

## **Compliance Alerts!**

## March 2022: Promoting the Safety and Welfare of Minors on Campus

A special duty of care and supervision is required to protect minors on the campus of Fayetteville State University. Programs involving minors on campus present unique risks to manage. To help mitigate these risks, the University actively implements the <u>Protection of Minors on Campus Policy</u>. This policy defines minors as individuals who are younger than 18 years of age, are participating in a covered program and who are not enrolled or matriculated students at the University. This policy does not apply to Early College students. Programs covered by the policy include, but are not limited to academic camps, athletic camps, and other enrichment programs, whether daytime only or overnight programs. Covered Programs do not generally include:

- Externally sponsored field trips or visits that bring minors on to University property.
- Programs or events that are not focused on minors as the targeted audience and are open to the public, such as concerts or theatrical performances.
- Programs designed exclusively for students enrolled or matriculated at Fayetteville State University.

## **How to Register a Program**

To help ensure a safe and healthy environment for all who participate, volunteer, or work in these youth programs, the University requires all minor-focused programs to be registered and approved by the Compliance and Enterprise Risk Management Officer. Programs are required to register every calendar year, *60 days in advance of the program start date*. All programs continuously or periodically operating must be re-registered and approved at least annually. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of programming. By registering, programs that work with minors will proactively receive information on the resources and policies developed for the protection of the minors and the program staff. Authorized adults working with the program must complete the training requirements prior to working with minors. Please review the Protection of Minors on Campus website for more information.

## The Duty to Report Suspected Abuse

As a matter of NC state law, every member of the University community has an obligation to immediately report instances or reasonable suspicion of abuse, neglect, or violent offense of a minor to the University Police Department. This duty to report applies to any minor, not only those within Covered Programs. If the conduct involves a minor within a Covered Program, the Compliance and Enterprise Risk Management Officer must also be notified. If the conduct involves an Authorized Adult participating in a Covered Program, the Program Manager must discontinue any further participation by that Authorized Adult until the situation is resolved.

Failure to abide with these requirements may result in discontinuation of an individual's participation in the Covered Program or cancellation of the Covered Program by the University.