

ALIGNMENT

Oklahoma Adds New Requirements for the Use of Restraints in Public Schools (37 Ok Reg 1194; OK ADC 210:15-13-9; Adopted 9/1/20 and Effective 9/11/20)

Alignment to Crisis Prevention Institute, Inc. (CPI)
Nonviolent Crisis Intervention® (NCI) 2nd Edition Training Program

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For more than 40 years, CPI has supported education organizations that strive to provide the safest environment for staff and students. Not only will the NCI 2nd Edition training program meet the requirements in Oklahoma's new regulations, CPI's train-the-trainer program and its family of advanced programs also offers a comprehensive array of curriculums that can meet all the needs an organization has for supporting a violence-free space in school districts with an emphasis on crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques to better assist staff with achieving this goal.

Additionally, by participating in the NCI 2nd Edition training program, staff will gain the skills and confidence necessary to handle crisis with minimal anxiety and maximum security. The training will help staff intervene more safely when behaviors become dangerous, and, most importantly, it won't damage the educational bond that teaching staff have worked so hard to establish with their students.

The following chart is designed to assist you in identifying some of the ways in which CPI's NCI 2nd Edition training program can help education organizations in Oklahoma comply with the training and documentation requirements within this law. It may also assist you in identifying areas in your organization's policies and procedures that require review and/or revision.

Definitions

“Physical escort” means a temporary touching or holding of the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, or back for the purpose of directing a student to move to a safe location if they are in distress or acting out.

“Physical restraint” means a personal restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to move their torso, arms, legs, or head freely. Physical restraint does not include an appropriately applied temporary physical escort.

“Prone restraint” means a prohibited type of physical restraint that positions a student face down on their stomach, potentially restricting the student's ability to breathe freely.

OK ADC 210:15-13-9. Guidelines for minimizing seclusion and restraint of students

(c) Student restraint. Chemical restraint and/or mechanical restraint of a student is prohibited in Oklahoma public schools. Physical restraint of a student should never be used for the purposes of discipline, punishment, forcing compliance, or as a convenience to staff. In cases where a student has a history of dangerous behavior for which physical restraint was used or considered, the school should have a plan in place for teaching and supporting more appropriate behavior and determining positive methods to prevent behavioral escalations that have previously resulted in the use or consideration of restraint. Physical restraint may only be used under emergency circumstances as outlined below.

Correlation With NCI 2nd Edition Training

The NCI 2nd Edition training program uses both verbal and physical interventions. We train that the least restrictive form of intervention should always be considered and utilized first, prior to the use of any physical restraint. Within this training, we also introduce our *Decision-Making Matrix*SM, or risk assessment matrix, which helps staff to consider what level of intervention to consider based on the level of risk. The *Decision-Making Matrix* and Physical Skills Review both assist staff decision making in the use of physical restraints. The physical restraints include lower-, medium-, and higher-level holding skills to safely manage risk behavior. Beyond physical restraints, CPI does not teach or speak to any other form of restraint (such as mechanical or chemical).

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| <p>(1) Circumstances under which physical restraint of a student is authorized. A student may be physically restrained only if:</p> <p>(A) The student's actions pose an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or other individuals, and not merely a threat to property;</p> <p>(B) Positive behavior intervention strategies and less restrictive measures appropriate to the behavior exhibited by the student are currently being implemented, but have not effectively de-escalated the threat of danger or harm;</p> <p>(C) The physical restraint is applied by school personnel who have completed appropriate training that addresses conflict de-escalation, the crisis cycle and associated interventions, CPR and First Aid (including certifications), possible effects of physical restraint, and monitoring the wellbeing of a restrained student; and</p> <p>(D) The physical restraint lasts only as long as necessary to resolve the threat of danger or harm.</p> <p>(2) Conditions required during an authorized use of physical restraint. If a student is placed in physical restraint during an emergency situation that meets the criteria of (c) (1) above, the following precautions must be exercised throughout the time the student is restrained:</p> <p>(A) Under no circumstances may a student be restrained using a prone (facedown) restraint, any restraint that prevents the student from breathing or speaking, or any maneuver that places pressure or weight on the chest, sternum, lungs, diaphragm, neck, throat, or back;</p> <p>(B) The degree of restriction of the student's freedom of movement may not exceed what is necessary to protect the student or other individuals from the threat of serious physical harm; and</p> <p>(C) The restraint of the student is continuously witnessed by at least one school employee who is not involved in the physical restraint.</p> | <p>CPI's program teaches that any emergency intervention should be used as a last resort, when the individual is an immediate danger to self or others, and when less restrictive interventions have been tried and have failed or are deemed inappropriate. The staff members involved, as well as observers, are trained to continually assess use of physical restraints and may call to end the use of physical restraints at any time.</p> <p>CPI's train-the-trainer model ensures that the training and the related materials are easily customizable to meet the needs of the staff engaged in the training and provides practice, roleplaying real-life scenarios, and problem solving activities to ensure that staff remain engaged in learning. In addition, our eLearning offerings are designed to be highly interactive and engaging and incorporate numerous learning strategies effective with adult learners. Our train-the-trainer model, coupled with either our highly customizable classroom materials or our interactive eLearning offering makes it easy to roll out training to a large number of staff.</p> <p>CPI trains that restraints should only be used when a person poses an immediate threat of harm. When a person no longer presents a potential for harm to themselves or others the restraint should be immediately discontinued.</p> <p>Interventions taught by CPI have been designed to minimize the risk of injury to students and staff. As such, interventions are meant to be free of pain and do not include the use of pressure points or joint locks. While no intervention is completely free of risk from injury to students or staff, all of CPI's interventions have been independently assessed for risk of psycho-social, soft tissue, joint, structural, neurological, cardio-vascular, and respiratory injury to both students and staff.</p> <p>CPI's interventions do not utilize skills that secure a student to a stationary object. However, CPI does teach emergency interventions that allow staff to respond to risk behavior while a student is in a seated or a standing position.</p> <p>CPI teaches that all interventions should be continuously monitored face-to-face to assess the level of imminent risk and signs of distress that may occur when using restraint and/or seclusion.</p> |
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