

ACTION PLAN

Duty to Report:

**Mandated Reporter Requirements
& Best Practices**

Lesson 1 – Why is Reporting Critical?



There are five reasons why reporting suspected abuse and neglect is critical:

- It may prevent further harm to the child
- It may save other children from abuse and neglect
- It contributes to the safety of your community
- It brings policy and practice gaps to attention
- It can avoid civil litigation and criminal charges



Scenario: Angela has shown up to your program with a new bruise for two days in a row. You have noticed her displaying some aggressive behavior when at play. In addition, you have sensed tension between Angela and her mother at pick-up time.

Is this something I would be inclined to report to authorities? Why or why not?



After completing this lesson, I am able to:

- Know why reporting suspected abuse and neglect is important
- Identify why people don't report
- Understand that I am morally and possibly legally required to report

Lesson 2 – Are You a Mandated Reporter?



Remember...

A mandated reporter is someone who is required by law to report suspected child abuse or neglect.



State Requirements

My state's mandated reporting requirements:

Employer Policies

My employer’s reporting requirements:



After completing this lesson, I am able to:

- Know what a mandated reporter is
- Determine my legal responsibilities

Lesson 3 – What Must Be Reported



The four major categories of child abuse are:

1. Physical - non-accidental physical injury inflicted by another person with the intent of hurting the child.
2. Sexual - when an adult uses a child for sexual stimulation or gratification.
3. Neglect - the negligent treatment, lack of treatment, or the maltreatment of a child by a person responsible for the child's welfare. There are two levels of neglect that must be reported: general and severe.
4. Psychological and Emotional – any type of abuse that is not physical or sexual.



Notes:



After completing this lesson, I am able to:

- Know the types of abuse to look
 - Recognize the indicators of abuse
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Lesson 4 – How Do You Report?



The three things to know when I reasonably suspect abuse or neglect:

1. The time frame for reporting
2. Who to contact
3. What information to provide.



My state’s time requirements for reporting suspected abuse or neglect:

My employer’ time requirements for reporting suspected abuse or neglect:



After completing this lesson, I am able to:

- Report an incident or suspected incident of child abuse or neglect
- Understand safeguards that are in place for mandated reporters

Action Plan



My state’s toll-free child abuse reporting hotline number is:

My local police department number is:

Lesson 5 – How Do You Respond If a Child Discloses Abuse?



Five techniques to follow if a child discloses abuse:

1. Stay Calm
2. Listen
3. Comfort
4. Don't Criticize
5. Report



Notes:



After completing this lesson, I am able to:

- Be prepared if a child discloses abuse to me
- Follow the five techniques for if a child discloses abuse to me

Action Plan



I will review any questions about reporting for my state and organization that I may have, with my employer:
