

Minor Supervision Ratio Guidelines

FOR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

- These guidelines are to be followed with minors, ages 10-17 years old.
 - Children 9 and under should have parental supervision at all times.
 - All activities must be approved by the church board and recorded in the board minutes.
 - All volunteers must be approved through the Verified Volunteer program.
 - The two-adult rule must always be followed for every activity.
- ▶ *Have at least one other adult, eighteen (18) years of age or older, to help with the supervision of children. If I find myself in a situation where I am the only adult present, under no circumstances will I allow myself to be alone with one child (the “two-person rule”). This protects the child as well as protecting the adult from possible allegations. (Code of Conduct)*
- ▶ *Adult sponsors should never be alone with a child/youth, even in private counseling moments. Private conversations can be held in locations in which another adult is present, but out of earshot. This important safeguard is as much for the safety of the sponsor as it is for the young person. (Adventist Risk Management)*

Onsite Location

1 adult to 10 minors

Our site locations

- Church
- School
- Conference
- Camp Winnekeag

Offsite Location

1 adult to 6 minors

Any or all facilities that are not operated by the Southern New England Conference.

**Ratios are given to guide with overall group size of adults to children.*

**A minimum of two adults is always required.*

Remote or Extreme Location

1 adult to 4 minors

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SNEC Youth Department Strongly Recommends to exceed minimum standards, including:

- **Minimum of 4 adult chaperones for all activities.**
- **Supervising adults be age 21 and above.**

YOUTH MINISTRY OVERNIGHT GUIDELINES (AGES 10-17)

Pathfinders/AY/Other Church Activities for this Age Group

- Sleeping areas for boys and girls should be separate and supervised by two adults of the same gender as the group being supervised.
- A minimum of three youth, ages 10-17, per tent/room.
- Adults and youth must never share a tent other than with his or her own parent or guardian.
- Male and female adult leaders must have separate sleeping facilities. Married couples may share the same quarters if appropriate facilities are available.
- If separate shower and latrine facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted. Likewise, youth and adults must shower at different times.





Basic Travel Checklist

- ✓ Church board approval
- ✓ Forms (Trip Permission/Health Information/Consent for Medical Treatment)
- ✓ Adequate number of chaperones/volunteers for trip (including travel)
- ✓ Approved chaperones/volunteers/drivers (Verified Volunteer)
- ✓ Statement of vehicle insurance coverage
- ✓ Travel insurance (extended trips)

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YOUTH MINISTRY OVERNIGHT GUIDELINES (CHILDREN UNDER 10)

Adventurers

Effective after current 2015 Adventurer Spring Escape

- In the event of an Adventurer Family Camping experience, a parent or legal guardian **MUST** accompany their own child(ren) at all times. No exceptions.
Note: This guideline makes a provision for Adventurers to camp, but only with their parent(s) or legal guardian.
- Parents or legal guardians are not permitted to grant permission to Adventurer Staff to take their minor children overnight camping under any circumstances. No Exceptions.
- Adventurer Staff are not permitted to accept permission or release forms from a parent or legal guardian to take their minor child(ren) camping overnight. No exceptions.
- Adventurer Staff is prohibited from sleeping with children that are not their own. No exceptions.
- Adventurers are not permitted to sleep in tents or cabins unsupervised. Neither are they permitted to sleep with another child, except they are siblings and the parent(s) is present. No exceptions.