



Walla Walla Community College REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT Mandated Reporter Information

Washington State law requires employees, including student employees, in administrative, academic and athletic departments of state and private higher education institutions to be Mandated Reporters if they have reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect.

A child is anyone under the age of 18. Abuse or neglect is defined as sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or injury of a child by any person under circumstances that cause harm to the child's health, welfare, or safety, or the negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child by a person responsible for or providing care to the child.

Mandated Reporters must report suspected child abuse or neglect (or cause a report to be made) to proper law enforcement or Child Protective Services when they believe a child has suffered abuse or neglect. The report must be made at the first opportunity, and never later than 48 hours after the employee has reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect.

HOW TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

There are several ways to report abuse:

Daytime	Contact the local Child Protective Services office at (509) 524-4900 or toll free at 1-800-643-4159.
Nights & Weekends	Contact the 24-hour hotline at 1-800-562-5624.
Hotline	Call 1-866-ENDHARM (1-866-363-4276) Washington State's toll-free, 24-hour, 7 day-a-week hotline that will connect you directly to the appropriate local office to report suspected child abuse or neglect.
TTY Callers	Call 1-800-624-6186 to place a direct TTY call.

Questions that will be asked when you call:

1. The name, address and age of the child.
2. The name and address of the child's parents, guardian or other persons having custody of the child.
3. The nature and extent of the abuse or neglect.
4. Any evidence of previous incidences.
5. Any other information that may be helpful in establishing the cause of the child's abuse or neglect and the identity of the perpetrator.

FOR MORE INFORMATION YOU CAN ACCESS THE MANDATED REPORTER TOOLKIT ONLINE AT:

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/safety/abuseReport.asp?2>

- **Protecting the Abused and Neglected Child guide** – an explanation of the Washington State mandatory reporting law on child abuse.
- **Child Protective Services: Guidance for Mandated Reporters.**
- **What Mandated Reporters Need to Know about Racial Disproportionality in the Child Welfare System** – an 8-minute YouTube video brochure.
- **Mandatory Reporter's Video** – Provides guidance for those who are required by state law to report child abuse or neglect.

*If you do not have access to the internet, the above referenced materials will be made available to you by the
WWCC Human Resource Office staff.*