

Child Protection Policy

Clatsop Community College is committed to protecting the safety and well-being of children and students under the age of 18 who are on College premises, and/or who participate in College-related programs and activities, both on and off campus.

The participation of children and students under the age of 18 in these programs and activities requires an increased level of care, and an expectation that College employees will conduct themselves appropriately in the presence of children on campus and/or in College-related programs and activities.

Effective January 1, 2013, all community college employees are required by Oregon law to report suspected cases of child abuse to the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) or law enforcement officials. This duty is personal to the individual community college employee and applies twenty-four hours-a-day, seven days-a-week whether or not you are on work time. You must immediately report to DHS or local law enforcement when you have “reasonable cause to believe” that any child with whom you come in contact has suffered abuse, or that any person with whom you come in contact has abused a child.

In addition, college employees and students must report to the responsible College official, the Human Resources Director, instances of inappropriate conduct when they witness, receive a report of, or reasonably believe an instance of child abuse has occurred. This requirement applies to cases of abuse that allegedly occur on campus, on property owned or leased by the College, or while members of the faculty, staff or student body are participating in a College-connected activity off campus.

Reporting to the designated College official does not satisfy the legal duty to report to DHS or local law enforcement.

DEFINITIONS

“Abuse” means:

- Any assault of a child and any physical injury to a child which has been caused by other than accidental means;
- Any mental injury to a child, which shall include only observable and substantial impairment of the child’s mental or psychological ability to function caused by cruelty to the child, with due regard to the culture of the child;

- Rape of a child, which includes but is not limited to rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration and incest;
- Sexual abuse;
- Sexual exploitation, including:
 - Contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor;
 - Allowing, permitting, encouraging or hiring a child to engage in prostitution or patronize a prostitute;
- Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child;
- Threatened harm to a child, which means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child’s health or welfare;
- Buying or selling a person under 18 years of age;
- Permitting a person under 18 years of age to enter or remain in or upon premises where methamphetamines are being manufactured; or
- Unlawful exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in ORS 475.005, that subjects a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child’s health or safety.

“**Child**” means an unmarried person who is under 18 years of age.

“**Law enforcement agency**” means:

- a city or municipal police department;
- a county sheriff’s office;
- the Oregon State Police; or
- a county juvenile department.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference:

ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050