

Title: Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse	AP 2400	Implementing Board Policy: BP 2400
Originating Department: Human Resources	Originated: 4/1/15	Effective Date: 4/1/15
Previous Revisions: New	Approved: <u>Terrence H</u> President	

Academic, administrative, and athletic employees, including student employees, must make any report directly to the proper law enforcement agency or the Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS).

All other employees must make any report directly to the Vice President of Human Resources via phone, in person or email. The Vice President of Human Resources must make a report to the proper law enforcement agency or DSHS.

ELEMENTS OF REPORT:

The report must include as much detail as possible and must include the identity of the accused if known. Detail includes:

- The name, address and age of the child;
- The name and address of the child's parents, step-parents, guardians or other persons having custody of the child;
- The nature and extent of the alleged injury or injuries;
- The nature and extent of the alleged neglect;
- The nature and extent of the alleged sexual abuse;
- Any evidence of previous injuries, including their nature and extent
- Any other information that may be helpful in establishing the cause of the child's injury, injuries or death;
- The identity of the alleged perpetrator or perpetrators.

The reporting requirement above does not apply to the discovery of abuse or neglect that occurred during childhood if it is discovered after the child has become an adult. However, if there is reasonable cause to believe other children are or may be at risk of abuse or neglect by the accused, the reporting requirement does apply and a report must be made.

DEFINITIONS:

Child:

Any person under the age of eighteen years of age.

Abused Child:

A child who has been subjected to child abuse or neglect.

Abuse:

Sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or injury of a child by any person under circumstances which cause harm to the child's health, welfare, or safety or the negligent treatment or mal treatment of a child by a person responsible for or providing care to the child.

Allowable Physical Discipline:

Physical discipline that is reasonable and moderate and is inflicted by a parent, teacher or guardian for the purpose of restraining or correcting the child. Any use of force on a child by any other person is unlawful unless it is reasonable and moderate and is authorized in advance by the child's parent or guardian for the purpose of restraining or correcting the child.

TRAINING:

The Human Resources Office will make all employees aware of the reporting requirements and accompanying policy and procedure on an annual basis. New employees will receive this information during employee orientation conducted by the Human Resources Office.

IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY:

Any person participating in the reporting of alleged child abuse or neglect in good faith shall be immune from any legal liability arising out of such reporting.

A person who, in good faith cooperates in an investigation of a report of child abuse or neglect shall not be subject to civil liability arising out of his or her cooperation.

However, a person who, intentionally and in bad faith, knowingly makes a false report of alleged abuse or neglect shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and violation of the college's policy.

REPORTING GUIDANCE:

The VP of Human Resources is the College's designee to receive reports and provide guidance regarding an employee's reporting obligations.

RESOURCES:

Other resources may also help in the reporting of child abuse and neglect.

BBCC Security x2286

Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS)

Hotline: 1-866-ENDHARM 1-866-363-4276

Office: 1-800-737-0617

Office of the Family & Children's Ombudsman (OFCO)

Toll Free: 1-800-571-7321

Office: 206-439-3870

New Hope Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services

Hotline: (888) 560-6027

Office: 509-764-8402

www.grantcountyweb.com/GrIS/New-Hope/

newhope@co.grant.wa.us

