Appalachian’s Guidelines on Acceptable Behavior with Minors

Adults working with minors are required to conduct themselves in a professional manner appropriate for the age of the minors they are interacting with and supervising in accordance with Appalachian Policy 111.1 – Minors on Campus. This guideline includes a nonexclusive list of acceptable behavior practices appropriate for working with minors.

- Do not engage with minors outside of established programs and activities.
- Do not communicate with minors through social media, e-mail, online chat rooms, or text message.
- Do not engage in abusive, threatening, or intimidating conduct with a minor or in the presence of a minor, including stalking, bullying, or hazing.
- Do not use profanity in the presence of a minor.
- Do not touch minors in an inappropriate manner.
- Do not engage in sexual activity with minors.
- Do not shower, bathe, or undress a minor or engage in these activities in the presence of a minor.
- Do not use or possess firearms or other weapons in the presence of a minor.
- Do not sell, use, or possess alcohol or illegal drugs while on duty or when responsible for the care of a minor.
- Do not provide legal drugs to a minor, including prescription or over-the-counter medications, unless expressly authorized by the minor’s parent and guardian and in accordance with University procedures.
- Do not engage in activities or discussions with a minor that would create the expectation that such conduct or communication should not be shared with the minor’s parent or guardian.
- Do not engage in one-on-one contact with minors. One-on-one contact includes unsupervised interaction between less than three minors and one adult, who is not the minors’ parent or guardian, without at least one other adult present (i.e., one minor and one adult, or two minors and one adult). In limited circumstances, to the extent that a Minor would like to confide in an adult, the conversation must be conducted in a well-illuminated area and remain open to observation by another adult member.