



Participant Supervision & Chaperone Policy

Overview

The purpose of this policy is to ensure adequate supervision and student safety during Muddy Sneakers programs by establishing clear expectations.

Group Leaders maintain overall responsibility for participants, including preparation, supervision, and medical needs. Chaperones support this role through direct small-group supervision.

Failure to meet these expectations may result in modification or termination of the program to ensure group safety.

Definitions

- **Customer:** The school, group, organization, or entity that secures Muddy Sneakers programs and/or services.
- **Group Leader:** The Customer's designated representative and primary contact person.
- **Chaperone:** An adult, designated by the Customer, responsible for accompanying, supervising, and managing the behavior of participants.
- **Muddy Sneakers Educator:** A Muddy Sneakers staff member responsible for facilitating programs, delivering outdoor instruction, and guiding program activities.
- **Participant:** A person who takes part in Muddy Sneakers programs, events, and activities.

Policy Details

- Customers must provide 1 Chaperone for every 12 Participants.
- Group Leaders retain primary responsibility for all Participants, including behavior management, preparedness, and medical needs.
- Chaperons support Group Leaders by supervising assigned small groups.
- Chaperones are assigned to small groups and are responsible for supervising Participants at all times.
- Chaperones are expected to actively manage Participant behavior in accordance with Customer policies.
- Muddy Sneakers Educators lead instruction and set safety expectations, but do not assume responsibility for behavior management.
- Chaperones must remain with their assigned group for the duration of the program.
- Muddy Sneakers reserves the right to modify or end a program if safety expectations are not upheld.

Responsibilities

Group Leaders:

- Maintain overall responsibility for all Participants during the program.
- Ensure participants arrive prepared with required items, including water, lunch, and weather-appropriate clothing.
- Supervise Participants and enforce behavior expectations in accordance with Customer policies.
- Ensure participants who require medication or special accommodations remain under appropriate Customer-provided supervision when groups are divided.
- Remain on site for the duration of the program and ensure participants remain with their assigned groups.
- Support and reinforce Muddy Sneakers safety expectations and program guidelines.
- Minimize cell phone use to maintain active supervision.
- Support Muddy Sneakers Educators in promoting respect for nature and Leave No Trace practices.
- Prepare for limited restroom access and support Participants in following outdoor procedures when necessary.

Chaperones:

- Supervise assigned Participants at all times and maintain group cohesion.
- Manage behavior and enforce discipline in accordance with Customer policies.
- Remain on-site and with assigned Participants throughout the program.
- Support and reinforce Muddy Sneakers safety expectations and program guidelines.
- Minimize cell phone use to maintain active supervision.
- Support Muddy Sneakers Educators in promoting respect for nature and Leave No Trace practices.
- Prepare for limited restroom access and support Participants in following outdoor restroom procedures when necessary

Muddy Sneakers Staff:

- Provide clear safety expectations and program guidance.
- Deliver instruction and facilitate activities.
- Modify or end programming if safety is at risk.

Important Notes/Requirements

- Chaperones must remain actively engaged and attentive throughout the program.
- Failure to meet supervision expectations may result in immediate program modification or termination.
- Outdoor environments may require flexibility, including limited access to traditional facilities.