Child Protection Policies Training

Module 1: Introduction & Background

Prepared by:
SUNY Office of General Counsel
SUNY Compliance Office

2015
Overview of two SUNY System-wide Child Protection Policies:
  - (1) Policy on Mandatory Prevention and Reporting of Child Sexual Abuse
  - (2) Child Protection Policy

Defining and Recognizing Child Abuse

In-Depth Review of the SUNY Child Protection Policy, including:
  - Policy Application
  - Policy Definitions
  - Campus, University Affiliates, and System Administration Responsibilities
  - Required and Prohibited Conduct by “Covered Persons”
  - Duties of “Responsible University Officials”
  - Third Party Use of University Facilities
The Intended Audience of this Training is:

System Administration, Campuses and University Affiliated Organizations

• Administrators, campus offices and employees who will be responsible for the implementation and administration of the SUNY Child Protection Policy and the Policy on Mandatory Prevention and Reporting of Child Sexual Abuse, and for the development of local procedures and training.

• These individuals are defined as “Covered Persons” and “Responsible University Officials” under the SUNY Child Protection Policy, as will be further explained.

NOTE: The primary focus of this training is the SUNY Child Protection Policy No. 6505, the training also covers SUNY’s system-wide Policy on Mandatory Prevention and Reporting of Child Sexual Abuse No. 6504, which assigns ALL SUNY STAFF, STUDENTS & VOLUNTEERS an affirmative duty to report suspected incidents of child sexual abuse ONLY related to activities on campus or University-sponsored events off campus.
Training Program Modules

1. Introduction and Background

2. Defining and Recognizing Child Abuse and the Threshold for Reporting

3. Overview of SUNY’s two Child Protection Policies; Policy Resources

4. Requirements of the Mandatory Reporting Policy; Impact of the Child Protection Policy


8. Child Protection Policy: Duties of “Responsible University Officials”


SUNY campuses host programs for children and provide space to third parties for events involving children.

Child programs may include:

- Summer camps
- Academic programs
- Athletic programs

- Community Outreach activities
- Volunteer Programs
- Student Instruction Programs
The 2012 report of special investigative counsel concerning child sexual abuse at Penn State University (the “Freeh Report”) reviewed egregious instances of long term, undetected child sexual abuse.

The Freeh Report made recommendations and cited best practices for unaccompanied children at university facilities, housing and university programs.

Higher education institutions across the country, including SUNY, have enacted policies and best practices to protect children.
SUNY’s Commitment to Child Protection

• SUNY has two System-wide policies to protect children at SUNY facilities and in SUNY programs.

• Both policies were adopted by the SUNY Board of Trustees upon the Chancellor’s recommendation and both policies affirm SUNY’s commitment to making the protection of children a System-wide priority.

Policy on Mandatory Prevention and Reporting of Child Sexual Abuse
Adopted by Board on Dec. 17, 2012

Child Protection Policy
Adopted by Board on June 17, 2014

Mandates reporting of child sexual abuse for all University activities on and off University property.

Sets policy for local procedures to protect children on campus.
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END

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