
POLICY

Staff in residential juvenile justice facilities may only physically restrain a youth in the following circumstances:

- To prevent injury to the youth, self or others.
- As a precaution against escape or truancy for a youth in a secure facility or a youth transported while resident in a secure facility.
- When there is a serious destruction of property that places a youth or others at serious threat of violence or injury if no intervention occurs.

Physical restraint is the placing of hands on a youth using minimal force to ensure safety when lesser forms of intervention have failed or in emergency situations that require immediate intervention to ensure safety consisting of:

- Therapeutically holding a youth in place.
- Staff-administered physical restraint using Mechanical Advantage Control Hold V or Handle With Care methods.

Staff use of noxious substances associated with a physical restraint is prohibited.

Staff directing and applying physical restraints must be properly trained in approved DHS de-escalation and restraint techniques. New staff may not supervise or engage in restraint with any youth until they have satisfactorily completed training. Restraint must be performed in a manner that is safe, appropriate and proportionate to youth characteristics including:

- Severity of the youth's behavior.
- Chronological and developmental age.
- Size.
- Gender.
- Physical condition.
- Medical condition.
- Psychiatric condition.
- Personal history, including any history of trauma.

Restraint must be conducted in a manner consistent with the youth's treatment plan.

PURPOSE

To provide clear guidelines for the use of physical restraint with residents in juvenile justice facilities.

DEFINITIONS

See JRG, JJ Residential Glossary.

**RESPONSIBLE
STAFF**

Facility director and direct care staff authorized and trained in the use of approved DHS de-escalation and physical restraint methods for youth in residential juvenile justice facilities. Responsible staff also include medical and other staff trained to conduct the post-restraint examination of a youth who was restrained.

PROCEDURE

Each facility must develop and implement a written procedure for youth physical restraint. This procedure must contain the following requirements:

General Guidance

Physical restraint may never be used as a means of punishment, discipline, coercion or as retaliation.

Physical restraint must always be associated with efforts to de-escalate the situation. Use of physical force and length of the restraint situation must be **minimized**.

**Post Restraint
Review**

Following a physical restraint, staff must take the following actions:

- Conduct a visual examination of each youth restrained. When medical staff is unavailable, the on-duty supervisor must conduct the visual examination. The examination results must be documented in facility logs including:
 - The full name of the youth restrained.
 - The date and time of the restraint.

- The full name and title of the person conducting the examination.
- The results of the examination.
- Provide first aid and/or seek immediate medical attention for injuries received. Staff must document injuries received and first aid/medical treatment provided in an incident report.
- Review the restraint within 48 hours to determine if procedures were followed in directing and conducting the restraint. The review must be conducted by a level of supervision above the level of the staff ordering or conducting the restraint.
- Remind each youth who is restrained of their right to file a grievance and provide a grievance form as needed.

Documentation

Following a physical restraint, staff must make appropriate log entries and complete an incident report.

The facility director or designee must review and aggregate incident reports documenting physical restraints at least biannually.

Distribution

Each facility must send a copy of this policy and the facility procedure to the youth's parents/legal guardian, the youth's juvenile justice specialist and, where appropriate, the youth's probation officer and/or care management organization caseworker.

LEGAL BASIS

Social Welfare Act, 1939 PA 280, as amended, MCL 400.115a(1)(I)

Child Caring Institutions Rules, R400.4137