A Taxonomy of Youth Activities

Youth activities are offered for minors under age 18, who are not yet University of Wisconsin students.

Youth Activity Hosted by and/or associated with University of Wisconsin

UW-Madison Youth Protection Policy outlines expectations for: mandatory reporting of incidents (such as child abuse); registering annually with OYP; staffing (including screening, training, and supervision ratio); behavioral standards and expectations; and emergency preparedness including safety plans.

Youth Activities outside of a full-fledged youth program. Typically this means representing UW while interacting with Youth. UW likely plays a role in establishing the adult/youth connection.

Full-fledged Youth Program Individual participation is tracked through enrollment/registration and/or attendance taking. Parent permissions/waivers, accident insurance, staffing plans with supervision ratios, and additional considerations may apply. Typically this means supervising Youth and providing Custodial Care.

Can be Activities where participants arrive and scatter

Youth Conferences Examples:
- MSAN (Minority Student Achievement Network)
- NASA GLOBE Student Research Symposium
- Expanding Your Horizons (middle school girls in STEM)

Competitions Examples:
- WI High School State Speech Festival / Forensics Meet
- Science Olympiad
- FFA Livestock Competition

Youth Protection Policy

Third Parties (A non-University organization or entity.)
- Third Parties can conduct any of these Youth Activity types.
- Campus space reservations must ascertain the nature of the activity.
- Youth Protection Policy expectations and minimum requirements (or equivalences) apply when a Third Party hosts a Youth Activity that would fall inside the scope of the policy if hosted by the University.

Activities Outside Scope of Youth Protection Policy Although Minors under age 18 may be in attendance, these activities are not required to register annually with OYP.

1. Paid hourly employment of an individual under age 18. (Example: high school students working in food service jobs.)
2. Enrollment in university courses by an individual under age 18.
3. Orientation and academic advising activities for matriculated UW-Madison students under the age of 18. (Example: SOAR.)
4. University events open to the general public. (Examples: sporting events, concerts, ticketed events.)
5. Licensed UW preschool/child care activities.
6. Medical care given to Minors in a University patient-care setting by a licensed health care provider.
7. Research protocols approved by the University IRB (Institutional Review Board). Note: supplemental procedures may constitute a Youth Activity, for example transportation or supervision of Minors as research participants if unaccompanied by a parent/guardian.
8. Activities under UW Policy 5039 “Children in the Workplace,” typically an employee bringing their own child to visit campus.
9. Campus/admissions tours for prospective students that are open to the public.

Definitions
- Minor: A person under the age of eighteen (18).
- Youth: A minor aged five (5) to eighteen (18) years old.
- Youth Activity: An intentional interaction between one or more Youth and a University employee or University-appointed volunteer; it is sponsored or operated in part or in whole by the University, regardless of location or duration.

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