




<b>Title:</b> Minors on Campus Policy	
<b>Written by:</b> Student Affairs Committee	
<b>Date Initiated:</b> 4/2013	<b>Date Revised:</b> 2/2020; 4/2024
<b>Approved by:</b>  _____ Chancellor	<b>Governing Board Approval:</b>  _____ Date
_____ 1/12/2016 Date	_____ 1/12/2016 Date

## **PURPOSE**

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences conducts its educational operations in a manner that coincides with its mission, vision, and values. Minors may be on campus for brief periods of time visiting or participating in College-sponsored activities. At no time while on campus should a minor be unsupervised. Minors should be under the supervision of a faculty member, staff member, or in the care of their parent or adult guardian. For currently enrolled minor students, the supervising College representative is either the faculty member or the clinical supervisor. In addition to this policy, the visits of minors are subject to the same conditions as any other visitors to the College. Any College employee who suspects that a minor who is on College property or is participating in College activity at another location, is/ has been the victim of child abuse or neglect shall immediately report the suspected child abuse or neglect to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) toll-free, 24-hour Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-25-ABUSE (22873). The changes became effective June 27, 2012 when the State of Illinois Public Act 97-0711 amended the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) to mandate that all personnel of higher education institutions report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

## **DEFINITIONS**

Minor(s): Anyone under the age of 18 is covered by this policy.

Authorized Adult: For purposes of this policy means a parent, legal guardian, or other adult, including, but not limited to faculty/staff/employee/student who is responsible for supervising the minor(s) while on campus or at a College-sponsored activity located off-campus.

Employee: For purposes of this policy includes those faculty/staff/volunteers/medical center staff/students who are employed or volunteer for Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences or UnityPoint Health - Trinity.

## **POLICY**

1. Minors must be supervised by an “Authorized Adult” at all times while on the grounds of Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences or while participating in a college sponsored activity located off-campus. Students may not recruit or request college faculty or staff to serve as an “Authorized Adult” in the supervision of children while on campus.
2. Minors are permitted in the general areas of the College and in other areas as permitted by the faculty/staff of the College.
3. Even when accompanied by an “Authorized Adult,” pre-school age minors not participating in a College-sponsored program on college property, or an official activity in an off-campus location are prohibited from the learning laboratories, and other areas where significant potential safety hazards may exist. Minors are not permitted in the classroom while classes are in session. At no time is a minor permitted in the clinical area with an Authorized Adult who is completing curricular requirements.
4. Minors and Authorized Adults who do not meet the College Standards of Behavior will be asked to leave the College.
5. Any College employee or student in the clinical area is required by Iowa and Illinois law to be a mandatory reporter of child abuse.

## **PROCEDURES**

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences is strongly committed to providing a safe and secure environment for children. The following procedures should be taken when children are scheduled to be on campus.

Faculty/Staff/Employees/Students of the College or UnityPoint Health - Trinity must notify the Director of Student Services at least 14 days prior to the scheduled activity when minors will be on campus or in a college-related activity located off-campus. When college events encourage the attendance of family members, the notification requirement is waived; these events include graduation, pinning, and honor society induction ceremonies.

### **Reporting suspected child abuse or neglect**

If a College employee or volunteer reasonably suspects or observes signs of child abuse or neglect, he/she should immediately do the following, (and must do the following if a mandated reporter):

1. As required by state law, report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to the toll-free 24-hour Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-ABUSE (22873).
2. Written Confirmation must be sent to DCFS within 48 hours of the call:  
DCFS  
406 East Monroe Street  
Station 122  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

3. Mandated Reporters making a good faith report cannot be held liable for civil damages, BUT failure to report suspected instances of child abuse or neglect constitutes a Class A misdemeanor.

### **Background Checks**

Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences requires background checks of all faculty/staff/employees/volunteers/students. UnityPoint Health - Trinity requires background checks of all of its employees/volunteers.

### **Training**

Training for faculty/staff/employees/volunteers will be conducted on an annual basis.