

Recent changes in special education regulations related to Behavior and Discipline

Behavior intervention

The objective of any behavioral intervention must be that pupils acquire appropriate behaviors and skills. It is critical that behavioral intervention programs focus on skills acquisition rather than merely behavior reduction or elimination. Minn. R. 3525.0850

3525.0850 BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS. (2007)

This policy is intended to encourage the use of positive approaches to behavioral interventions. The objective of any behavioral intervention must be that pupils acquire appropriate behaviors and skills. It is critical that behavioral intervention programs focus on skills acquisition rather than merely behavior reduction or elimination. Behavioral intervention policies, programs, or procedures must be designed to enable a pupil to benefit from an appropriate, individualized educational program as well as develop skills to enable them to function as independently as possible in their communities.

2016 Restrictive Procedures Legislation: A Summary

Amendments to the statute governing the use of restrictive procedures on children with disabilities in Minnesota's public schools go into effect July 1, 2016 (2016-17 school year).

Following is a list of amendments now in effect:

- Standards for using prone restraint were eliminated. Since prone restraint is no longer allowed in schools, the standards for using prone restraint were removed.
- Standards for reporting the use of seclusion were added. Beginning with the 2016-17 school year, districts must provide quarterly data reports to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) about individual students who have been secluded, using [MDE's Quarterly Reporting of Incidents of Seclusion form](#). The first quarterly report will be due by October 15, 2016 (July 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016 reporting period). Future report submissions will be due by January 15, April 15 and July 15.
- Standards for reporting the use of restrictive procedures were amended. Summary data on the use of restrictive procedures is now due to MDE by July 15 each year and must include the use of restrictive provides for the prior school year, July 1 through June 30. Data must be submitted using [MDE's Restrictive Procedures Summary Data form](#).
- Prohibitions were amended. Prone restraint is now listed as a prohibited procedure.