

Dr. Tony Sanders, State Superintendent of Education **Dr. Steven Isoye,** Chair of the Board

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FAQ - Student Suspension Under the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-22.6)

What behavior can get a student suspended?

- Being found "... guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct, or ... gross disobedience or misconduct on the school bus from riding the school bus ..."
 - Local school boards generally have authority to determine the acts and/or omissions that constitute gross disobedience or misconduct.
- Making internet threats that meet certain criteria.

How long can a student be suspended?

- For "... a period not to exceed 10 school days."
 - Note, a student found guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct on a school bus may be suspended "... in excess of 10 school days for safety reasons."

Can I ask the school to review a student's suspension?

Yes. In relation to such suspension: "Upon request of the parents or guardians, the school board
or a hearing officer appointed by it shall review such action of the superintendent or principal,
assistant principal, or dean of students."

What must a student receive if they are suspended?

- A suspended student must receive a written suspension decision that, generally, must:
 - o "... detail the specific act of gross disobedience or misconduct ..."
 - o "... include a rationale as to the specific duration of the suspension."
 - document "... whether other interventions were attempted or whether it was determined that there were no other appropriate and available interventions." (for suspensions longer than three days) and
 - document "... whether such [appropriate and available support] services are to be provided or whether it was determined there are no such ... services." (for suspensions longer than three school days)
- Districts must create a policy by which suspended students "... shall have the opportunity to make up work for equivalent academic credit."

Where can I find out more about student suspension?

- The provision of the Illinois School Code generally covering student suspension may be found in 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6.
- ISBE maintains a <u>resource</u> outlining/summarizing the various provisions regarding student suspension on its School Discipline webpage (under the "Illinois Guidance and Resources" tab).
- For information regarding disciplining students with disabilities, reach out to ISBE's Special Education Department at <u>ISBESpecED@isbe.net</u> or 217-782-5589. Additionally, ISBE's Special Education Department maintains a <u>webpage</u> containing a selection of special education laws, regulations, and guidance.

For any additional questions, contact ISBE's Wellness & Student Care Department at 217-782-5270.

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