

**DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SERIES 700: AUXILIARY SERVICES**

**POLICY 750**

**MANDATORY REPORTERS OF CHILD ABUSE**

It shall be the policy of the Diocesan Board of Education that all instances of suspected child abuse be reported to the Iowa Department of Human Services by the professional employees of the schools of the Diocese of Davenport. The requirement to report both orally and in written form is mandatory. ([Iowa Code 232.70](#))

Mandatory reporters (all professional educators) are required to complete two hours of training during their first six months of employment and one hour every three years thereafter. This course may be completed online through Heartland AEA; a password will be provided by the school administrator.

Mandatory reporters are also required to complete training in "Dependent Adult Abuse". This training is two hours for initial training and one hour every three years thereafter. This course may be completed online through Heartland AEA or the Department of Human Services.

Non-professional staff are not mandatory reporters; however, any suspected child abuse should be reported.

Priests are generally not considered mandatory reporters, unless they serve as professional educators. However, permissive reporting may be done by priests or others in the diocese pursuant to the [Policies Relating to Sexuality and Personal Behavior](#). In addition, priests who receive information about child abuse in the context of the Sacrament of Reconciliation are not obligated to report on the basis of that information.

The Diocesan [Policies Relating to Sexuality and Personal Behavior](#) must also apply regarding sexual misconduct. When either that policy or Iowa law change, they will be followed.

**This policy is required for schools by state law.**