



The Laboratory Charter School

of Communication and Languages

Policy

Exclusions: Suspensions and Expulsions

Resolution # 0320202412

Policy Statement:

Laboratory Charter School is dedicated to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. This policy establishes clear procedures and guidelines for the suspension and expulsion of students, ensuring compliance with federal and state regulations, particularly those concerning students with disabilities.

Regulatory Basis:

1. Suspension and expulsion rates - 34 CFR 300.170(a)(1)(2)(b)
2. Disciplinary placements - 22 Pa. Code 711.61
3. Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004)
4. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
5. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Standard:

Laboratory Charter School maintains disciplinary actions for students with disabilities in accordance with relevant federal and state laws, including IDEA 2004 and Section 504. The school ensures that the suspension and expulsion rates for students with disabilities align with those of other Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in the state.

Procedures:

1. **Data Examination:** The School Education Agency (SEA) conducts regular analysis of disciplinary data, including breakdowns by race and ethnicity, to identify any disparities in suspension and expulsion rates among students with disabilities compared to nondisabled students or other LEAs.
2. **Policy Review and Revision:** In case of significant disparities, the SEA conducts a thorough review of existing policies, procedures, and practices related to Individualized Education Program (IEP) development, positive behavioral interventions, and procedural safeguards. Necessary revisions are made to ensure compliance with federal and state laws.

3. **Disciplinary Exclusions:** Any disciplinary exclusion exceeding 15 cumulative school days within a year for a student with a disability is considered a change in educational placement, except as permitted under 34 CFR 300.530.
4. **Change of Placement for Students with Intellectual Disabilities:** Students identified as intellectually disabled can only be removed from the school premises with written consent from the parent/guardian or written approval from the Bureau of Special Education of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE).
5. **Manifestation Determination Meeting:** A Manifestation Determination Meeting is convened within 10 school days of any decision to change a student's placement due to a violation of the code of student conduct. This meeting involves the LEA, parent, and relevant members of the IEP team to ascertain if the behavior is a manifestation of the student's disability.
6. **Procedural Safeguards:** All disciplinary actions involving students with disabilities adhere strictly to procedural safeguards outlined in federal and state laws. This ensures that students are afforded due process, parental involvement, and access to appropriate educational services during periods of suspension or expulsion.
7. **Review and Monitoring:** Regular reviews and monitoring of disciplinary practices are undertaken to ensure compliance with this policy and relevant laws. The School Leadership Team oversees implementation and addresses any concerns related to disciplinary actions involving students with disabilities.

Conclusion:

Laboratory Charter School is unwavering in its commitment to fostering an environment where all students, including those with disabilities, can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. This policy underscores the school's dedication to equitable disciplinary practices and adherence to legal requirements governing the suspension and expulsion of students with disabilities.