



Georgia Legal  
Services Program

# STUDENTS HAVE RIGHTS: DISTANCE LEARNING, DISCIPLINE, & ATTENDANCE

Students have rights when their school wants to discipline them, including the right to remain silent, the right to an attorney, and the right to a hearing before being suspended or expelled for more than 10 days. These rights apply even if the student is punished for something that happens during distance learning.

Students must still follow their school's codes of conduct, even while distance learning. A school may even try to discipline students for off-campus conduct that happens in the community.

The State of Georgia requires school districts to take attendance of students engaged in distance learning, but gives individual districts a lot of flexibility in how to collect attendance. If you or your child face adverse action related to absences or truancy, communicate your family's concerns and needs in writing to the school district. If your school district will not work with you to find solutions that work for your family, contact an attorney.

GLSP represents clients with up to 200% of the federal poverty level in household income and who have limited assets. We serve US Citizens and persons with certain legal immigration statuses. We provide free interpretation to applicants and clients.

If you meet these requirements and live in a Georgia county **OTHER THAN** Fulton, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, or Gwinnet, you can apply for legal assistance online at [www.glsf.org](http://www.glsf.org) or by phone at 833-457-7529.