



Reporting Obligations for the Safety of Minors

- Utah State Law includes mandatory reporting obligations that requires any person who “has reason to believe” that a minor has been subjected to abuse or neglect including sexual abuse, to immediately notify the office of child and family services or a law enforcement agency. (Utah Code 62a-4a-403)
- University policy mandates reporting consists with state obligations and extends to all faculty, staff, students, volunteers, and authorized adults, whether or not they are involved in a covered program.
- In addition to state law mandate reporting, reports of known or suspected child abuse or neglect by authorized adults and/or on university premises shall also be made to the University’s Public Safety at (801)626-6460 or Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity at (801)626-6240.
- On receiving a report, the university will take immediate steps to assure the safety of minors and comply with all applicable legal reporting and referral requirements.
- The confidentiality of a report made to the university’s office of equal opportunity and affirmative action of suspected abuse or neglect, including the identity of the person making the report, the person suspected of abuse or neglect, and the child who may have been abused or neglected, will be protected consistent with the University’s legal obligations.

Note: The only exception to the obligation to report child abuse or neglect is for Clergy under the conditions set forth in the section 62a-4a-403(2) of Utah Code.

RESOURCES

CAMPUS

Emergency Response: 911
WSU Campus Police: 801-626-6460
Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity
Laura Thompson: 801-626-6240
Human Resources: 801-626-6032
WSU Counseling Center: 801-626-6406

LEGAL:

2nd District Court
2525 Grant Ave. Ogden: 801-395-1079
Weber County Attorney’s Office
2380 Washington Blvd, STE: 801-399-8377
Ogden City Justice Court
310 26th St. Ogden: 801-629-8560
Ogden City Prosecutor: 801-629-8595

Utah Child and Family
Services Hotline: 1-855-323-3237

OTHER RELATED RESOURCES

Safety of Minors on Campus Policy
Policy: PPM 5-37



WEBER STATE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
 3734 Dixon Parkway DEPT 3003
 Ogden, UT 84408-3003
 Phone: 801-626-6460



SAFETY OF MINORS ON CAMPUS

Guidelines for Supervisors, Volunteers and Chaperones

Purpose: To provide requirements for the safety and protection of minors who are participating in University-sponsored, or programs operated by non-University entities on University premises.

Scope: Applies to all University faculty, staff, (regardless of FTE or permanent or temporary employment status) interns, students, volunteers, vendors, authorized adults, and other individuals who use University Premises.



At a minimum, Authorized Adults shall not in connection with the covered program:

- a) Engage in abusive conduct of any kind toward, or in the presence of a minor.
- b) Use any form of physical or corporal punishment to discipline a minor.
- c) Engage in any sexual activity, make sexual comments, tell sexual jokes, or share sexually explicit material or assist a minor in providing access to such material.
- d) Engage in romantic, sexual, or related conversations with minors.
- e) Communicate with a minor participant after the covered program has concluded.
- f) Communicate electronically with minors unless there is an educational or programmatic purpose.
- g) Touch minors in a manner that a reasonable minor or person could interpret as inappropriate or that is prohibited by law.
- h) Be alone with a minor, unless the one-on-one interaction is authorized by the program director and whenever possible should be in a public space.
- i) Meet with the minor outside of established times for covered program activities. Invite a minor to the Authorized Adults home or engage in an overnight visit with the minor.
- j) Use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while on duty or when responsible for a minor's welfare.
- k) Transport a minor in a vehicle unless more than one Authorized adult is present in the vehicle or multiple minors are in the vehicle at all times through the transportation.
- l) Transport a minor in a vehicle for personal reasons not related to the covered program unless there is written authorization from the program director and the minor's parent/guardian.
- m) Accept from or give gifts to minors without the knowledge of the minor's parent/guardian.

Utah Code Definitions (62a-4a-101, 78a-6-105)

Child: is a person who is under the age of 18 years of age.

Abuse: means the non-accidental harm of a child; threatened harm of a child; sexual exploitation of a child; or sexual abuse.

Neglect: is the failure of a parent, guardian, or caregiver to provide for a child's basic physical, medical, educational, or emotional needs.

Physical Abuse: means abuse that results in physical injury or damage to a child.

Sexual Abuse: activities such as fondling a child's genitals, molestation, penetration, incest, rape sodomy indecent exposure and exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.

WSU Definitions

Authorized Adults: An individual who is 18 years of age or older, who is authorized to care for, interact with, supervise, chaperone, or otherwise have access or contact with minors in a covered program.

Minor: A person under the age of 18 years of age.

Covered Program: A program or activity offered or sponsored by any academic or administrative unit of the University, or by a non-University entity operating on University premises that includes minors as participants.

Code of Conduct

Authorized Adults should be positive role models for minor participating in "Covered Programs" and conduct themselves in a respectful, honest and caring manner.