

Oregon Mandatory Reporting Requirements Regarding Children

Who must report? Any “public or private official defined as any of the following:

- Physician (including any intern or resident),
- Dentist,
- School Employee,
- Licensed practical nurse or registered nurse
- Employee of the Department of Human Services, State Commission on Children and Families, Child Care Division of the Employment Department, the Oregon Youth Authority, a county health department, a community mental health and developmental disabilities program, a county juvenile department, a licensed child-caring agency or an alcohol and drug treatment program;
- Peace officer;
- Psychologist;
- Member of the clergy;
- Licensed clinical social worker;
- Optometrist;
- Chiropractor;
- Certified provider of foster care (or an employee thereof);
- Attorney;
- Naturopathic physician;
- Licensed professional counselor;
- Licensed marriage and family therapist;
- Firefighter or emergency medical technician
- Court-appointed special advocate;
- Registered or certified child care provider;
- Member of the Legislative Assembly
- Employee of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission directly involved in investigations or discipline by the commission.

Standard of Knowledge:

Reasonable cause to believe that any child with whom the reporter comes in contact has suffered abuse or that any person with whom the reporter comes in contact has abused a child.

Definition of Applicable Victim

- A child is an unmarried person who is under 18 years of age.
- “Abuse” means physical injury by non-accidental means; mental injury; sexual assault, abuse or exploitation; neglect; threatened harm to a child; buying or selling a person; or exposure to illegal substances.

Reports are to be made to the following:

- A local office of the Department of Human Services, a list of which is accessible at <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/localoffices/locations.shtml> the designee of the department, or a law enforcement agency within the county where the person making the report is located at the time of contact.

Contents of Report:

- The names and addresses of the child and the parents of the child or other persons responsible for care of the child;
- The child's age;
- The nature and extent of the abuse (including any evidence of previous abuse; and
- The explanation given for the abuse and any other information that the reporter believes might be helpful in establishing the cause of the abuse and the identity of the perpetrator.

Timing/Other Procedures:

- Reports must be made immediately. Reports should be oral and can be made by telephone or otherwise.

Other:

- Psychiatrists, psychologists, members of the clergy, attorneys, and guardians ad litem are not required to report information provided in the course of a privileged communication.
- An attorney is not required to make a report by reason of information communicated to the attorney in the course of representing a client if disclosure of the information would be detrimental to the client.
- Anyone who violates this statute commits a Class A violation.

Source/Applicable Statute(s): Or. Rev. Stat. 419B.005, 419B.010, 419B.015 (2009)