MINORS ON CAMPUS POLICY

Purpose: The University of Rhode Island has several campus locations and a variety of events that attract minors, whether sponsored by the University or by third parties. These guidelines are meant to serve as guidance for these events to provide appropriate protection and supervision of minors participating in University sponsored programs. This policy does not apply to general public events where authorized parents or guardians are invited and expected to provide appropriate supervision and protection of minors.

Applicability: All staff, faculty, students and volunteers working with or assisting minors while on University property or while chaperoning University sponsored programs.

Minors in the Workplace

- Employees should obtain supervisory approval prior to bringing children to the workplace.
- Employee must provide supervision at all times and is responsible for the minor’s safety.

Minors on School Trip Visits

- Minors should be accompanied by school appointed chaperone while on campus.
- University host should advise school coordinator of all restricted areas for minors.

Restricted Areas for Minors

- Any high-risk area such as laboratories, mechanical rooms, power plants or high voltage areas and construction areas requiring a hard hat. (Exception: Lab based educational activity supervised by instructor and with permission of parent or guardian and signed release is required.)
- Any areas containing power tools or machinery with exposed moving parts, such as grounds equipment, farm equipment or heavy duty motorized equipment.
- No access to rooftops.

University Sponsored Camps

- **Each** camp employee and volunteer must submit to a background check prior to participating in any camp activities involving minors. BCI checks can be conducted through the University’s Human Resources Department or by the RI State Attorney General’s Office.
- All camp directors/coordinators should obtain a signed consent/release form from minor’s parent or guardian to include medical, insurance and emergency contact information.
- Minors should be chaperoned **AT ALL TIMES** while attending camp and should never be alone one-on-one alone with a camp employee or volunteer.
- Facilities and camp area should be inspected prior to camp commencement to ensure the area is free of any hazards or risks to the minor.
- All camp staff members should be briefed on security measures and emergency response plans (including injury, inclement weather, fire and safety evacuation).
- Appropriate drop-off and pick-up schedules and locations should be maintained to protect the safety of the minor. No minor should be left alone after camp waiting for a ride home. A camp staff member **MUST** stay with minor until designated parent/guardian arrives and proper identification is provided. If minor is not retrieved with in an appropriate time and parent/guardian has not made contact with a camp staff member then RI DCYF should be contacted at 1-800-742-4453.
- **ANY PERSON SUSPECTING CHILD ABUSE, ASSAULT OR NEGLECT SHALL IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY URI CAMPUS POLICE AT 401-874-2121.**