

Tips

- ▶ Failure to show up at a permanent exclusion hearing means that you waive your rights.
- ▶ You have a right to an attorney at a permanent exclusion hearing.
- ▶ Ohio schools are not required by law to provide you with education while you are out of school. However, you should **always** ask for assignments or make-up work!

Don't let anyone make you feel like you don't have a choice just because you're a youth!

If you are in Transition or Experiencing Homelessness

- A special law exists that protects you from school policies that punish you *because of* your homelessness.
- Schools cannot have policies that act as **barriers** to your education. If you think this is happening, contact the homeless liaison in your district. To find your liaison, call 614-466-4161.



Ohio State Legal Services
555 Buttlers Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215
614-221-7201
800-589-5888
www.oslsa.org



Equal Justice Foundation
88 E. Broad St., Suite 1590
Columbus, OH 43215
614-221-9800
800-898-0545



Youth Empowerment Program
Coalition on Housing &
Homelessness in Ohio
175 S. 3rd Street, Suite 250
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-280-1984

Facing Suspension or Expulsion?



A Guide to Ohio Law and Procedures for Students Facing Removal from School

How long is a Suspension?

Up to 10 Days

How long is an Expulsion?

10-80 Days (*this can carry over to the next school year*)

Is it possible to be expelled for longer than 80 days?

Yes, some expulsions can be as long as one year:

- ▶ Your school board can make local policies:

Offense	Time
Bringing a Firearm to School	1 Year
Bringing a Knife to School	1 Year
Making a Bomb Threat to a School	1 Year
Committing an act that would be a crime if committed by an adult	1 Year
Bringing a Firearm or Knife to extracurricular activities, or other school-related function	1 Year

Note: Each school policy is different.

Note: When you are suspended or expelled, you are not permitted to enter school property, do extra-curriculars, or attend school-sponsored events.

STUDENTS IN



HAVE RIGHTS!

“**Due Process**” = Schools must follow certain procedures when they take actions against you.

“**Privacy**” = Schools must respect your privacy (although they can still search you if they have an important reason)

Can I get permanently expelled?

Yes, in certain cases, you can be expelled permanently:

- (1) if you are at least 16; AND
- (2) you are **convicted** of a delinquent act, such as having one of the following:

- *deadly weapon in a school zone
- *concealed weapon in a school zone
- *drugs, other than minor drug offenses, on school property

Permanent expulsion means that you cannot attend any public school in Ohio.

What must the school do before they SUSPEND me?

- Give you written notice of the intent to suspend you + reasons for the suspension
- Give you a chance to have an informal hearing

What must the school do before they EXPEL me?

- Give you and/or your parent/guardian written notice of the intent to expel
- Give you a chance to appear in person before the superintendent and to challenge their reasons for expulsion

If you are found to be a continuing danger to people or property or if you are an ongoing disruption on school property, then the school can remove you before notice or a hearing. However, a hearing must be held within 3 days *after* removal.

Note: If you are facing an in-school suspension, then the school is **not** required to follow the procedures mentioned above.