



Policy Manual

Title: Protection of Vulnerable Persons – Reporting Known or Suspected Child Abuse	Number: 6Hx2-3.53
Legal Authority: <i>Fla. Statutes 39.205, Florida Rule 6A-14.099, FAC</i>	Page: 1 of 2

GENERAL STATEMENT

Broward College administrators and law enforcement officials under the employment jurisdiction and oversight by contract with the institution are required to comply with the statute that requires the reporting of child abuse, abandonment, and cases of neglect when these are known by individual inquiry or involvement, or known due to instances that are reported to them by any person or entity within or outside of the College.

THE POLICY AND THE FACULTY AND STAFF

College administrators, including campus safety officers must report any and all instances known or reported to them that happen on the College’s campuses or centers, any buildings owned or operated by the College, or at any College sponsored event and activity on or off campus.

College administrators and safety officers who have knowledge of an instance or instances outlined herein, who knowingly and willfully fail to report such instances and/or who knowingly and willfully prevent another person or employee from reporting the same, will have violated this policy and the law.

IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT

The President delegates his authority to the Executive Director, Talent and Culture for the implementation and oversight of this policy in collaboration with the Senior Vice Presidents, Vice Presidents and Campus Presidents.

VIOLATION OF POLICY

Violations of this policy are investigated by the Executive Director, Talent and Culture and/or his/her designee and may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination, and may additionally subject employees to personal criminal and civil penalties.

The College may also be subject to substantial fines in accordance with Florida Statute and Rule for the actions or inactions of its employees.

DEFINITIONS

1. Administrator – In accordance with State Board of Education Rule, for the purposes of this policy, the term “Administrator” means the following high level personnel who have been assigned the responsibilities of college-wide or campus academic, student affairs or administrative functions, such as: college presidents, campus presidents, provosts, senior/executive vice presidents, vice presidents, associate vice presidents, associate/vice provosts, chief human resource officer, deans, chief of police, Safety administrators, equal opportunity programs director, intercollegiate athletics director, internal auditor, Title IX coordinator and college compliance officer.

2. Child – Any person under the age of 18 years who has not been emancipated by order of the court.

History: <i>Adopted as policy on January 28, 2014, revised December 10, 2019</i>			
Approved by the Board of Trustees	Date: 12/10/2019	President’s Signature 	Date: 12/10/2019

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3. Child abuse – Any willful act or threatened act that results in any physical, mental, or sexual abuse, injury, or harm that causes or is likely to cause the child’s physical, mental, or emotional health to be significantly impaired. Abuse of a child includes acts or omissions.

4. Child abandonment – A situation in which the parent or legal custodian of a child or, in the absence of a parent or legal custodian, the caregiver, while being able, has made no significant contribution to the child’s care and maintenance or has failed to establish or maintain a substantial and positive relationship with the child, or both.

5. Child neglect means –
 - a. A caregiver’s failure or omission to provide a child with the care, supervision, and services necessary to maintain the child’s physical and mental health, including, but not limited to, food, nutrition, clothing, shelter, supervision, medicine, and medical services that a prudent person would consider essential for the well-being of the child;

 - b. A caregiver’s failure to make a reasonable effort to protect a child from abuse, neglect, or exploitation by another person.

 - c. Except as otherwise provided in this section, neglect of a child may be based on repeated conduct or on a single incident or omission that results in, or could reasonably be expected to result in, serious physical or mental injury, or a substantial risk of death, to a child.

History: *Adopted as policy on January 28, 2014, revised December 10, 2019*

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