

Students

Agency and Police Interviews ¹

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to manage requests by agency officials or police officers to interview students at school. Procedures will: ~~(1)~~

1. ~~R~~Recognize individual student rights and privacy,
2. Recognize the potential impact an interview may have on an individual student. ~~(2)~~ ^m
3. Minimize potential disruption. ~~(3)~~ ^f
4. Foster a cooperative relationship with public agencies and law enforcement, and ~~(4)~~ ^e
5. Comply with State law, including, but not limited to, ensuring that before a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security person detains and questions on school grounds a student under 18 years of age who is suspected of committing a criminal act, the Superintendent or designee will: ²
 - a. Notify or attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian and document the time and manner in writing;
 - a-b. Make reasonable efforts to ensure the student's parent/guardian is present during questioning or, if they are not present, ensure that school employees (including, but not

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¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. The listed standards for procedures, other than compliance with State law, are at the local school board's discretion and may be omitted altogether. The Illinois TRUST Act, 5 ILCS 805/, added by P. A. 100-463, prohibits law enforcement agencies and officials from enforcing federal civil immigration laws. Under Section 15(b), law enforcement cannot stop, arrest, search, detain, or continue to detain a person solely based on an individual's citizenship or immigration status.

An excellent resource is the *Guidelines for Interviews of Students*, published by the Ill. Council of School Attorneys (ICSA) at: www.iasb.com/law/ICSAGuidelinesforInterviewsofStudents.pdf. The publication, *Policing in Schools, Developing a Governance Document for School Resource Officers in K-12 Schools*, was developed by the American Civil Liberties Union, and is available at: www.acLU.org/racial-justice/policing-schools-developing-governance-document-school-resource-officers-k-12-schools. It, like the ICSA *Guidelines*, highlights the need for collaboration between law enforcement and school officials. It recommends that school officials provide law enforcement agencies with information about the school's mission to ensure a safe school environment while respecting student rights. To accomplish this, the white paper recommends that school officials create a *model governance document*, e.g., 7:150-AP, *Agency and Police Interviews*, and provide it to the law enforcement authorities with whom they work.

Another helpful resource is *School Resource Officers, School Law Enforcement Units, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)*, published by PTAC (2019), at: www.studentprivacy.ed.gov/resources/school-resource-officers-school-law-enforcement-units-and-ferpa. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.64, added by P.A. 100-204, prohibits *student booking stations* from being established or maintained on school grounds. A *student booking station* is "a building, office, room, or any indefinitely established space or site, mobile or fixed, which operates concurrently as: (1) predominantly or regularly a place of operation for a municipal police department, county sheriff department, or other law enforcement agency, or under the primary control thereof, and (2) a site at which students are detained in connection with criminal charges or allegations against those students, taken into custody, or engaged with law enforcement personnel in any process that creates a law enforcement record of that contact with law enforcement personnel or processes." 105 ILCS 5/10-20.64(d).

² 105 ILCS 5/22-85 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 101-478, eff. 1-1-20. The statute does not specifically assign these duties to a school official, but instead states that "a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security personnel" must ensure these conditions are met before detaining and questioning a student on school grounds. For ease of implementation, this policy assigns these duties to a school official as they routinely contact parents/guardians and can arrange for the presence of school personnel during an interview. See the ICSA *Guidelines* for further discussion of school officials' responsibilities when law enforcement authorities interview students at school.

limited to, a school social worker, psychologist, nurse, guidance counselor, or any other mental health professional) are present during the questioning; and

b.c. If practicable, make reasonable efforts to ensure a trained law enforcement officer to promote safe interactions and communications with the student is present during questioning. ³

LEGAL REF.: [105 ILCS 5/10-20.64, 5/22-85 \(final citation pending\)](#)
[55 ILCS 80/](#), Children’s Advocacy Center Act.
[325 ILCS 5/](#), Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.
[720 ILCS 5/31-1 et seq.](#), Interference with Public Officers Act.
[725 ILCS 120/](#), Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act.

CROSS REF.: [5:90 \(Abused and Neglected Child Reporting\)](#), [7:130 \(Student Rights and Responsibilities\)](#), [7:140 \(Search and Seizure\)](#), [7:190 \(Student Behavior\)](#)

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³ [105 ILCS 5/22-85\(b\)\(4\) \(final citation pending\)](#), added by P.A. 101-478, eff. 1-1-20. A trained law enforcement officer is someone who: (1) received training in youth investigations approved or is certified by his/her law enforcement agency as a school resource officer per [50 ILCS 705/10.22](#). or (2) is a juvenile police officer per [705 ILCS 405/1-3\(17\)](#).