

General Personnel

Administrative Procedure - Parent/Guardian Notification of Sexual Misconduct

When a Cooperative employee, contractor, or agent is alleged to have engaged in *sexual misconduct* as defined in 105 ILCS 5/22-85.5(c) with a student, the Cooperative must first provide notice to the student and then provide written notice to the student’s parents/guardians.

Following the Cooperative’s investigation of the alleged sexual misconduct, additional notice must be provided when the Board takes any action relating to the employment of the alleged perpetrator, including whether employment was terminated or whether the Board accepted the employee’s resignation. Notice of formal Board action must first be provided to the student and then written notice must be provided to the student’s parents/guardians.

The only time student notification is not required before parental notification is when a Cooperative employee or agent deems it necessary to address an imminent risk of serious physical injury or death of a student or another person, including the victim. If notification is not given to the student first, then it must be given as soon as practicable and without delay following parental notification.

These parent/guardian notification procedures do not apply if the student’s parent/guardian is the alleged perpetrator of sexual misconduct, and/or if the student is at least 18 years of age or emancipated.

Sexual misconduct - Any act, including but not limited to, any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, by an employee with direct contact with a student, that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples include but are not limited to: 1) a sexual or romantic invitation, 2) dating or soliciting a date, 3) engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog, 4) making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student, 5) self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature, 6) a sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with the student. 105 ILCS 5/22-85.5(c), added by P.A. 102-676.

Notification of Alleged Sexual Misconduct

Actor	Action
Executive Director or Building Principal	Upon learning that a Cooperative employee, contractor, or agent is alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct with a student: Verifies that the allegation has been reported to the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) in accordance with Board policy 5:90, <i>Abused and Neglected Child Reporting</i> . Immediately coordinates any necessary notifications to the student’s parents/guardians with DCFS, the applicable school resource officer, and/or local law enforcement which includes the local State’s Attorney’s Office. Notifies the Cooperative’s Nondiscrimination Coordinator of the reported alleged sexual misconduct.
Nondiscrimination Coordinator	Upon being notified of the reported alleged sexual misconduct by the Executive Director or Building Principal, shall: Determine whether the alleged sexual misconduct is also being investigated by the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and/or law enforcement.

Actor	Action
	<p>Open and conduct an investigation into the alleged incident of sexual misconduct in accordance with policy 7:20, <i>Harassment of Students Prohibited</i>.</p> <p>Considering any DCFS and/or law enforcement investigation(s), identify the appropriate time frame for notifying the student and the student’s parents/guardians of the alleged sexual misconduct. 105 ILCS 5/22-85.10(a)(1), added by P.A. 102-702, eff. 7-1-23.</p> <p>Note: Notification must be provided as soon as feasible after the Cooperative becomes aware of the alleged sexual misconduct, subject to the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/22-85(f) restricting interviews of a student who is a victim of an alleged incident of sexual abuse. <i>Id.</i> at (a)(4). See 5:90-AP1, <i>Coordination with Children’s Advocacy Center</i>.</p>
<p>Nondiscrimination Coordinator and/or a staff member trained in child development</p>	<p>Notifies the student, in a developmentally appropriate manner, with a staff member present who is trained in child development or is one the student trusts, that a Cooperative employee, contractor, or agent is alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct with the student. Notice will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That notice will be given to the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) (105 ILCS 5/22-85.10(a)(2)(A), added by P.A. 102-702, eff. 7-1-23); 2. What information will be included in the notice to parent(s)/guardian(s) (<i>Id.</i> at (a)(2)(B)); 3. Any Cooperative and community-based counseling options for students affected by grooming behaviors identified by the Student Support Committee (see the <i>Erin’s Law Counseling Options, Assistance, and Intervention</i> subhead of policy 7:250, <i>Student Support Services</i>); 4. If the student is 12 years of age or older, any available counseling services under 105 ILCS 5/3-550 (105 ILCS 5/22-85.10(a)(2)(C), added by P.A. 102-702, eff. 7-1-23); and 5. Beginning 7-1-25, any available resources for the student within the school and community in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/26A, including the name and contact information of the Cooperative’s domestic and sexual violence and parenting resource coordinator under 105 ILCS 5/26A-35 (<i>Id.</i> at (a)(2)(C), (D)).
<p>Nondiscrimination Coordinator</p>	<p>After the student notification, notifies parent(s)/guardian(s) in writing of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The alleged sexual misconduct (<i>Id.</i> at (a)(3)(A)); 2. Any Cooperative and community-based counseling options for students affected by grooming behaviors identified by the Student Support Committee (see the <i>Erin’s Law Counseling Options, Assistance, and Intervention</i> subhead of policy 7:250, <i>Student Support Services</i>); and 3. Beginning 7-1-25, any available resources for the student within the school and community in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/26A,

Actor	Action
	including the name and contact information of the Cooperative’s domestic and sexual violence and parenting resource coordinator under 105 ILCS 5/26A-35 ((105 ILCS 5/22-85.10(a)(3)(B), added by P.A. 102-702).

Notification of Board Action

Actor	Action
Executive Director and Nondiscrimination Coordinator	<p>As soon as feasible after the Board takes any action relating to the employment of the alleged perpetrator, notifies the student, in a developmentally appropriate manner, of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The fact that notice will be given to the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) (<u>Id.</u> at (b)(2)(A)); 2. Information that will be included in the notice to parents/guardians (<u>Id.</u> at (b)(2)(B)); 3. Any Cooperative and community-based counseling options for students affected by grooming behaviors identified by the Student Support Committee (see the <i>Erin’s Law Counseling Options, Assistance, and Intervention</i> subhead of policy 7:250, <i>Student Support Services</i>); 4. If the student is 12 years of age or older, any available counseling services under 405 ILCS 5/3-550 (105 ILCS 5/22-85.10(b)(2)(C), added by P.A. 102-702, eff. 7-1-23); and 5. Beginning 7-1-25, any available resources for the student within the school and community in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/26A, including the name and contact information of the Cooperative’s domestic and sexual violence and parenting resource coordinator under 105 ILCS 5/26A-35 (105 ILCS 5/22-85.10(b)(2)(C), (D), added by P.A. 102-702). <p>If the student is no longer enrolled when the Board takes action, written notice may be sent to the last known address in the student’s file. <u>Id.</u> at (b)(5).</p>
Executive Director	<p>After the student notification, notifies parent(s)/guardian(s), in writing of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Board’s action (<u>Id.</u> at (b)(3)(A)); 2. Whether a report concerning the alleged sexual misconduct was or will be submitted to the State Superintendent of Education and the Regional Superintendent pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 (<u>Id.</u> at (b)(3)(B)); 3. Any Cooperative and community-based counseling options for students affected by grooming behaviors identified by the Student Support Committee (see the <i>Erin’s Law Counseling Options, Assistance, and Intervention</i> subhead of policy 7:250, <i>Student Support Services</i>); and

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	<p data-bbox="646 346 1471 541">4. Beginning 7-1-25, any available resources for the student within the school and community in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/26A, including the name and contact information of the Cooperative's domestic and sexual violence and parenting resource coordinator under 105 ILCS 5/26A-35 (105 ILCS 5/22-85.10(b)(3)(C), added by P.A. 102-702).</p> <p data-bbox="597 552 1471 646">If the student is no longer enrolled when the Board takes action, written notice may be sent to the last known address in the student's file. <u>Id.</u> at (b)(5).</p>

Implemented: 5/2023