

Awareness Information

CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTING AND MANDATED REPORTERS IN THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), Requirements and Protocol for Reporting Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect (SCAN) provides that each BIE employee will receive notice of their responsibilities as a Mandated Reporter of child abuse upon initial employment and annually thereafter. Chapter 1 states, in part, that the notice will include all positions designated as Mandated reporters, when a Mandated Reporter must report child abuse or suspected child abuse, how the Mandated Reporter is to report the information, and the ramifications for not reporting child abuse or suspected child abuse. Further, Chapter 6 states, in part, that each BIE employee will receive information advising them of the requirements of their positions to include the reporting of child abuse or suspected child abuse. The information will be provided upon a tentative offer of employment, and annually thereafter. Finally, all BIE employees whose positions have been designated as a Mandated Reporter will receive a briefing on the requirements of this designation upon hiring and annually at the beginning of each school year.

The information sheet is designed to provide notice, information and training for Mandated Reporters in BIE. It also satisfies the requirement for employees to receive written information regarding their responsibilities as Mandated Reporters.

Mandated Reporters

The following positions are designated as an impact on BIE Positions - Mandated Reporters within BIE:

- * Teachers * Nurses/Physicians/Surgeons
- * School Counselors * Dentists/Dental Hygienists
- * Instructional Aides * Optometrists
- * Teacher's Aides * Medical Examiners
- * Teacher's Assistants * EMTs/Paramedics
- * Bus Drivers * Health Care Providers
- * Administrative Officers * Head Start Teachers
- * Child Welfare & Attendance Supervisors * Public Assistance Workers
- * Truancy Officers * Group Home, Day Care, Residential Workers, House Parent/dorm staff
- * Child Day Care Workers * Social Workers
- * Psychiatrists * Mental Health Personnel
- * Psychologists * Law Enforcement Officers
- * Psychological Assistants * Probation Officers
- * Licensed or Unlicensed Marriage, Family * Juvenile Rehabilitation or Detention Workers
or Child Counselors * Personnel responsible for enforcing laws and Judicial orders

Persons engaged in the following professions and activities are also subject to the mandated reporting of child abuse or suspected abuse: Alcohol or Drug Treatment Personnel; Persons performing a healing role or practicing the healing arts; Guidance Personnel; School officials (i.e., anyone who has management oversight of or at a school); and School Administrators, (i.e., anyone working in an official capacity at a school).

Finally, in addition to the positions and activities specifically identified above, all Federal employees, contractor employees within BIE also have a duty to report any reasonable suspicion of child abuse for any Indian child for which they have responsibility.

Child Abuse and Neglect – Definitions

“**CHILD**” means any person who is not married and has not attained 18 years of age.

“**CHILD ABUSE**” includes but is not limited to any case in which a child is dead or exhibits evidence of skin bruising, bleeding, malnutrition, failure to thrive, burns, fracture of any bone, subdural hematoma, soft tissue swelling, and such condition is not justifiably explained or may not be the product of an accidental occurrence; and any case in which a child is subjected to sexual assault, sexual molestation, sexual exploitation, sexual contact, or prostitution.

“**CHILD NEGLECT**” includes but is not limited to, negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child by a person, including a person responsible for the child's welfare, under circumstances that indicate that the child's health or welfare is harmed or threatened thereby.

“FAILURE TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE”

Mandated Reporters who fail to make a timely report as required, shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor. The person

