Student Abuse Investigations Process

North Linn Community School District

Effective July 1, 2025, pursuant to Iowa Code Section 280.17 and Senate File 659, the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for investigating certain allegations of student abuse involving school employees and other individuals working with students.

Types of Abuse Investigated

HHS is responsible for investigating allegations involving:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Prostitution of a child

Reporting and Investigation Process

HHS has the authority to assess credible reports from identifiable sources when:

1. The alleged victim is a student enrolled in a public school, nonpublic school, or prekindergarten program.
2. The alleged abuse involves one of the categories listed above.
3. The alleged abuse involves a school employee, vendor, agent, or volunteer working under the direction of a school or educational agency.
4. The alleged abuse occurred on school grounds during school time or during a school-related curricular or extracurricular activity.

Not all reports will result in an HHS investigation. Reports must meet established criteria to be accepted for assessment. If a report does not meet HHS criteria, the concern may still be reported to the school district for appropriate review and follow-up.

Additional Information and Resources

Families, students, staff, and community members may access the following resources provided by Iowa HHS:

- Student Abuse Dashboard
- Student Abuse Investigation Flowchart
- Student Abuse Information Fact Sheet
- Student Abuse Investigations Training Video

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 280.17; Senate File 659 (2025)

North Linn Community School District is committed to maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.