



The State University
of New York

Child Protection Policies Training

Prepared by:
SUNY Office of General Counsel
SUNY Compliance Office

2015



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of New York

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**Module 4: Policy on Mandatory Reporting of Child Sexual Abuse
Child Protection Policy System-wide Impact**

**Prepared by:
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SUNY System-wide Policy on Mandatory Reporting and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

[the “Mandatory Reporting Policy”]

Effective Dec. 2012

Child Protection Policies Training

SUNY

Mandatory Reporting Policy

Any employee or student of or volunteer for the State University of New York who witnesses or has reasonable cause to suspect any sexual abuse of a child occurring on State University property or while off campus during official State University business or University-sponsored events shall have an affirmative obligation to report such conduct to the relevant University Police Department immediately. Such report should include the names of the victim and assailant (if known), other identifying information about the victim and assailant, the location of the activity, and the nature of the activity. Upon receiving such a report, the applicable University Police Department shall promptly notify the Commissioner of University Police at SUNY System Administration who shall report such incidents to the Chancellor for periodic reporting to the Board of Trustees.

In addition, to aid in the prevention of crimes against children on property of the State University of New York and/or during official State University business at events sponsored by the State University of New York, relevant employees should be trained on the identification of such crimes and proper notification requirements. Vendors, licensees or others who are given permission to come onto campus or to use University facilities for events or activities that will include participation of children shall ensure that they have in place procedures for training, implementation of applicable pre-employment screening requirements and reporting of child sexual abuse.

For purposes of this policy, the applicable definitions of child sexual abuse are those used in the NYS Penal Law in Articles 130 and 263 and Section 260.10 and “child” is defined as an individual under the age of 17.

Mandatory Reporting Policy

Mandates Reporting to University Police

Employees + Students + Volunteers



have an **AFFIRMATIVE DUTY** to report Child Sexual abuse to **University Police** when abuse occurs

On university property

OR

Off university property during official university business or during university-sponsored events

Mandatory Reporting Policy

Threshold for Reporting

“Reasonable cause to suspect” means that based on your rational observations and experience, you have a suspicion that the child is being sexually abused* **on SUNY property** or **off campus** during official SUNY business or during SUNY-sponsored events.

**REASONABLE
CAUSE TO SUSPECT
=
REPORT**

* Adapted from the NYS Office of Children & Family Services.

Mandatory Reporting Policy

- Policy creates mandated reporting requirement for SUNY.



**ALL SUNY STAFF, STUDENTS & VOLUNTEERS
have an affirmative duty to report incidents
ONLY related to
activities on University property
or
University-sponsored events off campus**

- “Mandated reporting” has different meaning than “Mandated Reporters” under New York State law, who are ALWAYS required to report.

Mandatory Reporting Policy

Police Investigation

- Upon receiving such a report, the applicable University Police Department will promptly notify the Commissioner of University Police at SUNY System Administration, who will report such incidents to the Chancellor for periodic reporting to the Board of Trustees.



Mandatory Reporting Policy

Application

Example: SUNY employee at the grocery store learns of child sexual abuse unrelated to SUNY.

→ Not obligated to report under SUNY policy.

Example: SUNY employee at the grocery store learns of child sexual abuse at SUNY program.

→ Affirmative duty to report under SUNY policy.

Example: SUNY employee participating in a campus-sponsored volunteer event off-campus learns of child sexual abuse during the event.

→ Affirmative duty to report under SUNY policy.



Mandatory Reporting Policy

Training

RELEVANT employees must be trained **recognizing child sexual abuse**; on their **obligation to report** such abuse, and on proper reporting protocols.

Third Parties

Vendors and others using University facilities for activities involving children must have **procedures in place to screen their employees and to train their employees to recognize and report child sexual abuse.**

Mandatory Reporting Policy

Campus Local Procedures

1. Must include affirmative duty for **students, employees and volunteers** to report.
2. Must include **training** on identification of sexual abuse and proper notification requirements for relevant employees and students; AND
3. Ensure that **third parties and others using University facilities**, where children will be participating, **have procedures** in place aimed at **preventing child sexual abuse**.

SUNY Child Protection Policy

Adopted June 2014



Child Protection Policies Training

Child Protection Policy

POLICY:

The State University of New York is committed to protecting the safety and well-being of children who participate in University-related programs and activities, whether on or off campus, or utilize campus facilities for activities including, but not limited to, sports camps, academic and personal enrichment programs and research studies.

["Policy" Statement is Section B of the policy.]

SUNY's Commitment to Child Protection

Policy Requirements

SUNY Campuses and University Affiliates must implement procedures to promote the safety of CHILDREN.



Child Protection Policy

Summary: *Individuals must conduct themselves appropriately with children who participate in University-related programs and report instances or suspicion of physical or sexual abuse of children*

[“Summary” Statement is Section A of the policy.]

Child Protection Policy



Appropriate
Conduct with
Children



Reporting
instances or
suspicion of child
physical and
sexual abuse



***Child
Protection
Policy***



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