

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Policy 5.15 Suspensions/Emergency Removals for Adults with Developmental Disabilities	Effective: 2/25/25
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SUSPENSIONS/EMERGENCY REMOVALS FOR ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

POLICY

The Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Stark DD) is committed to protecting the health and safety of all people in Board facilities and/or involved in Board sponsored activities. This policy addresses the expectations set forth when corrective action is needed for a person served through suspension and/or an emergency removal from Stark DD's services and sponsored activities. It is the Board's intention to use suspensions and emergency removals on a very limited basis and only for health and safety. For these types of incidents, a suspension or emergency removal may be issued by the Superintendent/designee.

Historical Resolution Information		Reviewer(s): Superintendent
<u>Date</u>	<u>Resolution Number</u>	
9/25/18	09-43-18	
12/14/21	12-47-21	
2/25/25	02-15-25	

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PROCEDURE

DEFINITIONS

A. Suspension

A suspension is the short-term removal of an individual up to and not more than ten (10) consecutive days. Suspension may occur only as the outcome of a hearing following established procedures that assures due process for the person served.

The length of a suspension shall be determined by the minimum amount of time required to correct a harmful situation, or to conclude a change in placement or services and supports.

If a person served repeatedly demonstrates undesirable conduct that leads to suspension, the Superintendent, or designee, may initiate the suspension.

B. Emergency Removal

An emergency removal is the immediate removal of a person served from the premises when the person served's presence poses a continuing danger to himself, another person and/or board property, including transportation. This includes an ongoing threat of disruption in any part of any building, or elsewhere on the premises. [Referenced from Ohio Revised Code 3313.66 (C)]

The Superintendent, or Department Head/designee, may authorize removal of a person served. A planning conference/hearing must be held within two (2) working days after the removal is ordered. The planning conference/hearing must involve the person served, parent/guardian, the person that ordered the removal, and as appropriate, the residential provider, Behavior Support Specialist, Service and Support Administrator, and other interested and concerned persons.

After two (2) or more incidents of emergency removal within the same program year and for the same related reasons, a behavior support plan must be incorporated into the Individualized Service Plan (ISP) according to established Board Policy 2.18 - Behavior Support and approved by the person served's team.

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Abusive language may not warrant emergency removal unless it appears that the words may lead to violence or that the words themselves disrupt services and sponsored activities.

C. Expulsion

No person served enrolled in programs operated by Stark DD may be expelled. If a critical situation or problem arises that requires a change in placement, a placement conference shall be held following established procedures to determine and recommend the appropriate course of action and changes in service to be reflected in the Individualized Service Plan.

Suspensions that would exceed ten (10) days require a placement conference to consider a more appropriate program alternative either within the Board's services or to another agency where services are appropriate to the person served's needs.