

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE	Transmittal # 14-03	Policy # 13.7
Applicability: { } All DJJ Staff { } Administration { } Community Services {x} Secure Facilities (RYDCs and YDCs)	Related Standards & References: O.C.G.A. 16-13-32.4, 16-11-127.1, 49-4A-11, 49-4A-12	
Chapter 13: EDUCATION	Effective Date: 5/20/14 Scheduled Review Date: 5/20/16	
Subject: SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE	Replaces: 3/15/12 Education and Re-entry Services	
Attachments: None.	APPROVED:  <hr/> Avery D. Niles, Commissioner	

I. POLICY:

The Department of Juvenile Justice schools shall provide youth with an environment that is conducive to learning and student development. Because the Department is a Special School District with all of the powers, privileges and authority of any other school district, all secure facilities are school safety zones.

II. DEFINITIONS:

Bullying: Unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, overtime.

Controlled Substance: A drug, substance, or immediate precursor in Schedules I through V of Code Sections 16-13-25 through 16-13-29, Schedules I through V of 21 C.F.R. Part 1308, or both, including marijuana.

School Safety Zone: In or on any real property owned by or leased to the Department of Juvenile Justice and used for elementary or secondary education.

Weapon: Any pistol, revolver, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, or any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any weapon of like

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kind, and any stun gun or taser as defined in O.C.G.A. 16-11-106(a). This paragraph excludes any of these instruments used for classroom work authorized by the teacher or sports equipment possessed by competitors for legitimate athletic purposes.

III. PROCEDURES:

- A. Regardless of whether school is in session, it is unlawful for any person to carry or possess a weapon in or on the property of a Department of Juvenile Justice secure facility or within the facility itself, except for certified peace officers.
 - 1. Law enforcement officers or other authorized individuals who carry weapons will be required to lock their weapon in their vehicle or unload the weapon and turn it over to the entrance officer to be placed in a locked, secured storage box or compartment provided by the facility. No firearm or ammunition will be allowed beyond the weapons checkpoint unless specifically approved in an extreme emergency by the Commissioner.
 - 2. In accordance with O.C.G.A. 16-11-127.1, any person who violates Section A of this policy can be prosecuted for a felony and, upon conviction, be punished by a fine and/or imprisonment.

- B. Regardless of whether school is in session, it is unlawful for any person to manufacture, dispense, possess, or possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance or marijuana within 1000 feet of a Department of Juvenile Justice secure facility or within the facility itself.
 - 1. Employees who have a need for a prescribed controlled substance during their tour of duty must have the permission of the facility Director to bring the medication into the facility. The medication must be in a container labeled clearly with the employee's name, name of the medication, and dosage instructions that indicate the medication must be taken during the tour of duty. The staff member must ensure the security of the medication and immediately report theft or loss. Only the amount of medication needed during the employee's tour of duty may be brought into the facility.
 - 2. In accordance with O.C.G.A. 16-13-32.4, any person who violates or conspires to violate Section B of this policy can be prosecuted for a felony and upon conviction, be punished by a fine and/or imprisonment.

- C. Whether school is in session or not, no person will manufacture, dispense, or possess alcohol on Department of Juvenile Justice property.

- D. Department of Juvenile Justice secure facilities will display a sign indicating that the area is a school safety zone. Each facility Director will file a map with the local court indicating both the facility and the 1000-foot border. (The border will be the facility's property line.)

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- E. Penalties established by statute (fine and/or imprisonment) are in addition to any action the Department of Juvenile Justice may take.
 - 1. An employee who violates this policy will be disciplined up to and including termination.
 - 2. Youth will be disciplined using DJJ 16.5, Disciplinary Reports and Hearings.
 - 3. Visitors will be turned over to local law enforcement and referred to the local district attorney's office.

- F. Students or persons who have control or charge of a student will report acts of bullying either anonymously or in person to facility personnel. All reports of bullying must be documented on a Special Incident Report in accordance with DJJ 8.5, Special Incidents and Child Abuse Reporting. During the intake orientation, students will be encouraged to report or otherwise provide information on bullying activity that may occur during their stay.

I. LOCAL OPERATING PROCEDURES REQUIRED: YES