

## **Reporting of Suspected Abuse of a Child**

(Effective January 1, 2013)

The 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 and students will conduct themselves appropriately in the presence of children and students under the age of 18 on campus and/or in College-related programs and activities.

All College employees are required by Oregon law to report suspected cases of abuse of a child to the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) or law enforcement officials. This duty is personal to the individual College employee and applies 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week whether or not the employee is on work time. The employee must immediately report to DHS or local law enforcement when they have “reasonable cause to believe” that any child with whom the employee has come in contact with has suffered abuse, or that any person with whom the employee has come in contact with has abused a child. The College employee shall also immediately inform his/her supervisor, the Vice President of Students or the President.

Abuse of a child by College employees or by students will not be tolerated. All College employees are subject to this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation. If a College employee is a suspected abuser, reporting requirements remain the same. The College will designate the Vice President of Students to receive reports of abuse by College employees and specify the procedures to be followed upon receipt of an abuse report. In the event the designated person is the suspected abuser, the President shall receive the report of abuse. The College will post in each college building the name and contact information of the person designated to receive abuse reports, as well as the procedures the Vice President of Students will follow upon receipt of a report. When the Vice President of Students takes action on the report, the person who initiated the report must be notified.

Upon request, the College shall provide records of investigations of suspected abuse by a College employee or former College employee to law enforcement or the Department of Human Services.

Any College employee participating in good faith in the making of a report, pursuant to this policy and Oregon law and who has reasonable grounds for the making thereof, shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the making or content of any such report. Further, the initiation of a report in good faith about suspected abuse may not adversely affect any terms or conditions of employment or the work environment of the complainant. If a student initiates a report of suspected abuse by a College employee or a student, in good faith, the student will not be disciplined by the College, Board of Education or any College employee. Intentionally making a false report of abuse is a Class A violation.

The President shall implement such regulations as are necessary to accomplish the intent of this policy and to comply with state law.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 418.746 to-418.751](#)

[ORS 419B.005 to-419B.050](#)

Greene v. Camreta, 588 F.3d 1011 (9th Cir. 2009), vacated in part by, remanded by Camreta v. Greene, 131 S. Ct. 2020 (U.S. 2011); vacated in part, remanded by Greene v. Camreta 661 F. 3d 1201 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2011)