

California Mandatory Reporting Requirements Regarding Children	
<i>Who Must Report?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers; • Instructional aides; • Teacher’s aides or teacher’s assistants employed by any public or private school; • Classified employees of any public school; • Administrative officers or supervisors of child welfare and attendance, or certificated pupil personnel employees of any public or private school; • Administrators of a public or private day camp; • Administrators or employees of a public or private youth center, youth recreation program, or youth organization; • Administrators or employees of a public or private organization whose duties require direct contact and supervision of children; • Any employee of a county office of education or the California Department of Education, whose duties bring the employee into contact with children on a regular basis; • Licensees, administrators, or employees of a licensed community care or child day care facility; • Head Start program teachers; • Licensing workers or licensing evaluators employed by a licensing agency; • Public assistance workers; • Employees of a child care institution, including, but not limited to, foster parents, group home personnel, and personnel of residential care facilities; • Social workers, probation officers, or parole officers; • Employees of a school district police or security department; • Any person who is an administrator or presenter of, or a counselor in, a child abuse prevention program in any public or private school; • District attorney investigators, inspectors, or local child support agency caseworkers (except in certain limited circumstances); • Peace officers; • Firefighters, except for volunteer firefighters; • Physicians, surgeons, psychiatrists, psychologists, dentists, residents, interns, podiatrists, chiropractors, licensed nurses, dental hygienists, optometrists, marriages, family and child counselors, and clinical social workers, and any other persons who are currently licensed under Division 2; • Any emergency medical technicians I or II, paramedics, or others certified under Division 2.5; • Psychological assistants; • Marriage, family, and child therapist trainees; • Unlicensed marriage, family, and child therapist interns; • State or county public health employees who treats a minor for venereal disease or any other condition; • Coroners; • Medical examiners, or any other persons who performs autopsies; • Commercial film and photographic print processors;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child visitation monitors; • Animal control officers or humane society officers; • Clergy members (except when knowledge or reasonable suspicion is acquired during a penitential communication); • Any custodian of records of a clergy member; • Any employee of any police department, county sheriff's department, county probation department, or county welfare department; • Employees or volunteers of a Court Appointed Special Advocate program; • Custodial officers; • Any person providing services to a minor child; and • Alcohol or drug counselors.
<i>Standard of Knowledge</i>	<p>A mandated reporter who, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect.</p> <p>“‘[R]easonable suspicion’ means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing, when appropriate, on his or her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect.”</p>
<i>Definition of Applicable Victim</i>	A child is a person under the age of 18.
<i>Reports Made To</i>	Reports must be made to any police department or sheriff's department (not including a school district police or security department), or the county probation department (if designated by the county to receive mandated reports), or the county welfare department.
<i>Contents of Report</i>	<p>Reports must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name, business address, and telephone number of the mandated reporter; • The capacity that makes the person a mandated reporter; and • The information that gave rise to the reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect and the source or sources of that information. <p>The following information, if known, shall also be included in the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child's name, address, present location, and, if applicable, school, grade, and class; • The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the child's parents or guardians; and • The name, address, telephone number, and other relevant personal information about the person or persons who might have abused or neglected the child. <p>The mandated reporter may include with the report any non-privileged documentary evidence the mandated reporter possesses relating to the incident.</p>

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<i>Timing/Other Procedures</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An initial report must be made immediately or as soon as is practicably possible by telephone. The mandated reporter must also prepare and send, fax, or electronically transmit a written follow-up report within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. • If, after reasonable efforts, a mandated reporter is unable to submit an initial report by telephone, he or she shall immediately or as soon as is practicably possible, by fax or electronic transmission, make a one-time automated written report on the form prescribed by the Department of Justice, and shall also be available to respond to a telephone follow-up call by the agency with which he or she filed the report. A mandated reporter who files a one-time automated written report because he or she was unable to submit an initial report by telephone is not required to submit a written follow-up report. • When two or more persons, who are required to report, jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, and where there is agreement among them, the telephone report may be made by a member of the team selected by mutual agreement and a single report may be made and signed by the selected member of the reporting team. Any member who has knowledge that the member designated to report has failed to do so shall thereafter make the report.
<i>Other</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any mandated reporter who fails to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months confinement in a county jail or by a fine of \$1,000 or both. • Reporting the information regarding a case of possible child abuse or neglect to an employer, supervisor, school principals, school counselor, coworker, or other person will not be a substitute for making a mandated report to the police department, sheriff's department, county probation department or county welfare department. • The pregnancy of a minor does not, in and of itself, constitute a basis for a reasonable suspicion of sexual abuse.
<i>Source/Applicable Statute(s)</i>	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, Cal. Penal Code §§ 11164 <i>et seq.</i> (2009).

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