

**SEATTLE UNIVERSITY  
POLICY STATEMENT ON REPORTING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT**

**I. Policy Statement**

In accordance with Washington State’s Abuse of Children Law (RCW 26.42) TJC (a) - ETB:SpanMCID 4 DC employees who have reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect are required to immediately report the suspected abuse or neglect to law enforcement or Child Protective Services as specified in this policy.

**II. Purpose**

Seattle University is committed to the safety of all individuals in its community. The University has particular concern for those who are potentially vulnerable, including children, who require special attention and protection. This policy establishes requirements for the reporting of suspected abuse or neglect of a child, with the goal of promoting the safety and well-being of children and educating mandated reporters about obligations under Washington State law.

All Seattle University faculty, staff,

**IV. Child Abuse Reporting Process**

- 1. **Emergencies.** In case of an emergency, one should immediately call Seattle University’s Department of Public Safety (DPS) at 206-296-5911 or the Seattle Police Department at 911.
  
- 2. **How to Make a Report.** University employees must orally report suspected child abuse or neglect by telephone or otherwise at the first opportunity, but no longer than forty-eight (48) hours after there is reasonable cause to believe that i ( e)1617.3 (11.(t)TJ. ( )TJ0.006 type /.)TJ.s



## **VIII. Policy Implementation and Modification**

Questions about the interpretation or application of this policy should be raised with the Office of University Counsel. This policy may be modified with the approval of the President to reflect changes in the law, standards relating to the protection of children, or University processes, or as otherwise necessary.

## **IX. Additional Resources**

- Abuse of Children Law, [RCW 26.44](#)
- Department of Children, Youth, and Families, [Report Child Abuse or Neglect](#)
- Department of Social and Health Services, [A Guide for Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect](#)

*April 24, 2023*