

Denver Public Schools Discipline Matrix¹

Offense ²	Discipline Ladder Reference	Recommendation For Expulsion	School Referral ¹⁰	Essential Protocols	OSS/ISS ¹ ECE - 3rd Grade	OSS/ISS ¹ Grades 4 - 12
Type Six						
Firearm	N/A	Mandatory Expulsion Hearing & Expulsion ⁵	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	Consultation with IS. 3 - 10 day OSS. Request Expulsion Hearing.	OSS of 3 - 10 days. Request Expulsion Hearing.
Type Five						
Robbery	N/A	Mandatory Review ⁵	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	Consultation with IS. 1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS of 3 -5 days
First or second degree assault, and sexual assault	N/A	Mandatory Review ⁵	Mandatory Referral to DPS DoS, Law Enforcement, Discrimination P&R Designee ⁵ and/or Denver Dept. of Human Services ¹¹	Full Threat Appraisal, Discrimination P&R Process, Child Abuse Report ¹¹	Consultation with IS. 1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS of 3 -5 days
Sale or distribution of, or intent to sell, unauthorized drugs or controlled substance	N/A	Mandatory Review ⁵	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵		Consultation with IS. 1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS of 3 -5 days
Dangerous Weapon: Pellet gun, BB gun, or other device, whether operational or not, designed to propel projectiles by spring action or compressed air	N/A	Mandatory Review ⁵	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	Consultation with IS. 1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS of 3 -5 days
Dangerous Weapon: Fixed blade knife with a blade that exceeds three (3.0) inches in length	N/A	Mandatory Review ⁵	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	Consultation with IS. 1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS of 3 -5 days
Dangerous Weapon: Spring-loaded knife or a pocket knife with a blade that exceeds three and one-half (3.5) inches in length	N/A	Mandatory Review ⁵	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	Consultation with IS. 1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS of 3 -5 days
Dangerous Weapon: Any object, device, instrument, material, or substance, whether animate or inanimate that is used or intended to be used to inflict death or serious bodily injury	N/A	Mandatory Review ⁵	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	Consultation with IS. 1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS of 3 -5 days
Type Four⁷						
Arson	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement & Fire Department ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days

Fighting: Level II (including incidents with significant injuries, but which do not rise to the level of the Type Five offense “1st or 2nd degree assault”)	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to DPS Department of Safety ⁵ . Optional Referral to Law Enforcement ⁴	Full Threat Appraisal	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Destruction or theft of school property (over \$5000)	Level F	Optional Review	Optional Referral to Law Enforcement ⁴		1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Theft from an individual (over \$5000)	Level F	Optional Review	N/A ¹⁰		1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Possession of an explosive (non-fireworks/firecrackers) that seriously endangers the welfare or safety of others	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Willfully causing damage to the property of a school employee	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Assault, harassment, or false allegation of abuse against a school employee	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Hazing activities	Level F	Optional Review	Optional Referral to Law Enforcement ⁴	Full Threat Appraisal	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Child Abuse	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to DPS DoS, Law Enforcement, Discrimination P&R Designee ⁵ and/or Denver Dept. of Human Services ¹¹	Discrimination P&R Process, Child Abuse Report ¹¹	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Unlawful sexual behavior, unlawful sexual contact, and indecent exposure	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to DPS DoS, Law Enforcement, Discrimination P&R Designee ⁵ and/or Denver Dept. of Human Services ¹¹	Discrimination P&R Process, Child Abuse Report ¹¹	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Witness Intimidation or Retaliation	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Other student behavior presenting an active or ongoing danger to the welfare or safety of school occupants	Level F	Optional Review	Mandatory Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵	Full Threat Appraisal, Discrimination P&R Process	1 day OSS for safety planning. Expulsion may not be requested.	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Habitual disruption ³ (ECE - 3rd grade may not receive this offense type)	Level F	Optional Review	N/A ¹⁰	Notice of Intent of Declaration of a Habitually Disruptive Student, Behavior Plans	N/A Students ECE-3rd grade may not receive this offense type	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Recurring Type Three offenses ⁶ (ECE - 3rd grade may not receive this offense type.)	Level F	Optional Review	Optional Referral to Law Enforcement ⁴		N/A Students ECE-3rd grade may not receive this offense type	OSS or ISS of 0 - 3 days
Type Three⁸						

Bullying: Level II - see Policy JICDE	Level E	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Harassment based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or religion: Level II - see Policy AC, JB, JLF	Level E	No	Mandatory Referral to DPS DoS, Law Enforcement, Discrimination P&R Designee ⁵ and/or Denver Dept. of Human Services ¹¹	Discrimination P&R Process, Child Abuse Report ¹¹	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Sexual harassment: Level II - see Policy AC, JB, JLF	Level E	No	Mandatory Referral to DPS DoS, Law Enforcement, Discrimination P&R Designee ⁵ and/or Denver Dept. of Human Services ¹¹	Discrimination P&R Process, Child Abuse Report ¹¹	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Fighting: Level I (may include incidents that result in minor injuries like cuts, scrapes, and bloody noses, etc.)	Level E	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Being under the influence of drugs or alcohol - see Policies JICH, JICH-R	Level E	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Possession of alcohol or unauthorized (but legal) drugs	Level E	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Possession of illegal drugs	Level E	No	Optional Referral to Law Enforcement ⁵		ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Destruction or theft of school property, including graffiti (\$500 - \$5000)	Level E	No	Optional Referral to Law Enforcement ⁴		ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Theft from an individual (\$500 - \$5000)	Level E	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Other school-based misconduct that substantially disrupts the school environment	Level E	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Recurring Type Two offenses ⁶ (ECE - 3rd grade may not receive this offense type.)	Level E	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A Students ECE-3rd grade may not receive this offense type	ISS of 0-3 days or 1 day OSS. Not more than 1 day ISS if 1 day OSS
Type Two						

False activation of a fire alarm	Level D	No	Mandatory Referral to DPS DoS, Fire Department ⁵		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Possession of fireworks/firecrackers	Level D	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Bullying: Level I - see Policy JICDE	Level D	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Harassment based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or religion: Level I - see Policy AC, JB, JLJ	Level D	No	Mandatory Referral to Discrimination P&R Designee ⁵ and/or Denver Dept. of Human Services ¹¹	Discrimination P&R Process, Child Abuse Report ¹¹	ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Sexual harassment: Level I - see Policy AC, JB, JLJ	Level D	No	Mandatory Referral to Discrimination P&R Designee ⁵ and/or Denver Dept. of Human Services ¹¹	Discrimination P&R Process, Child Abuse Report ¹¹	ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Consensual but inappropriate physical contact - see Policy AC, JB, JLJ	Level D	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Destruction or theft of school property, including graffiti (under \$500)	Level D	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Severe defiance of authority/disobedience	Level D	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Trespassing ⁹	Level D	No	N/A ⁹		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Theft from an individual (under \$500)	Level D	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Other school-based misconduct that disrupts the school environment	Level D	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Recurring Type One offenses ⁶ (ECE - 3rd grade may not receive this offense type. Grades 4 - 12: Required documentation for Type One offense - Ladder Levels A through C)	Level D	No	N/A ¹⁰		ISS of 0-3 days	ISS of 0-3 days
Type One						
Classroom disruption	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Excessive tardiness	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Picking on, bothering, or distracting other students	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Use of profanity or vulgarity	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Dress code violation - see Policy JICA	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Disrupting school activity	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Minor defiance of authority/disobedience	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Verbal insults or put-downs	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Use of cell phones, Gameboys, and similar electronic devices at unauthorized times	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Minor damage or defacement of school property	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Tobacco offenses - see Policy JICG	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Unauthorized use of school equipment	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Gambling	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A

Minor physical aggression with another student (e.g., pushing, shoving)	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Scholastic dishonesty	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A
Other minor school-based misconduct	Levels A-C	No	N/A ¹⁰		N/A	N/A

¹ Note: This Matrix is a summary of Policy JK-R. Please refer to the full policy for more detail. Special considerations must be extended to students with disabilities.

Gang-related activity at school is covered under the offenses listed in Type One through Type Six. Refer to Policy JICF: Gang Activity Prevention.

² Gang-related activity at school is covered under the offenses listed in Type One through Type Six. Refer to Policy JICF: Gang Activity Prevention.

³ "Habitual disruption" is not an independent offense, but rather refers to a classification under state law in which persistent misconduct at any level can result in a student in the 4th through 12th grades being declared "habitually disruptive," for which the student may be recommended for expulsion. Students ECE through 3rd grade are not eligible for designation as "habitually disruptive." See JK-R Section 6-7.

⁴ For these offenses, incidents are to be resolved without the involvement of law enforcement whenever possible. See JK-R Section 3-1(D)2.

⁵ This consequence is required under state law. Discrimination P&R Designee refers to the school-level designee.

⁶ For students in the 4th through 12th grades, Recurring Type One offenses can proceed to Type Two, Type Three, and Type Four but shall never result in referral to law enforcement.

⁷ For Type Four offenses committed by 4th through 12th grade students, if there has been a recommendation for expulsion, or a request for an extension of the suspension period made to the Superintendent or designee through Section 6-6 of this Policy, the principal has the option of extending the maximum three-day out-of-school suspension available under Section 3-1 by up to two days, for a total of five days, if deemed necessary for the safety of the school. See JK-R Section 6-4(I). For students in ECE through 3rd grade, a 1-day out-of-school suspension is the maximum consequence that can be applied. See Policy JK-R Section 6-4 (J).

⁸ For Type Three offenses committed by a student in the 4th through 12th grades, if the student's presence in school presents a danger or severe disruption to the school and its occupants or additional time is needed to further investigate the incident, the principal has the option of extending the maximum one-day out-of-school suspension available under Section 3-1 by up to two days, for a total of three days. See JK-R Section 6-4 (H). For students in ECE through 3rd grade, a 1-day out-of-school suspension is the maximum consequence that can be applied. See Policy JK-R Section 6-4 (J).

⁹ If, after being asked to leave the school campus, the student refuses, then law enforcement may be notified.

¹⁰ Note that this column refers to the actions available to the school in response to a disciplinary incident, and does not address or limit the options available to individuals who may be victims of criminal activity. See JK-R Section 3-1 for more information.

¹¹ See Policy JLF, JLF-R, and the Mandatory Reporting Resources and Training on the DPS website. Students 9 years old and younger are referred to Denver Department of Human Services. Students 10 years old or older are referred to law enforcement.