**Equity in Student Discipline**

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and the U.S. Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division jointly released a [Resource on Confronting Racial Discrimination in Student Discipline](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/tvi-student-discipline-resource-202305.pdf). The resource highlights examples of the Departments' investigations of discrimination in student discipline on the basis of race, color, or national origin under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Departments’ Title VI regulations.

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has issued guidance on the rights of public school students with disabilities, including behavioral disabilities, at the elementary and secondary education level, to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability, under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, in the context of discipline. OCR also issued a fact sheet summarizing key points in the Section 504 guidance for students with disabilities and their parents, as well as others who need a quick reference to this important information about students’ rights and schools’ obligations not to discriminate on the basis of disability.

* [Read the Press Release](https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases) [OCR-000134]
* [Letter from Secretary Cardona](https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/secletter/220719.html)
* “Dear Colleague” letter [PDF](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/504-discipline-guidance.pdf) (1.2M) [OCR-000134]
* Fact Sheet [PDF](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/504-discipline-factsheet.pdf) (299K) [OCR-000134]
* OSERS “Dear Colleague” [PDF](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/osers-dcl.pdf) (235K)
* OSERS Q and A [PDF](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/osers-qa.pdf) (998K)
* OSERS Guide for Stakeholders [PDF](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/osers-stakeholders.pdf) (609K)

Resources

[Identifying Strategies to Promote Equity in School Discipline](https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/northwest/pdf/facilitation-instr-strategies.pdf) (Institute of Education Sciences)

[Equity](https://www.pbis.org/equity) (Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, PBIS)

[Racial equity in school discipline: Starting in the classroom](https://education.msu.edu/news/2021/racial-equity-in-school-discipline-starting-in-the-classroom/) (Washington State Governor’s Office of the Ombuds)

[Discipline Equity Audits: Courageous Conversations and a Plan for the Future | IASB](https://www.iasb.com/about-us/publications/journal/2021-illinois-school-board-journal/january-february-2021/discipline-equity-audits-courageous-conversations/) (Illinois Association of School Boards)

[Tackling Equity in Disciplinary Practices](https://www.usf.edu/education/anchin/research/tackling-equity-2020.aspx) (University of South Florida)

[Resources on Student Discipline Policy and Practice](http://www.idra.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Student-Discipline-Policy-and-Practice-2016-Ed2.pdf) (Intercultural Research Development Association-Equity Assistance Center South)

[Achieving Equity in Discipline](https://www.nsba.org/ASBJ/2019/December/Equity-in-Discipline) (National School Boards Association)