who wish to report an incident of bullying. See below for some general guidelines when reporting a bullying incident. These guidelines apply to public, charter, and non-public, non-sectarian schools. Please refer to the website, administration, and policies of your school/district for more information.

- 1** Refer to the school's/district's website for policies that incorporate bullying prevention. By State law each public school district, charter school, and non-public, non-sectarian must maintain a policy on bullying which must be posted on the school's/district's website.
- 2** Report the bullying incident to the complaint manager(s) identified in the policy. It is recommended that reports are made in writing (email or letter). Written reports should be as detailed as possible, including information such as the date(s) of bullying incident(s), where the bullying occurred, other students involved in the incident, and any other information you feel is relevant to your case. You may also request to remain anonymous, however disciplinary action may not be taken based on an anonymous report.
- 3** Upon receipt of your report, the complaint manager(s) will investigate and respond to the incident following the procedure listed in the policy. You must be allowed the opportunity to discuss the results of the investigation if requested. Please note that certain information may be withheld due to student privacy rights.

For further information, you may contact the Student Care department at (217) 785-5585 or email: studentcare@isbe.net.

This ISBE published document is provided as a resource and does not constitute legal advice. You should consult with an attorney for legal advice specific to your situation.

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