

2016 TASB Model Student Code of Conduct

The *TASB Model Student Code of Conduct* is intended to assist your district in developing and maintaining your local Student Code of Conduct, mandated by Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code. The *Model* addresses the legal requirements and offers suggestions that you may wish to include in your Student Code of Conduct ("Code").

The *Model* attempts to organize and harmonize the provisions of the law into a framework that, with fine-tuning by individual districts, can serve to communicate to students, parents, school staff, and the community exactly what is expected of students and how misconduct will be handled.

Typically, the *Model Student Code of Conduct* is only updated in odd-numbered years, after a legislative session. We are providing a supplement this year to incorporate some important clarifications associated with changes from the 84th Legislative Session. Revisions that should be incorporated into the district's Code for the 2016-17 school year include the following:

- Clarification regarding the mitigating factors that the campus behavior coordinator must consider when making decisions regarding discipline.
- Clarification of the reasons for which a DAEP placement may be extended beyond one year.
- Rewording of the provisions regarding permissive expulsion for engaging in certain conduct within 300 feet of school property to better track statute.
- Rewording of the provisions regarding mandatory expulsion for weapons to better track statute and clarify exceptions to mandatory expulsions.
- Inclusion in the glossary of relevant federal and state definitions of weapons that may result in student discipline.

The *Model Student Code of Conduct* has been lightly edited throughout for clarity and to incorporate recent changes that have been made to other policies. We encourage administrators to read through the entire

Model carefully, especially the Editorial Notes, and to make sure that all necessary information is included in the district's Code.

Disclaimer: This information is provided for educational purposes only to facilitate a general understanding of the law or other regulatory matter. This information is neither an exhaustive treatment on the subject nor is this intended to substitute for the advice of an attorney or other professional adviser. Consult with your attorney or professional adviser to apply these principles to specific fact situations.

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