Allan Hancock Joint Community College District
Board Policy
Chapter 3 – General Institution

BP 3930  MINORS ON CAMPUS

The primary mission of the college is to educate students eligible to enroll in community college courses. To that end, the District has the responsibility to provide a place of instruction which is free from internal as well as external distraction. To provide a place of instruction which is free from distraction requires that some restrictions be placed on children on campus. In addition to concerns about the ability to carry out the District's mission, the presence of children in campus facilities raises safety and liability issues.

This policy statement addresses issues raised by the presence of children on the campus and provides guidance for students and employees of the District.

First and foremost, the District and its facilities (classrooms, offices, public service areas and grounds) should not be viewed as a substitute for child care arrangements. This policy does not preclude an adult from bringing children on campus for visits, but when the reason for the child's presence is to take the place of childcare services, then it is inappropriate for the child to be on site.

Second, at no time may children be unattended or unsupervised on campus. The terms "unattended" and "unsupervised" are used to refer to situations in which the child is on campus or in a campus facility and is not under the immediate physical control of an adult or an instructor, for example, College for Kids classes. As a practical matter, children may not be left unattended in public areas such as the library and the cafeteria while the adult is in class. Nor may a child be left to wait or play outside a classroom while the accompanying adult is in class.

Third, only enrolled students may be present in classrooms or lab facilities when classes are in session. Children may not attend class, or class activities such as field trips, along with enrolled students. Moreover, children may not be present at the employee's work site during a staff member's assigned work hours. This does not preclude short visits when the child is accompanied by another responsible adult.

Employees must advise students that it is a violation of Board policy to allow children in the classroom. Students who do not comply with a request to remove dependent children from class will be dealt with in accordance with the Standards of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Action.
Finally, as a safety measure, employees and students should not allow children to be left unattended on campus. Employees or students who observe children who appear to be unattended should contact the Allan Hancock College Police Department. The Allan Hancock College Police Department will handle the matter in accordance with appropriate State of California education and penal codes.

**Definitions:**
For purposes of this policy, the definition of a child is any person under the age of eighteen years of age. Emancipated minors are considered adults. Adult refers to a responsible person over the age of eighteen or an emancipated minor.

**Exceptions:**
Exceptions to this policy are campus facilities or activities which, by their very nature, might be attended by children. It is assumed, however, that children in these facilities or attending these activities are under the supervision of an instructor or adult or are enrolled in a fee-based program. Examples of such activities would be athletic events, performing arts performances, College for Kids, day care centers, and other activities planned for children.

In certain courses, children may occasionally be included in classrooms or other academic settings for activities that contribute to the achievement of course objectives and student learning outcomes. In such cases, appropriate permissions will be obtained from the parent/legal guardians.

Minors under age 18 who are enrolled in credit classes through the Special Student or High School Special Program are treated as regular Hancock students. Program enrollment materials must, however, contain a statement of conditions of enrollment and must require a parent or guardian's signature.

Certain campus services are open to the public or community users, for example, the cafeteria, library, and pool. As long as an adult or guardian is present with the child, the child may be in the facility. However, if the child becomes disruptive or the presence of the child interferes with the peaceful conduct of the activities of the campus, the adult may be asked to remove the child.

References: No references

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