

Child Abuse & Neglect Mandated Reporter Requirements

**Child Abuse & Neglect Reporting Requirements
Acknowledgment**

All child care personnel are mandated by law to report their suspicions of child abuse, neglect, or abandonment to the Florida Abuse Hotline in accordance with section 39.201 of the Florida Statutes (F.S.).

- * "Child Abuse or Neglect" is defined in s. 39.201(e), F.S., as "harm or threatened harm" to a child's mental or physical health or welfare by the acts or omissions of a parent, adult household member, or other person responsible for the child's welfare, or for purposes of reporting requirements by any person.
- * Reports must be made immediately to the centralized Florida Abuse Hotline Information System at 1-800-962-2873.
- * All reports are confidential. However, persons who are mandated reporters (child care personnel) are required to give their name when making a report.
- * It is important to give as much identifying and factual information as possible when making a report.
- * Any person, when acting in good faith, is immune from liability in accordance with s. 39.203(1)(a), F.S.
- * Child care personnel must be alert to the physical and behavioral indicators of child abuse and neglect.

Categories include:

- Physical Abuse (i.e. unexplained bruises, burns, marks...)
- Physical Neglect (i.e. hunger, poor hygiene, lack of supervision...)
- Sexual Abuse (i.e. withdrawal, excessive crying, physical symptoms...)
- Mental Injury (i.e. impairment in the ability to function, depression...)

This statement is to verify that on _____, 20____, I, _____
Date Name of Employee
read the above material.

Signature of Employee

Signature of Operator