



The College of New Jersey

Section:	IV.1.1
Title:	Protection of Children Policy (Interim)
Effective Date:	February 26, 2013
Approved By:	Board of Trustees
Responsible Unit:	Office of Campus Police Services (609-771-2171, tcnjpd@tcnj.edu)
History:	
Related Documents: New Jersey Statutes Section 9:6-8.10 (Report of Abuse), 9:6-8.13 (Immunity), 9:9-8.14 (Violations including failure to make report; disorderly person), 9:6-8 (Definition of Abused Child), 9:6-8.84 (Definition of Sexual Abuse), 9:6-8.21 (definition of parent or guardian).	

I. INTRODUCTION

The College of New Jersey takes pride in providing a first class educational experience in a safe and supportive environment. Children frequently visit our campus, and it is important that we protect them while they are on our campus or participating in College activities, and take the necessary precautions to ensure that the campus community is safe. The purpose of this policy is to identify where acts of child abuse should be reported if observed at The College of New Jersey.

II. DEFINITIONS

“Abused Child” means a child under the age of 18 years whose parent, guardian, or other person having his custody and control commits or allows to be committed an act of sexual abuse against the child.

"Sexual Abuse" means contacts or actions between a child and a parent or caretaker for the purpose of sexual stimulation of either that person or another person.

“Parent or guardian” means any natural parent, adoptive parent, resource family parent, stepparent, paramour of a parent or any person, who has assumed responsibility for the care, custody or control of a child or upon whom there is a legal duty for such care. Parent or guardian includes a teacher, employee or volunteer, whether compensated or uncompensated, of an institution who is responsible for the child’s welfare and any other staff person of an institution regardless of whether or not the person is responsible for the care or supervision of the child. Parent or guardian also includes a teaching staff member or other employee, whether

compensated or uncompensated, of a day school as defined according to New Jersey law.

"Institution" means a public or private facility in the State which provides children with out of home care, supervision or maintenance. Institution includes, but is not limited to, a correctional facility, detention facility, treatment facility, day care center, residential school, shelter and hospital". For purposes of this policy, a camp operated on campus by a third-party organization would be considered an institution.

III. POLICY

Any faculty, staff or student who has reason to believe that a child has been abused, must report the suspected abuse to the Division of Youth and Family Services. The contact information is as follows:

Child Abuse Hotline (State Central Registry)
1-877 NJ ABUSE
(1-877-652-2873)
TTY 1-800-835-5510

In addition, faculty, students and staff are required to contact TCNJ Campus Police at 609-771-2345.

Individuals contacting DYFS and TCNJ Campus Police should provide as much information as possible to assist in the investigation of the allegation. The information reported may be helpful with respect to identifying child abuse and the perpetrator. Examples of the type of information that may be helpful are the names and addresses of the child and the child's parent, guardian or other person having custody of the child, the child's age, the type of injuries, and any other information that might be helpful with regard to the child abuse and the identity of the perpetrator.

Under New Jersey law, anyone who in good faith reports suspected child abuse shall be immune from any liability. In addition, any person who is discharged from employment, or discriminated against for reporting a good faith allegation of child abuse may file a complaint in the appropriate Superior Court.

IV. RELATED DOCUMENTS

N.J.S.A. §§ 9:6-8.10 (Report of Abuse), 9:6-8.13 (Immunity), 9:6-8.14 (Violations including failure to make report; disorderly person), 9:6-8.9 (Definition of Abused Child), 9:6-8.84 (Definition of Sexual Abuse), 9:6-8.21 (definition of parent or guardian).

V. HISTORY