MANDATED REPORTER – CHILD ABUSE

During the 2012 legislative session, RCW 26.44 expanded the definition of Mandated Reports (those who have a legal duty to report child abuse and neglect). Effective June 7, 2012, all Walla Walla Community College employees (including student employees) became Mandated Reporters.

The purpose of the law is to protect children who have been non-accidentally injured; sexually exploited; or deprived of the right to minimal nurture, health, and safety by their parents, custodian, or guardian. While the State respects the bond between parent/guardian and child, the State does assert the right to intervene for the general welfare of the child when there is a clear and present danger to the child’s health, welfare, or safety. The purpose of mandated reporting is to identify suspected abused and neglected children as soon as possible so they can be protected from further harm. Child Protective Services (CPS) cannot act until a report is made. Mandated Reporters play a critical role in preventing any future harm to children.

The law requires that all employees have knowledge of their Mandated Reporter responsibilities. As such, WWCC has written an Administrative Procedure for purposes of implementing the changes in the law. Specific information on how to report child abuse or neglect, as well as other helpful information, can be found in the Mandated Reporter Toolkit. You are also encouraged to read A Guide for Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect, a publication of the Department of Social and Health Services.

Please read and acknowledge the following:

I acknowledge and understand that I am considered a ‘Mandated Reporter’.

I acknowledge that I have received information on my reporting responsibilities.

I understand that if I have any further questions I can contact my supervisor or a representative in the Human Resources department.

CLICK HERE
As your Acknowledgement