



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS U.S. ARMY GARRISON
2218 6TH AVENUE
FORT RUCKER AL 36362-5105

GC Policy Memo 21-39

OCT 20 2021

AMIM-RCW-A (608-18d)

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Fort Rucker Child Supervision Policy

1. Reference. Army Regulation (AR) 608-18 (The Army Family Advocacy Program).
2. Purpose. This policy imposes requirements for the supervision of children.
3. Discussion.
 - a. AR 608-18 defines "lack of supervision" as a type of child neglect characterized by the absence or inattention of the parent, guardian, foster parent, or other caregiver that results in injury to the child, in the child being unable to care for himself or herself, or in injury or serious threat of injury to another person because the child's behavior was not properly monitored.
 - b. Sponsors or designated care providers who leave children unattended in violation of this policy may be investigated under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and applicable state and federal laws by the installation police, Criminal Investigation Division, and Family Advocacy Program Treatment Services.
 - c. The Child Supervision Matrix is provided as guidance.
4. The point of contact for this guidance is Ms. Luticia Trimble-Smith, Family Advocacy Program Manager, at 334-255-3246 and Luticia.j.trimblesmith2.civ@mail.mil.
5. This memorandum supersedes GC Policy Memo 21-39, dated 22 February 2021, and will remain in effect until changed or formally rescinded.


ROBERT J. HOLCOMBE
COL, AV
Garrison Commander

DISTRIBUTION:
A, B

USAG Fort Rucker CHILD SUPERVISION MATRIX

Sponsors and parents are responsible for the welfare and safety of children in the military community. Each child is unique. Personality, environment, developmental progress, and maturity level are factors used to determine when children are ready to accomplish activities with little or no supervision. Sponsors and parents are responsible for making this decision. The following are minimum community standards. These guidelines apply to all military, Department of Defense, and invited contractor personnel living on post.

Age of Child	Required Supervision	Left Alone in Quarters	Left Alone Overnight	Play Outside Unattended	Left in Car Unattended	Child Sit Siblings	Child Sit Others
Newborn - 5 years old Kindergarten	Requires Close supervision at all times.	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
6-7 years old (1 st - 2 nd Grades)	Direct Supervision. Children begin to explore their environment under supervision.	NO	NO	YES With immediate access (visual sight and hearing distance) to adult supervision. Children 6 and 7 years of age are not exempt from "outside unsupervised" rule when walking to and from school or to the school bus stop. They may not walk alone and must be accompanied by an adult or sibling that is 10 years or older.	NO	NO	NO
8-9 years old (3 rd - 4 th Grades)	Direct Supervision. Children begin to explore their environment under supervision.	NO	NO	YES With ready access to an adult supervisor who is in the immediate area in case of an emergency and the parent knowing the location and activity of the child. May walk to and from school or to the school bus stop with a buddy.	NO	NO	NO
10-11 years old (5 th - 6 th Grades)	Indirect Supervision. This is a transition time and children are accepting more responsibility, however, they continue to require indirect supervision. Parents know child's location and activities. Emergency contact available.	YES 10 year olds for up to 1 hour. 11 year olds up to 3 hours (occasionally, not on a daily basis). Must have access to indirect supervision (neighbor, checking with parent by phone)	NO	YES With ready access to an adult supervisor who is in the immediate area in case of an emergency and the parent knowing the location of the child. Parent or supervisor makes hourly checks on the child. Child may walk or ride bike to and from school unaccompanied. Ready access may be accomplished with a cell phone. *Recommended Home-Aloof Course	NO	YES 11 year olds may sit siblings 7 years and older for up to 1 hour. 10 year olds may not sit siblings.	NO
12-13 years old (7 th - 8 th Grades)	Indirect Supervision. Children are approaching the adolescent years when there is need for increased responsibility. The amount of responsibility should be carefully evaluated.	YES For up to 6 hours with ready access to adult supervision and intermittent contact with a parent.	NO	YES With access to adult supervision. Parent checks on the child or has the child check in at parent's or caregiver's location every 2 hours. Parent must know child's location and activity.	YES	YES 13 years old may baby sit siblings up to 5 hours during daylight hours with ready access to adult supervision. + Babysitter course recommended	YES 13 year olds may baby sit 5 hours with ready access to adult supervision. Not overnight. + Babysitter Course is required
14-16 years old (9 th - 11 th Grades)	Children continue to need to know how to access parents and guidance for emergency situations. Parents are responsible for their children and their actions.	YES No longer than 9 hours with ready access to adult supervision. At least minimum of telephonic contact during the time alone.	NO	YES With access to adult supervision by phone or a designated caregiver within 2 hours. Parent must know the location and activities of the youth. Contact must be made every 3 hours.	YES	YES	YES May sit up to 9 hours. Not overnight. + Babysitter Course is required
17-18 years old (12 th Grade)	Parents are responsible for their children and their actions as long as family member status is maintained.	YES No more than 2 consecutive Overnight periods with access to Adult supervision.	YES Indirect Supervision	YES	YES	YES	YES + Babysitter Course is required

*Parents desiring assistance in identifying child care and supervision options or home alone and babysitter courses may contact the Parent Central Services Division of Child, Youth, & School Services at 334-255-9638. To report violations of this policy that may constitute child neglect. Please call the U.S. Army Military Police at 334-255-2222