

WAC 110-301-0335 Physical restraint. (1) A school-age provider must have written physical restraint protocols pursuant to WAC 110-301-0490 and implement such protocols only when appropriate and after complying with all requirements of WAC 110-301-0330 and 110-301-0331.

(2) Physical restraint must only be used if a child's safety or the safety of others is threatened and must be:

(a) Limited to holding a child as gently as possible to accomplish restraint;

(b) Limited to the minimum amount of time necessary to control the situation;

(c) Developmentally appropriate; and

(d) Only performed by a school-age provider trained in the program's child restraint policy, pursuant to WAC 110-301-0490.

(3) A school-age provider must not use bonds, ties, blankets, straps, or heavy weights (including an adult sitting on a child) to physically restrain children.

(4) Licensees, program directors, site directors, and lead teachers or trained staff must remove themselves from a situation if they sense a loss of their own self-control and concern for the child when using a restraint technique if another school-age provider is present. A school-age provider must intervene when the provider observes another staff member or volunteer using inappropriate restraint techniques.

(5) If physical restraint is used, staff must:

(a) Report the use of physical restraint, pursuant to WAC 110-301-0475 (2) (f);

(b) Assess any incident of physical restraint to determine if the decision to use physical restraint and its application were appropriate;

(c) Document the incident in the child's file, including the date, time, school-age program staff involved, duration, and what happened before, during, and after the child was restrained;

(d) Develop a written plan with input from the child's primary care or mental health provider, and the parents or guardians, to address underlying issues and reduce need for further physical restraint if:

(i) Physical restraint has been used more than once; and

(ii) A plan is not already a part of the child's individual care plan.

(e) Notify the department when a written plan has been developed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.216.055 and 43.216.065. WSR 21-10-035, § 110-301-0335, filed 4/27/21, effective 6/1/21.]