

## **Policies and Regulations**

### **NEPN Code: JLF-R/STI**

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#### **Students**

#### **Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection**

#### **Procedure for Reporting Child Abuse and/or Neglect**

1. Any staff member who has reason to suspect child abuse or neglect shall report this suspicion immediately to the Department of Social Services, the Office of the State's Attorney or the Police Department.
2. According to South Dakota Codified Law, the President or designee shall cause a report to be made immediately to the Department of Social Services, the Office of the State's Attorney, or the Police Department as indicated below.
  - If the case involves suspected child abuse or threats, the President or designee shall contact law enforcement immediately.
3. Staff members who have reason to suspect child abuse or neglect shall also complete a Report of Child Abuse or Neglect form that shall be submitted to the President or designee and kept on file in the President's or designee's office. For each report that is made, a request shall be made to the Department of Social Services for written acknowledgment of receipt of the report and for a response stating whether the report shall be investigated. The Department of Social Services' acknowledgement and report shall be attached to the written Report of Child Abuse or Neglect Form.
4. Contact with the parents/guardians regarding the report will originate with the Department of Social Services, the Office of the State's Attorney, or the Police Department.
5. Informal discussion with personnel from the Department of Social Services, the Office of the State's Attorney, or the Police Department may be sought to determine whether or not a case should be reported. Assistance may be requested from counselors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, or other Southeast Tech or District resource persons.
6. Ongoing concerns regarding a reported case may be referred to the local Child Protection Team for review by contacting the Supervisor of Health Services.
7. Any person participating in good faith in making a report or suspected abuse or neglect is immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that otherwise might result.

Legal Reference:

SDCL 26-8A

RELATED POLICIES:

KLC/STI – KLC-R/STI – Relations with Social Service Agencies/Investigating Child Abuse

KLG/STI – KLG-R/STI – Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities

Regulation		Board Action
Adopted:	05-12-97	28784
Revised:	03-22-04	33778
Revised:	03-08-10	35642
Revised:	08.01.18	ST00322