

THE REPORTING PROCESS



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Reporting Contacts

- ❖ <http://dshs.wa.gov/ca>
- ❖ 1.866.END HARM
- ❖ 1.866.363.4276



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Who is Mandated to Report?

- ❖ Physicians, nurses, hospital personnel, dentists
- ❖ Medical examiners
- ❖ Coroners
- ❖ Mental health professionals and social workers
- ❖ School personnel (classified and certificated) all school personnel.
- ❖ Law enforcement
- ❖ Childcare providers
- ❖ Psychologists
- ❖ Pharmacists



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Be prepared to include in your report:

- ❖ Your name, telephone number and relationship to child (confidential)
- ❖ Any immediate concerns about the child's safety
- ❖ The location of the child
- ❖ The child's name and age
- ❖ Information on the situation
- ❖ Any other relevant information concerning the child and/or the family



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Requirements – RCW 26.44.030

- ❖ (1)(a) When any practitioner, county coroner or medical examiner, law enforcement officer, **professional school personnel**, registered or licensed nurse, social service counselor, psychologist, pharmacist, employee of the department of children, youth, and families, licensed or certified child care providers or their employees, employee of the department of social and health services, juvenile probation officer, placement and liaison specialist, responsible living skills program staff, HOPE center staff, state family and children's ombuds or any volunteer in the ombuds's office, or host home program has reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect, he or she shall report such incident, or cause a report to be made, to the proper law enforcement agency or to the department as provided in **RCW 26.44.040**.



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Requirements – RCW 26.44.030

- ❖ (b) When any person, in his or her official **supervisory capacity** with a nonprofit or for-profit organization, has **reasonable cause** to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect caused by a person over whom he or she regularly exercises supervisory authority, he or she shall report such incident, or cause a report to be made, to the proper law enforcement agency, provided that the person alleged to have caused the abuse or neglect is employed by, contracted by, or volunteers with the organization and coaches, trains, educates, or counsels a child or children or regularly has unsupervised access to a child or children as part of the employment, contract, or voluntary service. No one shall be required to report under this section when he or she obtains the information solely as a result of a privileged communication as provided in **RCW 5.60.060**.



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Requirements – RCW 26.44.030

- ❖ (d) The reporting requirement shall also apply to any adult who has reasonable cause to believe that a child who resides with them, has suffered severe abuse, and is able or capable of making a report. For the purposes of this subsection, "severe abuse" means any of the following: Any single act of abuse that causes physical trauma of sufficient severity that, if left untreated, could cause death; any single act of sexual abuse that causes significant bleeding, deep bruising, or significant external or internal swelling; or more than one act of physical abuse, each of which causes bleeding, deep bruising, significant external or internal swelling, bone fracture, or unconsciousness.



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Requirements – RCW 26.44.030

- ❖ (f) The reporting requirement in (a) of this subsection also applies to administrative and academic or athletic department employees, including student employees, of institutions of higher education, as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, and of private institutions of higher education.



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Requirements – RCW 26.44.030

- ❖ (3) Any other person who has reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect may report such incident to the proper law enforcement agency or to the department as provided in RCW 26.44.040.



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