A Taxonomy of Youth Activities

Youth activities are offered for minors under age 18, who are not yet University of Wisconsin students.

Youth Activity Hosted by and/or associated with University of Wisconsin

UW-Madison Youth Protection Policy outlines expectations for: mandatory reporting of incidents (such as child abuse); registering annually with OYP; staffing (including screening, training, and supervision ratio); behavioral standards and expectations; and emergency preparedness including safety plans.

Youth Activities outside of a full-fledged youth program. Typically this means representing UW while interacting with Youth. UW likely plays a role in establishing the adult/youth connection.

Individual Placements
Examples:
- High school student visiting a lab
- High school student with unpaid internship at UW
- Job shadowing / workplace visit
- 1.1 music lessons or instruction

Guest Speaker (one time)

Connections (ongoing)
Examples:
- Person presents to Youth and connects with them afterwards
- A non-job-related youth activity, such as mentoring

Field Trips & Campus Visits
Examples:
- Chaperoned K-12 youth field trip
- Recruiting activities for prospective students
- Campus tours designed for youth

Outreach Programs/Events

Service-Learning Activities

Full-fledged Youth Program
Individual participation is tracked through enrollment/registration and/or attendance taking. Parent permissions/waivers, accident insurance, staffing plans with supervision ratios, and additional considerations may apply. Typically this means supervising Youth and providing Custodial Care.

Residential - includes overnight stay
On campus
Examples:
- Summer Music Clinic
- Badger Sports Camps
- Pushkin Institute
Off campus
Examples:
- Program using local hotel space, not UW Housing
- Extension summer camps

Commuter - multiple sessions
On campus
Examples:
- Chemistry Camp
- Badger Sports Camps
- Earth Focus Day Camps (Arboretum)
Off campus
Example:
- Odyssey Junior (meets at South Park Street)
- 4H club meetings

One Day - single session
On campus
Off campus

Virtual - programming is conducted entirely online
“Virtual” = an activity conducted using electronic technology to communicate. Participants must be supervised but are not considered under UW custodial care. Not eligible for blanket accident insurance. Incident reporting obligations still apply.

Precollege - has intentional design elements
“Precollege” = an activity with specific programmatic design elements associated with intentional academic and social preparation for independent living as a college student. Likely includes a component related to UW Admissions.

Youth Conferences
Examples:
- MSAN (Minority Student Achievement Network)
- NASA GLOBE Student Research Symposium
- Expanding Your Horizons (middle school girls in STEM)

Combinations
Examples:
- WI High School State Speech Festival / Forensics Meet
- Science Olympiad
- FFA Livestock Competition

Programs that do not easily fit into known categories
Examples:
- New program with innovative design
- Hybrid activity
- Youth activities embedded within a larger program
- Co-sponsorships (within university; and/or with external partners)
- Community led activities that could not happen without specialized UW facilities, location, or faculty/staff

Third Parties (A non-University organization or entity.)

- Third Parties can conduct any of these Youth Activity types.
- Campus space reservations must ascertain the nature of the activity.
- Youth Protection Policy expectations and minimum requirements (or equivalencies) apply when a Third Party hosts a Youth Activity that would fall inside the scope of the policy if hosted by the University.

Exclusions. Not a Youth Activity although Minors may be present

- Paid hourly employment of an individual under age 18. (Example: high school students working in food service jobs.)
- Enrollment in university courses by an individual under age 18.
- Orientation and academic advising activities for matriculated UW-Madison students under the age of 18. (Example: SOAR.)
- University events open to the general public. (Examples: sporting events, concerts, ticketed events.)
- Licensed UW preschool/child care activities.
- Medical care given to Minors in a University patient-care setting by a licensed health care provider.
- Research protocols approved by the University IRB (Institutional Review Board). Note: supplemental procedures may constitute a Youth Activity, for example transportation or supervision of Minors as research participants if unaccompanied by a parent/guardian.
- Activities under UW Policy 5039 “Children in the Workplace,” typically an employee bringing their own child to visit campus.
- Campus/admissions tours for prospective students that are open to the public.

Definitions
- Minor: A person under the age of eighteen (18).
- Youth: A minor aged five (5) to eighteen (18) years old.
- Youth Activity: An intentional interaction between one or more Youth and a University employee or University-appointed volunteer; it is sponsored or operated in part or in whole by the University, regardless of location or duration.