

POLICY

Effective Date: 3/31/99

Approved By: President's Council

Authority: [RCW 28B.35.120](#)

Cancels:

See Also:

POL-U5950.11 CHILDREN ON CAMPUS

This policy applies to all who come to the campus, including University employees and registered students.

The "mission" of Western Washington University as described in this policy is to offer undergraduate and graduate programs to regularly registered and enrolled students as stated in RCW 28B.35.050. The university campus is owned and supported by the State of Washington.

1. University acknowledges that children may be present in the workplace in some circumstances

Faculty, staff and students need to acknowledge that family needs and responsibilities may in some circumstances require the presence of a child in the educational workplace for a limited amount of time.

Similarly, the individual who makes the decision to bring a child into the educational workplace should be aware and respectful of the needs others have for a quiet educational and work setting.

2. Faculty and staff must meet their contractual obligations to the University

The responsibility of faculty and staff is meeting their contractual obligations to the University. Arrangements that impinge on those responsibilities are of concern to fellow faculty, staff and students.

Faculty and staff who wish to bring their children to work for limited periods of time may do so if they can carry out their duties unimpeded and allow others to do the same.

3. Department chair or Director is responsible to give specific, advance approval

The department chair or director responsible for the area must give specific, advance approval to the proposal to bring children to work.

Allowing faculty and staff to bring their children to work is a privilege extended by the University to assist in meeting family needs and

POLICY

responsibilities and may be revoked at the discretion of the department chair or director responsible for the work area.

4. Children of students are allowed in the classroom in some circumstances

Children of students are allowed in the classroom under the supervision of the parent or guardian in the following circumstances:

1. Those occasions when alternative arrangements are impractical or impossible, such as the illness of a day care provider; and
2. The faculty member responsible for the classroom has given specific advance approval.

Alternatives such as the student arranging to record a particular session should be considered. Students should avoid bringing children to classrooms on days of examinations.

5. Only authorized staff, volunteers, registered participants and registered students may participate on field trips, retreats, or other University authorized travel activities.

6. Responsible adults and youth are encouraged to visit and tour the campus so long as such visits are compatible with the University's mission.

7. Teenagers and preteen children, if supervised, are welcome to visit the University

Teenagers and preteen children are welcome to visit and tour the campus if supervised by a parent, guardian or other responsible adult or caregiver so long as such visits are compatible with the University's mission.

Teenagers and preteen children under the supervision of a parent, guardian or other responsible adult may attend performing arts or athletic events which offer ticket sales for them.

Teenagers and preteen children under the supervision of a parent, guardian or other responsible adult may visit campus galleries which are open to public view.

POLICY

8. Parents and guardians are responsible and liable

Parents and guardians are responsible and liable for any and all injuries or damages sustained to or by their child while on the University campus unless caused by the sole negligence of the University, its officers, agents or employees.

Preteen children should not be left unattended anywhere on campus.

9. Parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring that children behave appropriately

Parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring that children behave appropriately if children accompany a parent or guardian to work, a class, a performing arts event, an athletic event, or as part of a campus visit.

If, in the view of the faculty or administrator responsible for the class, work setting, or event, a child is disruptive, the parent must remove the child from the situation.