

# Protection of Minors Policy

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Mount St. Joseph University values the health, safety, and well-being of minors and is committed to providing a safe environment for minors on campus and who participate in University programs. In keeping with this value and to fulfill this commitment, the University has adopted this Protection of Minors Policy ("Policy"). This Policy applies to all members of the University community and all offices, schools, and departments of the University. Failure to comply may lead to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, and revocation of the opportunity to use University property or facilities. For purposes of this Policy, a minor is a person, other than an enrolled University student, who is less than 18 years of age.

When participating in University sponsored or University affiliated programs and activities that involve minors, students and faculty and staff must:

- Always be vigilant in protecting the well-being and safety of minors with whom they interact on campus or elsewhere.
- Review the informational material about the signs of abuse and neglect of minors in our Protection of Minors Training Program.
- Watch for signs of minor abuse or neglect and promptly report suspected instances of abuse or neglect, or violations of this policy or law, as provided in the Protection of Minors Training Program.
- Before engaging in any University sponsored or University affiliated program or activity involving contact with minors, meet the requirements of the [Protection of Minors Procedures](#)
- and meet any additional requirements that relate to the specific program or activity.

All camps, events, programs, and activities that are intended for minors and that take place on campus, in University facilities, or under the supervision of the University, whether operated by the University or third parties ("Programs"), are subject to this Policy with the following exceptions: (1) undergraduate and graduate academic programs in which minors are enrolled for academic credit; (2) research programs subject to the review and approval of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) sponsored by the University or authorized by the University to provide oversight concerning such research programs; (3) events on campus which are open to the general public and which minors attend at the sole discretion of their parent(s) or guardian(s); (4) Discovery & Get Acquainted Days, single day campus visits by prospective students not involving an overnight stay and such other similar, ongoing programs as may be designated from time to time by the appropriate administrative officer in advance and in writing as exempted from this Policy. Nor does this policy replace or supersede licensing guidelines and regulations pertaining to the administration of the Charlotte Schmidlapp Children's Center. Any requests for clarification as to whether a particular program or activity is subject to this Policy, or a request for a waiver to this Policy, should be sent to the Chief Compliance and Risk Officer.

This policy applies to such programs and activities whether they are limited to daily activities or involve the housing of minors in the residence hall or other facilities. In order to promote the safety and general welfare of all minors participating in programs at the University, it is the policy of the Mount St. Joseph University that all minors participating in programs must be reasonably and appropriately supervised by an Authorized Adult who will be considered the Program Director ("Program Director").

## ***Employee Handbook***

For information regarding the processes needed to carry out this policy please refer to Appendix P: [Protection of Minors Procedures](#).