

Policy on Children on Campus

Gadsden State is an institution of higher education. While Gadsden State welcomes and invites the presence of children on campus, it recognizes that its campuses and events may not always be an appropriate environment for children.

The purpose of this policy is to promote the health, safety, and well-being of children on campus and children who participate in College events and to clarify the College's rules with respect to children and minors on campus and at College-sanctioned events. This policy applies to employees, students, campus visitors, and individuals or Organizations engaging in or conducting activities associated with the College.

For the purposes of this policy, the terms "child," "children," "minor," and "minors" refer to individuals under the age of 18 who are not enrolled college students.

- A. **Responsibility for Children.** In recognition of the family needs and responsibilities, students, faculty, and staff may bring their child(ren) to campus for limited periods of time while the employee or student is engaged in work or educational activities; with approval by the appropriate supervisor. In doing so, the needs of other College community members for a quiet and productive work and educational setting must be respected. No facility or office on campus is to be used regularly in lieu of child care or for unsupervised recreation for children. The adult responsible for a child is also responsible for the child's behavior and actions, and is expected to ensure that the child's behavior is compliant with College policies.
- B. **Risks.** The adult responsible for bringing a child to campus and College events will also be responsible for any and all injuries or damages sustained to or by the child or any other child accompanying them while on campuses or any properties owned or leased by the College. The College will not be responsible or liable for any such injuries or damages.
- C. **Revocation.** Allowing employees and students to bring their child(ren) to campus is a privilege extended by the College and may be revoked at the discretion of the College. The College may also prohibit an employee or student from bringing a child(ren) to campus if a member of the College community provides a reasonable objection.
- D. **College-Sanctioned Events.** Gadsden State hosts a number of events that are open to children. In order to ensure their safety and that of other guests, the College requires the parent, legal guardian, or other adult responsible for each child to comply with the following provisions:
 1. The College will not be responsible for the supervision of any children who attend a campus or College-sanctioned event unless the event sponsored specifically states in a written announcement that supervision by College will be provided.
 2. Children must remain in the area of campus where the event is located.
 3. The adult responsible for a child is also responsible for the child's behavior and actions and for any damage caused by a child.
 4. If a child attending an event or program needs an accommodation for a disability or other special need, it is the responsibility of the adult to request such an accommodation, in advance of the event, to ensure that the accommodation is in place or that the accommodation is one that can be extended by the College.