



Classroom Suspensions Frequently Asked Questions

Is a teacher able to suspend a student from their class?

Yes. CA Ed Code Section 48910 states: "A teacher may suspend any pupil from class, for any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900, for the day of the suspension and the day following."

Can a teacher suspend for any reason at all?

No. CA Ed Code authorizes a teacher to suspend a student from class for acts listed in Ed Code 48900. (see provided summary of reasons to suspend below)

For how long can the teacher suspend a student from their class?

Per CA Ed Code 48910, the teacher may suspend students for the day of the suspension and the following day.

Is there a limit to the number of times a teacher can suspend the same student from the classroom?

No. They can be suspended as often as warranted, if the conduct/acts continue to be one or more of those listed in Ed Code 48900. (Ed Code does limit the number of suspensions from school.)

Can the principal "deny" a student suspension from class?

No. CA Ed Code gives the teacher the right to suspend from the classroom, as long as it is based on reason(s) listed under Ed Code 48900.

Are there limitations to suspend students from class based on grade/age or being a Special Ed student?

No. Ed Code does not establish those types of limitations to suspend students from the classroom. (some limitations do exist when suspending from school)

When a teacher suspends a student from their classroom, does the student need to leave campus?

It is up to the principal to determine if the action warrants a suspension from school.

Can a student suspended from class be returned to the same class during the suspension?

Ed Code 48910 states: "The pupil shall not be returned to the class from which he or she was suspended, during the period of the suspension, without the concurrence of the teacher of the class and the principal."

Can a suspended student be sent to another classroom during the suspension period?

No. A suspended student shall not be placed in another regular class during the suspension period. However, if the student is assigned to more than one class per day, the students may attend his/her other classes which are not held at the same time as the class from which the student was suspended. (For example, a student suspended from first period can not be sent to another first period class, but may attend the rest of the periods for the day.)

What is the teacher required to do if he/she suspends a student from their class?

Immediately report the suspension to the Principal (send an email, [template attached](#)) and send the student to the principal or designee. No form is required to be filled out.

As soon as possible, the teacher shall ask the parent/guardian of the suspended student to attend a parent-teacher conference regarding the suspension. A school counselor, psychologist or school administrator may also attend the conference.

Summary of Reasons to Suspend a Student

(Based on Education Code - Sections 48900 & 48910)

- 1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- 2) Willfully used force or violence upon another person, except if in self-defense.
- 3) Possessed, sold, or furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object.
- 4) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, arranged or negotiated to sell, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- 5) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- 6) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- 7) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- 8) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products.
- 9) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- 10) Unlawfully possessed or offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia
- 11) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel.
- 12) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- 13) Possessed an imitation/replica of a firearm very similar to the real thing.
- 14) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault.
- 15) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding.
- 16) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing.
- 17) Engaged in an act of bullying by any means, including: electronic (social media, texting, etc.), impersonation without consent of another student, cyber sexual (including dissemination of photographs), etc.