



ESI Fact Sheet

Key Requirements from the ESI Statute and ESI Regulations

Physical Restraint:

Bodily force used to substantially limit a student's movement, except that consensual, solicited or unintentional contact and contact to provide comfort, assistance or instruction shall not be deemed to be physical restraint. The term physical restraint does not include a physical escort. Physical escort means the temporary touching or holding the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, or back of a student who is acting out for the purpose of inducing the student to walk to a safe location.

The use of prone (face-down) physical restraint, supine (face-up) physical restraint, physical restraint that obstructs the airway of a student, or any physical restraint that impacts a student's primary mode of communication is **prohibited**.

Seclusion:

Placement of a student in a location where all the following conditions are met:

- (1) The student is placed in an enclosed area by school personnel;
- (2) the student is purposefully isolated from adults and peers; and
- (3) the student is prevented from leaving, or the student reasonably believes that the student will be prevented from leaving, the enclosed area.

It does not include a time-out, which is a behavioral intervention in which a student is temporarily removed from a learning activity without being confined. A student cannot be secluded if staff knows that a student has a medical condition that could put the student in mental or physical danger. When a student is placed in seclusion, a staff member must be able to see and hear the student at all times. All seclusion rooms that have a locking door must be designed to ensure that the lock automatically disengages when the staff member watching the student walks away or in cases of emergency such as fire or severe weather. If a school uses a seclusion room it must be a safe place, free of any dangerous conditions, well-ventilated, and sufficiently lighted.

When ESI May be Used

- ESI shall only be used when the student presents a reasonable and immediate danger of physical harm to self or others with the present ability to effect such physical harm
 - Less restrictive alternatives, such as positive behavior interventions support, must be deemed inappropriate or ineffective under the circumstances prior to ESI being used
 - The use of ESI must stop immediately when the danger of physical harm ends
 - Violent action that is destructive of property may necessitate the use of ESI
- ESI must not be used for discipline, punishment, or the convenience of a school employee

Parent Notification and Required Meetings

- Parents must be notified the same day that an ESI incident occurs
- Parents must be provided information about ESI, their rights, and the dispute resolution process the day following an ESI incident
- After the third ESI incident with a student in a school year, there must be a meeting within 10 days to discuss the incident and support for the student