PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND
The primary mission of Great Falls College MSU (GFC MSU) is to educate students. To that end, GFC MSU has the responsibility to provide a place of instruction that is free from distractions and conducive to learning. The presence of unattended minor children is often a disruptive factor, not just because a child can be noisy or active, but because even inadvertently, attention is centered on the child rather than on the teaching and learning process. The presence of unattended and/or disruptive minor children on campus and in its facilities also raises safety and liability issues. Therefore, appropriate restrictions must be placed on unattended and/or disruptive minor children to GFC MSU’s campus, sites, and facilities. GFC MSU and its facilities (classrooms, labs, offices, public areas, common areas and grounds) cannot be viewed at any time as a substitute for child care arrangements.

STATEMENT
Children are allowed on campus to attend activities, which by their very nature, might be attended by children. It is assumed, however, that children attending these activities are under the supervision of an instructor or adult, or are enrolled in a fee-based program. Examples of such activities would be public events such as programs/courses sanctioned by the College; lectures, performances and public meetings as well as activities organized specifically for minor children. This also includes minor children who are checked in by their parent or guardian at the GFC MSU day care facility.

Minors under age 18 enrolled in credit or non-credit classes through a special or high school program are considered GFC MSU students. In addition, minors under the age of 18 enrolled with the ABLE program are allowed on campus without adult supervision.

Certain campus services are open to the public or community: for example, the cafeteria, the bookstore, business visits (e.g., meet with financial aid, pay bills, apply for admissions) and the library. Minor children may be in and use these facilities as long as an adult or guardian is present and actively supervising the minor child. If the minor child, however, becomes disruptive or the presence of the minor child interferes with the peaceful conduct of the activities of the campus, the adult may be asked to remove the minor child.

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to arrange for their personal childcare away from the College. In emergency situations, if it is necessary for the employee to bring a child to the workplace during working hours, the employee’s supervisor must approve. This Policy does not preclude short visits when the minor child is accompanied by another responsible adult. Sick children are not to be brought to campus.

Employees and students who are lactating may have infants brought to campus periodically for breastfeeding in an area specifically designated for this purpose by the employee’s supervisor and/or the Administration.
At no time may minor children be unattended or unsupervised on campus for even a short period of time. Only currently enrolled students should be present in lab facilities unless others are approved to be present as part of a sanctioned GFC MSU event or activity.

To ensure a safe and secure campus environment, the CEO/Dean and his/her designees have the authority to address violations of this policy.

A violation of this policy may result in appropriate disciplinary action.

**DEFINITIONS**

- **Minor Children** refers to any person under the age of eighteen years not officially registered in a GFC MSU class. Emancipated minors are considered adults.

- **Adult** is any person eighteen years of age and older, or an emancipated minor who has responsibility for a minor child while on the GFC MSU campus, regardless of the relationship.

- **Employee** is any staff member, faculty, contract professional, or student worker employed by GFC MSU.

- **Unattended/Unsupervised**: refers to situations in which the minor child is on campus or in a campus facility and is not under the immediate physical control of an adult or an instructor.

- **Disruptive**: Interfering with a work or educational setting; interrupting usual order or progress, unruly, disorderly.