

Protecting Minors Behavioral Expectations Acknowledgement Form

As a precondition to my working or volunteering in a University-run program that will involve minors, I acknowledge that:

I have read, understand and agree to comply with the University of Rhode Island's Policy on Protecting Minors, which can be found at <https://web.uri.edu/riskmanagement/protecting-minors-program-requirements/>

1. I will be a positive role model for minors, and will act in a caring, honest, respectful and responsible manner that is consistent with the University's mission and guiding principles.
2. I will not, under any circumstances:
 - Engage in any sexual activity, make sexual comments, tell sexual jokes, or share sexually explicit material (or assist in any way to provide access to such material) with minors.
 - Be alone with a single minor. If one-on-one interaction is required, I will meet in open, well-illuminated spaces or in rooms with windows that are observable by other adults from the program, unless the one-on-one interaction is expressly authorized by the Activity Organizer or is being undertaken by a health care provider.
 - Meet with minors outside of established times for program activities. Any exceptions require written parental authorization and must include more than one adult from the program.
 - Invite individual minors to my home. Any exceptions require authorization by the Activity Organizer and written authorization by a parent/guardian.
 - Engage in, or allow minors to engage me in, romantic or sexual conversations, or related matters, unless required in the role of counselor or health care provider.
 - Engage or communicate with minors through email, text messages, social networking websites, internet chat rooms, or other forms of social media, except when there is a legitimate educational or programmatic purpose and the content of the communication is consistent with the mission of the program and University.
 - Touch minors in a manner that a reasonable person could interpret as inappropriate. Touching should generally occur only in open settings and in response to the minor's needs, for a purpose consistent with the program's mission and culture, and/or for a clear educational, developmental, or health-related purpose (e.g., treatment of an injury). Any resistance from the minor must be respected.
 - Engage in any abusive conduct of any kind toward, or in the presence of, a minor, including but not limited to verbal abuse, striking, hitting, punching, poking, spanking, or restraining. If restraint is necessary to protect a minor or other minors from harm, all incidents must be documented and disclosed to the Activity Organizer and the minor's parent/guardian.
 - Use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while on duty or when responsible for a minor's welfare.
 - Use or possess any type of weapon or explosive device while on duty or when responsible for a minor's welfare.
 - Use my personal vehicle to transport minors during the program without authorization from the Activity Organizer and written authorization by a parent/guardian. When transporting minors, I will ensure that at least two Activity Staff and at least two minors will always be present in the vehicle.
3. "If I see something, I will say something". I understand that I have an obligation to report immediately to the URI Campus Police Department and to the event organizer instances or suspected instances of the abuse of, or inappropriate interactions with, minors. This includes information about suspected abuse, neglect, or inadequate care provided by a parent, guardian, or custodian/caretaker. The URI Police Department can assist in determining whether additional reporting may be required, and can assist in making such reporting. Members making a report in good faith will be protected from criminal and civil liability for making the report. Further, it is URI's policy that no one making a good faith report of suspected abuse or neglect will be retaliated against in the terms and conditions of employment or educational program.

Name (PRINT)

Signature

Date