



Policy Title:	Children on Campus
Functional Area:	ADMINISTRATIVE/ACADEMIC
Status:	APPROVED
Effective:	January 2020
Approved by:	SOM Leadership Council
Policy Contact:	Office of Admissions and Student Affairs
Responsible Office:	Office of Admissions and Student Affairs
Last Reviewed:	NEW

Purpose: The purpose of this document is to clarify rules which govern whether minors/children may accompany students to class/campus.

Definitions: The University of the Incarnate Word (UIW) celebrates the presence of children in the lives of our large campus family and UIW is committed to ensuring the health, safety and well-being of children. The university encourages safe, supervised campus visitations by children for the purposes of making decisions about their academic future, educational, cultural, or sporting events and camps. For purposes of this policy, a child is defined as a person under the age of 18. The university campus grounds and infrastructure are designed to provide an environment conducive to academic and occupational activities performed by students and employees. For reasons that include safety of children, and assuring professional efficient performance of academic pursuits, operations and services, the university has implemented this policy. This policy addresses health and safety matters relating to children on all premises owned and/or operated by the University of the Incarnate Word, including main campus, Incarnate Word High School and St. Anthony Catholic High School. The policy applies to all students, visitors, vendors, guests and volunteers on all campus locations.

Description: While the University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine understands there may be times learners will want to bring children on campus, it also takes the position that minors/children should not be brought into offices, classrooms and other instructional and support areas. The interactive SOM curriculum can be unintentionally yet easily interrupted, resulting in unintended consequences.

Knowing the long hours learners are on campus, children and spouses can join learners for a limited time (one hour) during mealtimes in the building two dining hall, patio, and Chapel only. Children are always to be supervised.

In addition, there may be special campus events where family members, including children, are invited to participate. These events will be clearly identified as such and minors will be expected to be supervised during their time on campus. Visitors invited by specific departments, such as high school students invited to tour campus, are to be chaperoned and will be the responsibility of the sponsoring department.

Finally, since students are responsible for the behavior of any accompanying minor/child on campus, they may be subject to disciplinary actions according to the Student Code of Conduct for any disruptive or destructive behavior by the minor/child.

This policy/procedure will be distributed to all learners, faculty, and staff and be effective immediately.

The UIWSOM DO Student Handbook will be updated to reflect this new and/or any newer policy in its next published revision.

REFERENCES to REGULATIONS and/or OTHER RELATED POLICIES:
Attendance