



## Child Abuse Laws - Connecticut

Categories : [Children and Families](#), [Legal and Protective Services](#), [Youth and Young Adults](#)

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### CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

In Connecticut, the State Department of Children and Families (DCF) is responsible for investigating and enforcing our state's child protection laws.

### REPORTING ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT

Individuals who have reason to suspect that a child is being abused or neglected should make a report to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) at the toll-free, 24 hour Child Abuse and Neglect Careline (1-800-842-2288). Certain social service, mental health, education, and other professionals are [mandated reporters](#), and are therefore **required** by law to make a report, if in their professional capacity, they have reason to believe a child is being abused or neglected. If you are unsure if a situation is reportable under the law, feel free to call the DCF Child Abuse and Neglect Careline. The social work staff is prepared to discuss the situation with you and help you determine the appropriate course of action.

For Frequently Asked Questions About Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect: <https://portal.ct.gov/dcf>

and for more information on Connecticut Laws and additional resources about Child Abuse and Neglect, visit the Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries webpage: <https://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/law/childabuse.htm>

TO FIND PROVIDERS IN CONNECTICUT'S COMMUNITY RESOURCES DATABASE:

Search by service name: [Child Abuse Hotlines](#)

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**SOURCES:** Department of Children and Families; Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries

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