

CHILD SUPERVISION AGE MATRIX

Sponsors and parents are responsible for the welfare and the 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, DOD, CONTRACTORS, OTHER PERSONNEL ON OR OFF BASE PER MARINE CORPS ORDER, MCBHO 1754.1A

Age	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	Requires close supervision at all times	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
6-7 years	Direct supervision required	NO	NO	YES With immediate access (visual sight and hearing distance) to adult supervision • Children 6 years old may not walk alone to and from school or school bus stop • Children 7 years old are exempt from "outside unattended" rule when walking to and from school or school bus stop. They may not walk alone and must be accompanied by a buddy or older sibling.	NO	NO	NO
8-9 years	Direct supervision required	NO	NO	YES With ready access to an adult in the immediate area in case of emergency. Sponsor and/or parent knows the location and activity of the child. • May walk unaccompanied to and from school or school bus stop with a buddy. Parents need to buddy partner or use siblings so child is not alone.	NO	NO	NO
10-11 years	Indirect supervision required This is a transitional time and children are accepting more responsibility. However, they continue to require indirect supervision. • Sponsor should know child's location and activities • Emergency contact available	YES • 10 years old for up to 1 hour • 11 year olds up to 3 hours (<i>occasionally</i> , not on a daily basis) • Must have access to indirect supervision (neighbor, checking with sponsor by phone)*	NO	YES With ready access to adult supervision. Sponsor checks on the child or has the child check in with the sponsor, parent, or caregiver hourly. • Ready access can be accomplished with cell phone • Must be 30 minutes or less to respond to the child in crisis • Child should take into consideration due to child's maturity and any limitations or special needs	YES Not more than 10 minutes and the keys MUST be removed and the parking brake applied	YES 11 year olds may sit siblings 6 years and older for up to 1 hour. 10 year olds may not sit siblings. Child's maturity and knowledge of emergency protocols should be considered.	NO
12-13 years	Indirect supervision required Children are approaching the adolescent years when there is need for increased responsibility • Should be carefully evaluated	YES For up to 6 hours with ready access to adult supervision and interment contact with a supervisor*	NO	YES With access to adult supervisor. Sponsor checks on the child or has the child check in person or by the phone every 2 hours. • Parent must know child's location and activity and respond to the child within 1 hour • Parents should take into consideration the child's maturity and any limitations or special needs	YES	YES Up to 6 hours during daylight hours	YES Limit up to 6 hours. Not overnight. • Babysitter Course required
14-16 years	Children continue to need to know how to access Sponsor and guidance for emergency situations • Sponsors are responsible for their actions	YES No longer than 9 hours with ready access to adult supervision	NO	YES With access to adult supervision by phone or designated caregiver within 2 hours • Contact must be made every 3 hours	YES	YES	YES May sit up to 9 hours. Not overnight. • Babysitter Course required
17-18 years	Sponsors 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 Time is left to Sponsor's discretion	YES	YES	YES • Babysitter Course required

* Unless there is a pattern of behavioral misconduct indicating otherwise.

American Red Cross Babysitters' Training Class: POC (808)257-8848

Training Class is required for any minor child babysitting children other than immediate family members.

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TO REPORT VIOLATIONS OF THIS POLICY THAT MAY CONSTITUTE CHILD NEGLECT, PLEASE CALL PMO (808)257-1018/2123 AND FAMILY ADVOCACY HOTLINE (808)216-7175