

# DCF Mandated Reporting Child Abuse/Neglect Review



# Who Must Report from a School System?

Section 53a-65 of the Connecticut General Statutes (subsection 13):

(13) “School employee” means:

(A) A teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, school paraprofessional or coach...

# Who Must Report

## from a School System?

**Section 53a-65 of the Connecticut General Statutes (subsection 13):**

(13) “School employee” means:

(B) any other person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of students...

# What Must Be Reported?

Mandated Reporters are required to report or cause a report to be made when, in the ordinary course of their employment or profession, they have reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child under the age of 18 has been abused, neglected, or is placed in imminent risk of serious harm (**CGS 17a-101a**).

# Definitions: Abuse

Connecticut General Statutes, **Section 46b-120**, defines an abused child as a child or youth less than 18 years of age who:

- Has had physical injuries inflicted upon him or her other than by accidental means, or
- Has injuries which are at variance with the history given of them, or
- Is in a condition which is the result of maltreatment such as, but not limited to, malnutrition, sexual molestation or exploitation, deprivation of necessities, emotional maltreatment, or cruel punishment.



# Definitions: Neglect

- Has been abandoned; or
- Is being denied proper care and attention, physically, educationally, emotionally, or morally; or
- Is being permitted to live under conditions, circumstances, or associations injurious to his well-being.

# Reporting Procedures

When?

As soon as practical, **but no later than 12 hours after**, the mandated reporter becomes aware of or suspects abuse/neglect or imminent risk of serious harm

To Whom?

(building administrator will assist)

DCF Careline: 1-800-842-2288

# Reporting Procedures

Steps:

1. Oral report to DCF Careline



(within 12 hours)

2. Written report (DCF 136 form) to DCF within 48 hours of oral report.

Go to [https://www.pdfFiller.com/104749-child\\_abuse\\_neg-lect\\_dcf\\_136](https://www.pdfFiller.com/104749-child_abuse_neg-lect_dcf_136)



***Do not conduct your own preliminary investigation prior to making a report!***



All oral and written reports shall contain the following, if known:

1. The names and addresses of the child and his/her parents or other person responsible for his/her care;
2. Age of the child;
3. Gender of the child;
4. Nature and extent of the child's injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
5. Approximate date and time injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect occurred;

All oral and written reports shall contain the following, if known:

6. Information concerning any previous injury or injuries to, or maltreatment or neglect of, the child or his siblings;

7. Circumstances in which injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect came to be known to reporter;

8. Name of person or persons suspected to be responsible for causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;

All oral and written reports shall contain the following, if known:

9. Reasons such person or persons are suspected of causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;

10. Any information concerning any prior cases in which such person or persons have been suspected of causing an injury, maltreatment or neglect of a child;

11. Whatever action, if any, was taken to treat, provide shelter or otherwise assist the child.

# Reporting-Anonymity

**The name of the reporter of child abuse/neglect shall be kept confidential *upon his/her request.***

**However, it shall be disclosed to**

- **A DCF Employee**
- **A Law Enforcement Officer**
- **Appropriate State's Attorney**
- **Appropriate Assistant Attorney General**
- **A Judge and all necessary parties in a Juvenile Court involved**
- **State Child Care Licensing Agency, Executive Director of any institution, school or facility, or Superintendent of Schools.**

# Reporting-Anonymity

**Mandated Reporters are required to give their names when they make a report to DCF; however, reporters may request anonymity.**

**DCF will not disclose identities unless mandated to do so by the law (CGS 17a-28 and 17a-101).**



# Reporting-Immunity

**Any person, institutions, or agency which in good faith makes or in good faith does not make the report pursuant to (CGS 17a-101a to 17a-101d) inclusive shall be immune from any liability, civil, or criminal charges.**

# **Failure to Report and/or Delayed Reporting**

**Any person required by the law to report a case of suspected child abuse/neglect who fails to make such report or fails to do so within the required time period shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.**

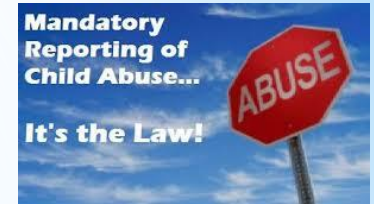
**If the violation is a) a subsequent violation, b) willful or intentional or due to gross negligence, or c) such person had actual knowledge of the abuse or neglect, such person shall be guilty of a class E felony.**

# Failure to Report and/or Delayed Reporting

**A person found guilty of failure to report**

- 1. Fine: \$500-\$2,500**
- 2. Shall be required to participate in an educational and training program**
- 3. Is open to lawsuit (damages) if further injury to child occurs due to failure to report.**

# \*Please Take This Quiz (It is mandatory)



Successful completion of this mandatory survey will demonstrate that you have reviewed the training material and are aware of your responsibilities.

Incorrect responses may result in the need for additional individual training.

<https://goo.gl/forms/x0SX6IGKtLtIiSj1>

You can copy/paste this link into your browser or click on it within the slide show