

# **Kansas Administrative Regulations**

## **Kansas Department for Children and Families**

### **Article 46.—Child Abuse and Neglect**

#### **30-46-10. Definitions.**

For the purpose of the child abuse and neglect central registry, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) "Abandon" and "abandonment" have the meaning specified in K.S.A. 38-2202, and amendments thereto.

(b) "Abuse" means "physical, mental or emotional abuse" or "sexual abuse," as these two terms are defined in K.S.A. 38-2202, and amendments thereto, and as "sexual abuse" is further defined in this regulation, involving a child who resides in Kansas or is found in Kansas, regardless of where the act occurred. The term "abuse" shall include any act that occurred in Kansas, regardless of where the child is found or resides. The term "abuse" may include the following:

(1) Terrorizing a child, by creating a climate of fear or engaging in violent or threatening behavior toward the child or toward others in the child's presence that demonstrates a flagrant disregard for the child;

(2) emotionally abandoning a child, by being psychologically unavailable to the child, demonstrating no attachment to the child, or failing to provide adequate nurturance of the child; and

(3) corrupting a child, by teaching or rewarding the child for unlawful, antisocial, or sexually mature behavior.

(c) "Alleged perpetrator" means the person identified in the initial report or during the investigation as the person suspected of perpetrating an act of abuse or neglect.

(d) "Child" means anyone under the age of 18 or anyone under the age of 21 and in the custody of the secretary pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2255, and amendments thereto.

(e) "Child abuse and neglect central registry" means the list of names for individuals identified by the department as substantiated perpetrators.

(f) "Child care facility" has the meaning specified in K.S.A. 65-503, and amendments thereto.

(g) "Department" means Kansas department for children and families.

(h) "Investigation" means the gathering and assessing of information to determine if a child has been harmed, as defined in K.S.A. 38-2202, and amendments thereto, as the result of abuse or neglect, to identify the individual or individuals responsible, and to determine if the incident perpetrated by the individual or individuals should be substantiated.

(i) "Neglect" has the meaning specified in K.S.A. 38-2202, and amendments thereto, involving a child who resides in Kansas or is found in Kansas, regardless of where the act or failure to act occurred.

(j) "Sexual abuse" has the meaning specified in K.S.A. 38-2202, and amendments thereto. With respect to the determination by the department for children and families of a substantiated finding of sexual abuse, difference in age and maturity between the perpetrator and victim and issues of force or coercion may be considered.

(k) "Substantiated perpetrator" and "perpetrator" mean a person, regardless of where the person resides, who has been substantiated by the secretary or the secretary's designee, by a preponderance of evidence, to have either intentionally committed an act of abuse or neglect or failed or refused to protect a child when a reasonable person would have anticipated that the act of abuse or neglect would result in or create a likelihood of serious harm, injury, or deterioration to the child. The substantiated perpetrator's name is placed on the Kansas child abuse and neglect central registry, and the person is thereby prohibited from residing, working, or volunteering in a child care facility pursuant to K.S.A. 65-516, and amendments thereto.

(l) "Unsubstantiated alleged perpetrator" means a person who has been determined by the secretary or the secretary's designee, by a preponderance of evidence, to have not committed an alleged act of abuse or neglect.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 38-2225 and 39-708c; implementing K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 38-2226 and K.S.A. 38-2230; effective Jan. 2, 1989; amended Jan. 2, 1990; amended Oct. 1, 1993; amended Jan. 1, 1997; amended Oct. 3, 1997; amended July 9, 2004; amended July 6, 2009; amended, T-30-6-1-12, June 1, 2012; amended Sept. 14, 2012; amended

July 1, 2016; amended, T-30-11-15-18, Nov. 15, 2018; amended Feb. 22, 2019;  
amended Jan. 3, 2025.)

\*\*\*\*\* Authenticated Kansas Administrative Regulation \*\*\*\*\*