

Mandatory Reporting
For information purposes only - not legal advice. Last updated 20 August 2023

Country	State, Province or Territory	Statutory provision	Who	Report suspicion of current or future abuse	Report past abuse	Exceptions
Australia	Australian Capital Territory	Children and Young People Act 2008 s 356	A minister of religion, religious leader or member of the clergy of a church or religious denomination	believe on reasonable grounds that child under age 18 is experiencing sexual abuse	believe on reasonable grounds that child under age 18 has experienced sexual abuse	
Australia	New South Wales	Crimes Act 1900 s 316A	Any adult		know, believe or reasonably ought to know that a child abuse offence has been committed	
Australia	New South Wales	Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 s 27	Person in religious ministry or person providing religion-based activities to	suspect on reasonable grounds that child under age 16 is at risk of significant harm		
Australia	Northern Territory	Care and Protection of Children Act 2007 s 26	Any person	believe on reasonable grounds that child under age 14 is likely to be a victim of a sexual offence	believe on reasonable grounds that child under age 14 has been a victim of a sexual offence	
Australia	Queensland	Criminal Code 1899 s 229BC	Any adult	believe or ought to believe on reasonable grounds that child sexual offence is being committed against child under age 16	believe or ought to believe on reasonable grounds that child sexual offence has been committed against child under age 16	
Australia	Queensland	Child Protection Act 1999 s 13E	DOES NOT APPLY TO CHURCHES			
Australia	South Australia	Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017 s 31	Minister of religion	suspect on reasonable grounds that child under age 18 is or may be at risk		
Australia	Tasmania	Criminal Code 1924 s 105A	Any person		reasonable belief that abuse offence was committed against child under age 17	
Australia	Tasmania	Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997 s 14	A member of the clergy of any church or religious denomination	believe or suspect on reasonable grounds that there is a reasonable likelihood of a child under age 18 being abused	believe or suspect on reasonable grounds that a child under age 18 is or has been abused	
Australia	Victoria	Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 s 184	A person appointed, ordained or otherwise recognised as a religious or spiritual leader in a religious institution. Example: church elder, deacon,	believe on reasonable grounds that child under age 17 is likely to suffer significant harm as a result of sexual abuse and the child's parents are unlikely to protect the child	believe on reasonable grounds that child under age 17 has suffered significant harm as a result of sexual abuse and the child's parents have not protected the child	
Australia	Victoria	Crimes Act 1958 s 327	A person over age 18		form a reasonable belief that a sexual offence has been committed against child under age 16	
Australia	Western Australia	Children and Community Services Act 2004 s 124B	Minister of religion	believe on reasonable grounds that a child under age 18 is the subject of ongoing sexual abuse	believe on reasonable grounds that a child under age 18 was the subject of sexual abuse on or after 1 March 2006	
Canada	Alberta	Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act s 4	Any person	reasonable and probable grounds to believe there is a substantial risk that a child under age 18 will be sexually abused by the guardian or guardian is unwilling or unable to protect the child from sexual abuse		
Canada	British Columbia	Child, Family and Community Service Act s 14	Any person	reason to believe that a child under age 19 is likely to be sexually abused and the child's parent is unable or unwilling to protect the child	reason to believe that a child under age 19 has been sexually abused and the child's parent is unable or unwilling to protect the child	
Canada	Manitoba	The Child and Family Services Act s 18	Any person	information that leads the person reasonably to believe that a child under age 18 is sexually exploited or is in danger of being sexually exploited		
Canada	New Brunswick	Family Services Act s 30	Any person		information causing person to suspect that a child under age 19 has been sexually ill-treated	
Canada	Newfoundland	Children, Youth and Families Act s 11	Any person	has information that a child under age 18 is being, or is at risk of being, sexually abused or exploited and parent does not protect the child		

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Canada	Northwest Territories	Child and Family Service Act s 8	Any person	Has information that there is a substantial risk that a child under age 16 will be sexually molested or sexually exploited in circumstances where parent is unwilling or unable to protect the child	Has information that a child under age 16 has been sexually molested or sexually exploited in circumstances where parent was unwilling or unable to protect the child	
Canada	Nova Scotia	Children and Family Services Act s 23	Any person	has information indicating that there is a substantial risk that child under age 19 will be sexually abused and parent or guardian will fail to protect the child	has information indicating that a child under age 19 has been sexually abused and parent or guardian fails to protect the child	
Canada	Nunavut	Child and Family Services Act s 8	Any person	Has information or reasonable grounds to believe that there is a substantial risk that a child under age 16 will be sexually molested or sexually exploited in circumstances where parent is unwilling or unable to protect the child	Has information or reasonable grounds to believe that a child under age 16 has been sexually molested or sexually exploited in circumstances where parent was unwilling or unable to protect the child	
Canada	Ontario	Child, Youth and Family Services Act s 125	Any person	reasonable grounds to suspect that there is a risk that a child under age 16 is likely to be sexually abused or sexually exploited where the person having charge of the child fails to protect the child	reasonable grounds to suspect that a child under age 16 has been sexually abused or sexually exploited and the person having charge of the child fails to protect the child	
Canada	Prince Edward Island	Child Protection Act s 10	Any person	knowledge or reasonable grounds to suspect that a child under age 18 is at substantial risk of sexual abuse and parent fails to protect the child	knowledge or reasonable grounds to suspect that a child under age 18 has been sexually abused and parent failed to protect the child	
Canada	Quebec	Youth Protection Act s 39	Professional who provides care or any other form of assistance to children	reasonable grounds to believe that the security or development of a child under age 18 is or may be considered to be in danger due to sexual abuse		
Canada	Saskatchewan	The Child and Family Services Act s 12	Any person	reasonable grounds to believe that a child under age 16 is likely to be sexually exploited or exposed or subjected to harmful interaction for a sexual purpose	reasonable grounds to believe that a child under age 16 has been sexually exploited or exposed or subjected to harmful interaction for a sexual purpose	
Canada	Yukon	Child and Family Services Act s 22	Any person	Reason to believe that a child under age 19 is, or is likely to be, sexually abused or exploited and parent does not protect the child		
India		Protection of Children against Sexual Offences Act 2012 s 19	Any person	Has apprehension that a sexual offence against a child under age 18 is likely to be committed	Has apprehension that a sexual offence against a child under age 18 has been committed	
Ireland		Children First Act 2015 s 14	Member of the clergy or pastoral care worker	Knows, believes or has reasonable grounds to suspect on the basis of information acquired in the course of employment that a child under age 18 is being harmed or is at risk of being harmed	Knows, believes or has reasonable grounds to suspect on the basis of information acquired in the course of employment that a child under age 18 has been harmed	
Northern Ireland		Criminal Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1967 s 5	Any person		Knows or believes that an arrestable offence (eg a sexual offence against a child) has been committed and has information likely to secure apprehension, prosecution, or conviction	
South Africa		Children's Amendment Act No 41 of 2007 s 110	Religious leader		On reasonable grounds concludes that a child under age 18 has been sexually abused	
South Africa		Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment	Any person		Has knowledge that a sexual offence has been committed against a child under age 18	

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United States of America	Alaska	Alaska Stat. § 47.17.020	DOES NOT APPLY TO CHURCHES			
United States of America	Arizona	Rev. Stat. § 13-3620	Members of the clergy	Reasonably believes that a minor is the victim of child abuse that is not accidental in nature	Reasonably believes that a minor has been the victim of child abuse that is not accidental in nature	Clergy member who has received a confidential communication or a confession may withhold reporting of the communication or confession if reasonable and necessary within the concepts of the religion.
United States of America	California	Penal Code § 11166	Clergy member		Has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandatory reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse	A clergy member who acquires knowledge or a reasonable suspicion of child abuse during a confidential communication that church practices require the clergy member to keep secret is not required to report.
United States of America	Colorado	Rev. Stat. § 19-3-304	Clergy member	Has observed the child being subjected to circumstances or conditions that would reasonably result in abuse	Reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse. Unless didn't learn of abuse until victim was over age 18 and does not have reasonable cause to suspect that perpetrator is a current abuser or is in a position of trust.	Clergy member doesn't have to report if reasonable cause comes from confidential communications to which clergy-penitent privilege applies, unless there is also reasonable cause from a source other than the confidential communication.
United States of America	Hawaii	Rev. Stat. § 350-1.1	Members of the clergy or custodians of their records	Reason to believe that there exists a substantial risk that child abuse may occur in the reasonably foreseeable future	Reason to believe that child abuse has occurred	A clergy member who acquires knowledge or a reasonable suspicion of child abuse during a confidential communication that church practices require the clergy member to keep secret is not required to report, unless there is also reportable information from another source.
United States of America	Idaho	Idaho Code § 16-1605	Any person	Observes a child subjected to conditions or circumstances that would reasonably result in abuse	Reason to believe that child under age 18 has been abused	Reporting requirements do not apply to a duly ordained minister of religion with regard to any confession or confidential communication.
United States of America	Montana	Ann. Code § 41-3-201	A member of the clergy	Know or have reasonable cause to suspect, as a result of information they receive in their professional or official capacity, that a child is abused by anyone		No reporting is required if knowledge or suspicion of abuse came from a statement or confession that was part of confidential communication between clergy member and church member and church member does not consent to disclosure. Or if communication is required to be confidential by church practice.
United States of America	Nevada	Rev. Stat. § 432B.220	Member of the clergy		In professional capacity, knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused	No reporting is required if the clergy member acquired the knowledge of the abuse from the offender during a confession.
United States of America	New Mexico	Ann. Stat. § 32A-4-3	Member of the clergy	Knows or has a reasonable suspicion that a child is an abused child		No reporting is required for information that is privileged as a matter of law.
United States of America	Oregon	Rev. Stat. § 419B.010	Member of the clergy		Reasonable cause to believe that a child that clergy member comes in contact with has suffered abuse or a person that clergy member comes in contact with has abused a child	No reporting is required for information that is privileged as a matter of law.
United States of America	See this resource for states not yet listed below (current to Jan 2008)	Child Welfare Information Gateway				

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United States of America	Utah	Ann. Code § 80-2-602	Any person	Has reason to believe that a child is the subject of abuse or observes a child being subjected to conditions or circumstances that would reasonably result in abuse or neglect	Has reason to believe that a child has been the subject of abuse	No reporting is required for confession without the consent of the individual making the confession if required to be confidential by church practice. Information from a source other than confession must be reported. Not exempt from other efforts required by law to prevent further abuse.
United States of America	Washington	Rev. Code § 26.44.030	Adult residing with child		Reasonable cause to believe that child has suffered severe sexual abuse. Does not apply if child is now adult unless reasonable cause to believe other children may be at risk.	
United States of America	Wyoming	Ann. Stat. § 14-3-205	Any person	Observes any child being subjected to conditions or circumstances that would reasonably result in abuse	Knows or has reasonable cause to believe or suspect that a child has been abused	
Wales		Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act	DOES NOT APPLY TO CHURCHES			