

2024-2025 Personnel Policies & Procedures



Kids' Corps, Inc.

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual is to serve as a guide, which outlines Kids' Corps, Inc. (KCI) expectations and familiarizes employees with KCI's practices.

KCI makes personnel decisions that are fair and equitable while at all times assuring that the best interests of KCI are served.

MISSION STATEMENT

We provide a head start to families with children who need it most

CORE VALUES

Family Empowerment, Inclusion, Belonging, School Readiness, Wellness

- **Family Empowerment**—We support and respect parents as decision makers
- **Inclusion**-- We accept and value families whatever their economic, educational or social status
- **Belonging**—We ensure children, families and staff feel wanted and safe
- **School Readiness**—Children have a love of learning and the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning
- **Wellness**-- We focus on helping our families, children and staff achieve & maintain mental, physical and emotional health

ENVISIONED FUTURE (2026): Every KCI child who leaves the program has 100% of the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed for optimal learning and development. We achieve this by partnering with families to provide comprehensive, quality services that ensure children are safe, healthy, learning and engaged in positive relationships.

Our Program Goals

Priority #1-We will create a safe, nurturing environment where children gain the skills, knowledge and attitudes they need to be successful in school

Priority #2—We will create partnerships with families that enhance family well-being, caregiver resilience and positive parenting practices

Priority #3: We will be a first-choice employer who creates an environment where people want to work and have rewarding careers

Priority #4--We will ensure every child receives the screenings, assessments and treatment/services needed to address any health or dental problems, developmental delays or social/emotional challenges

Priority #5—We will be a recognized community collaborator who pursues partnerships that leverage resources & improve impact

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Goal # 6: We will have a high-performing board and Policy Council who provide effective, inclusive shared governance

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

- Help each child to achieve school readiness by supporting good health and nutrition and sound, physical, cognitive, language, social and emotional development
- Ensure all enrolled families have access to all our services
- Embrace the diversity and uniqueness of the children and families we serve
- Keep families at the center of decision making for their children
- Help families help themselves
- Engage our community to develop resources that promote the healthy growth and development of young children who live in poverty
- Provide a high-quality program by using our resources effectively and responsibly

INTENT OF KIDS CORPS, INC. PERSONNEL POLICIES

The intent of these policies is to maximize KCI's effectiveness in fulfilling agency goals and objectives and to comply with all federal, state and local laws applicable to KCI and its operations. If any part of this policy conflicts with any law, rule, regulation and/or condition mandated by any funding source or regulatory body, those regulatory specifications shall prevail.

The personnel policies have been developed to assist agency personnel in understanding their responsibilities as employees of KCI.

This Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual is designed to acquaint you with KCI and provide you with information about working conditions, employee benefits and some of the policies affecting your employment. You should read, understand, and comply with all provisions of the Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual.

No manual can anticipate every circumstance or question about policy, and as KCI continues to grow, the need may arise to revise, supplement, or rescind any portion or policy of this manual. KCI, therefore, in its sole and absolute discretion, reserves the right to revise, supplement or rescind any policies or portion of this Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual from time to time, as it deems appropriate.

KCI, at its option, may change, delete, suspend, or discontinue any part or parts of the policies in this manual at any time without prior notice. Any such action will apply to existing as well as future employees. No statement of promise by a supervisor or

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manager may be interpreted as a change in policy nor will it constitute an agreement with an employee contrary to any policy specified in this manual.

NATURE OF EMPLOYMENT

This Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual is not an employment contract and is not intended to create contractual obligations of any kind. **Your employment at KCI is “at will,” which means it is not for a specified period, and this manual does not limit your right or KCI’s right to terminate employment at any time for any reason or no reason.** No supervisor or director is authorized to enter anything other than an at-will employment relationship with any employee on behalf of KCI.

CHANGES AND REVISIONS TO PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Personnel policies and procedures are reviewed and approved at least annually by the Head Start Policy Council (PC) and the Board of Directors (Board) of KCI (Reference 45 CFR 1302.90).

Recommendations for changes to these policies and procedures shall be forwarded in writing to the Executive Director. They will be placed in a file for review during the next revision cycle.

Any policy that becomes outdated and/or hampers the effective operation of business should be brought to the attention of the Executive Director.

The Executive Director or Designee of the Executive Director oversees the proposal of revisions to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. Changes are made at the discretion of KCI and are provided to staff as soon as practical after approval by the PC and the Board.

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Section I. EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

1.01 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

It is the policy of KCI to recruit, hire, train and promote for all job classifications without regard to a person's race, religion, color or national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, status as a Vietnam-era or disabled veteran, or any other impermissible characteristic as defined by law when the reasonable demands of the position do not require distinction of the aforementioned items.

1.02 WHISTLEBLOWER ANTI-RETALIATION

Employees will not be discharged, demoted, suspended, threatened, harassed, or in any other manner discriminated against in the terms and conditions of employment by KCI for good faith reporting of incidents under the Whistleblower Act. Anyone wishing to make a good faith report under the Whistleblower act should contact:

US Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Region X, Head Start
701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1600, MS-76
Seattle, Washington 98104
(206) 615-2547

KCI has a web-based whistleblower system for staff to report concerns anonymously to the Executive Director and Human Resources Manager. Employees who wish to report a concern regarding another person's conduct anonymously may use the whistleblower reporting form on the for-staff page of the KCI website.

1.03 HARASSMENT

KCI, in keeping with federal and state law and good business practice, expressly prohibits any form of harassment based on a person's race, religion, color or national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, status as a Vietnam-era or disabled veteran, or any other impermissible characteristic as defined by law. Interference with the ability of KCI's employees to perform their expected job duties is not tolerated.

(a) Workplace Harassment

Workplace harassment can take many forms. It may be, but is not limited to, words, signs, offensive jokes, cartoons, pictures, posters, calendars, e-mail jokes or statements, pranks, intimidation, physical assaults or contact or violence.

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(b) Reporting

If you experience any job-related harassment based on your sex, race or another factor, or believe you have been treated in an unlawful, discriminatory manner, you should immediately contact your supervisor. This should be done in writing. All reports will be promptly investigated with due regard for the privacy of everyone involved. If, after conducting an investigation, management believes that any of its employees have acted inappropriately, disciplinary action will be taken against the offending employee. If the alleged offender is the Executive Director, you should contact the President or acting President of the Board of Directors in writing.

It is the policy of KCI for employees to have a working environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination and conduct, which can be considered harassing, coercive or disruptive. Improper behavior of an employee which is not welcome, which is personally offensive, which is severe or pervasive and adversely impacts morale, and which, therefore, improperly interferes with work effectiveness may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

(c) Retaliation

Retaliation of any sort will not be permitted. No adverse employment action will be taken for any employee making a good faith report of alleged harassment.

(d) Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment by supervisors, employees or volunteers is illegal and will not be tolerated. Unwelcome sexual advances, inquiries, request for sexual favors, derogatory verbal and visual displays and verbal or physical conduct of a severe or pervasive sexual nature constitutes sexual harassment. Additionally, sexual harassment also occurs when:

- submission to such behavior is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or volunteer service; or
- submission to or rejection of such behavior by an individual is used as the basis of decisions affecting the employee or volunteer; or such behavior has the effect of interfering with an individual's work performance by creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

Harassment Reporting Procedures

1. Reports of harassment should be immediately communicated to the complainant's manager. Reports may be written or verbal. If the manager who supervises the department is not available, the report should be forwarded to another manager. Upon receiving a written report, the manager should forward it to the Executive Director

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immediately without screening or investigating the report. If the report was given verbally, the manager shall commit it to written form within 24 hours and forward it to the Executive Director. Failure to forward any harassment report or complaint as provided herein shall result in disciplinary action leading up to and including termination. If the complaint involves the manager, the complaint shall be filed directly with the Executive Director. If the complaint involves the Executive Director, the complaint shall be filed with the Board of Director's President or acting President.

2. Submission of a good faith complaint or report of harassment will not affect the individual's future employment or work assignment.
3. Use of formal reporting forms is not mandatory.

Investigation and Recommendation

- The Executive Director or designee, upon receipt of a report or complaint alleging harassment, shall immediately authorize an investigation. This investigation may be conducted by the company officials or by a third party designated by the company. The investigating party shall provide a written report of the status of the investigation within 10 working days to the Executive Director. In addition to the 10-day status report, the investigator shall make a final report to the Executive Director upon completion of the investigation.
- In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes harassment, the company should consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the conduct or speech, the relationships between the parties involved and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred.
- The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and others who may have knowledge of the alleged incident(s) or circumstances giving rise to the complaint. The investigation may also consist of any other methods and review of documents deemed pertinent by the investigator.
- In addition, the company may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant and employees pending completion of an investigation of alleged harassment.

Non-Harassment

- The company recognizes that not every advance or act of a sexual, insensitive, or apparently offensive nature constitutes harassment. Whether a particular action or incident is permissible requires a determination based on all the facts and

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surrounding circumstances. False accusations of harassment can have a serious detrimental effect on innocent parties.

Right to Alternative Complaint Procedure

- These procedures do not deny the right of any individual to pursue other avenues of recourse, which may include filing charges with a human rights commission, initiating civil action or seeking redress under state or federal law.

Discipline

- Kids' Corps, Inc. will take disciplinary action it deems necessary and appropriate, including warning, suspension, or immediate discharge to end harassment and prevent its recurrence.
- Kids' Corps, Inc. will respect the confidentiality of the complaint and the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed as much as possible, consistent with the company's legal obligation and the necessity to investigate allegations of harassment and take disciplinary action when the conduct has occurred.

Sexual harassment may be grounds for immediate termination. Any employee who feels this policy is being violated should report this to the Executive Director. In the event the Executive Director is the alleged harasser, the complainant should make a report (in writing) directly to the President or acting President of the Board of Directors.

1.04 DISABILITY PROVISION

It is the policy of KCI to comply with federal and state laws concerning the employment of individuals with a disability. Accordingly, KCI will not discriminate against qualified individuals who have a disability with respect to selection and hiring, advancement, termination, compensation, training or other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment. Further, KCI will make reasonable efforts to accommodate qualified individuals with a disability so that they can perform the essential functions of a job. In this provision, "disability" means a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, as defined by law.

1.05 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE PERSONNEL SYSTEM

The Executive Director is responsible for the general administration of the personnel system.

Confidential personnel files shall be maintained for every employee. These records will be maintained in locked cabinets in the KCI Administration office at 101 Davis Street in the care of the Human Resources Manager.

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Managers are responsible for developing training plans and overseeing training for the staff they supervise. The Human Resources Manager tracks and compiles evaluations for all training and maintains training records.

Personnel records are filed in the BambooHR Online system under the documents tab. Personnel records include, but are not limited to, the following or a copy of the following:

Personnel:

- Hiring information including application and resume
- References
- Education documentation that meets the requirements for a position
- Copies of licenses, certificates or notices related to qualification for a position
- Performance appraisals
- Personnel actions
- Letters of commendation, awards and other documents related to employee performance
- Emergency contact information
- Release of Information (ROI) signed for permission to check background when submitting fingerprints to the State of Alaska Background Check Program
- Employee Standards of Conduct Policies (required by 45 CFR 1302)
- New Employee Orientation Forms (required by 45 CFR 1302)
- Background and sex offender registry check information (required by 45 CFR 1302)
- Waivers of job requirements
- Child Care Worker Orientation Checklist (positions working with children and families)

Benefits and Payroll:

- W-4 withholding information
- Payroll Status and Change Reports
- Benefit information
- Authorization for Direct Deposit
- Changes or orders related to payroll and benefits
- CDA Agreement Form
- Voluntary salary reduction agreements
- Voluntary Tuition Withholding form
- Salary redirection agreements
- Garnishments

Training and Technical Assistance:

- Documentation of training and training related expenses
- Certificates of training attendance
- Individual Professional Development Plans

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Worker's Compensation Records:

Confidential Worker's Compensation files are maintained separate from other personnel records.

Medical Records:

Confidential medical records are maintained for every employee in a location separate from all other personnel records and may include the following:

- Medical Examinations
- Doctor release forms (e.g., return to work, new hire)
- Emergency medical information

Family and Medical Leave information is kept in separate files in the Family Medical Leave tab within the documents section. I-9 and 401 K information are kept in separate folders on BambooHR under the documents section.

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SECTION II. EMPLOYMENT PROCESS, ORIENTATION AND PERSONNEL DOCUMENTATION

The Human Resources Manager is responsible for coordinating the recruitment and selection process and initiating employee orientation set forth in this section.

The Board of Directors is responsible for hiring, evaluating and if necessary, firing the Executive Director. The Board is responsible for planning and initiating recruitment for the position of Executive Director.

2.01 RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION OF REGULAR EMPLOYEES

Employment opportunities typically will be offered to internal applicants first, then external applicants. However, at the discretion of management, positions may be offered simultaneously to internal and external applicants. The Administrative Specialist posts internal and external position openings as directed by the Human Resources Manager. The Human Resources Manager, with the assistance of the designated hiring manager review applications. The Administrative Specialist notifies all candidates by phone or in writing of the outcome of their application and/or interview. The Human Resources Manager will maintain application packets on file for two years from the date of submission.

Substitute recruitment is an ongoing open process. Applicants for substitute positions must complete an interview and receive Policy Council approval like all other staff. After completing the KCI and childcare worker orientation, the substitute is added to a list to be called on an as-needed basis. Substitutes must meet Municipal Licensing Requirements for caregivers.

(a) Internal and External Advertisement of Position Openings

KCI staff are notified through the internal posting of all job openings by use of kcialaska.org, and e-mail notifications.

Advertisements for all external openings are placed on well-known job websites. If a closing date exists for the position, it will be noted in the advertisement. Otherwise, the position is considered open until filled. KCI also posts all job openings on its website.

Head Start parents are notified by text message of all job openings. Additionally, all position openings are listed in the center specific newsletters, on the website kcialaska.org, and on KCI's Facebook page.

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(b) Selection of Employees

Before a person is hired, including contractors, consultants, and transportation staff who may be in contact with children and/or families, management conducts an interview, verifies references, and performs a state and national sex offender registry check and a state and federal fingerprint-based background check (required by CFR 1302.90).

Interview Committees for regular staff positions are comprised of at least one supervisory staff member and, whenever possible, at least one parent. The Executive Director will lead the interview committee for all management positions. In the event a parent is not available or is scheduled but unable to attend, the Interview Committee may be comprised of two staff members.

The Board, in collaboration with the PC and the Human Resources Manager is responsible for developing the recruitment and selection process for the Executive Director. The Board, in collaboration with the PC, is responsible for determining the composition of the Interview Committee and for conducting interviews for the position of Executive Director.

The Executive Director and Accountant positions also require the approval of KCI's Region X Head Start Program Specialist. The Executive Director will request approval from Region X for the position of Accountant. The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring Region X approval of the Executive Director. The Board of Directors is also responsible for negotiating the Executive Director's salary in compliance with the requirements of the Head Start Act.

2.02 EMPLOYMENT STATUS CATEGORIES

KCI has employment categories that assist in making distinctions in benefits and employee status. **However, all KCI employees are considered at-will whose employment with KCI can be terminated at any time for any reason by either KCI or the employee.**

(a) Regular Employees

Employees who work a minimum of thirty (30) hours per week on a regular basis are considered regular employees. Regular employees are eligible for all KCI sponsored benefits.

(b) Part-Time Employees

Employees who work less than thirty (30) hours per week are considered to be part-time employees. Part time employees are eligible for paid time off benefits, holidays, and position experience increases.

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(c) Introductory Employees

Employees who were recommended by an Interview Committee for hire but have worked less than ninety (90) days (managers and Executive Director - 180 days) are considered introductory employees. Staff are eligible for health insurance the first of the month after completing 60 days and eligible for all other benefits the first of the month after 90 days of employment.

Introductory employees begin to accrue paid time off (PTO) on their first day of work and are eligible to use paid time off after successful completion of their introductory period or 90 days of employment, whichever comes first.

Introductory employees are immediately eligible for holiday pay.

The introductory period may be extended at the supervisor's discretion.

(d) Substitute Employees

Employees who are contacted from a Substitute list on an as needed as available basis are considered substitute employees. Substitute employees are not eligible for KCI sponsored benefits.

2.03 EMPLOYMENT OF RELATIVES

Employee's relatives will be eligible for employment with KCI as long as no conflicts in supervision, safety, security, morale, or other areas exist. Any individual whose relative is a member of the Board or PC, however, is not eligible for hire. Employees may not directly supervise a relative.

Relatives of children and families enrolled will be eligible for employment. However, employees are not permitted to provide direct services to child/families related to them. Center directors may not supervise the staff at centers where their child/related child is enrolled.

For purposes of enforcement of this policy, relatives are defined as an employee's parent, child, spouse, sibling, foster placement, step relationship, grandchild, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle and "significant others".

2.04 ORIENTATION

The Human Resources Manager will initiate the orientation process of all new staff members in accordance with 45 CFR 1302.92 and Municipality of Anchorage Child and Adult Care Licensing Codes. Arrangements are then made to complete the orientation process based upon the specific job position. There are three days of orientation that each employee receives, followed by a six-week onboarding process. Orientations will be

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completed within fifteen (15) days of hire. The Human Resources Manager tracks, files orientation documentation, and the required documentation described below.

2.05 REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR ALL EMPLOYEES AND APPLICANTS

Prior to hire, all applicants will have completed or provided the following (Reference 45 CFR 1302.90):

- Interview
- Proof of Education—Diploma, transcripts, certificate, military documentation (Transcripts must be provided prior to an interview for any position requiring a degree in which the degree is not in early childhood but considered related)
- An employment application with no gaps for the previous 5 years
- Name based CourtView background check
- Release of Information for the State of Alaska DHHS Background Check Program and/or the Municipality of Anchorage Child Care Licensing Program
- State and Federal Sex Offender Registry Check Results
- State and Federal Fingerprint Based Background Check Results
- At least two of the three references on KCI forms

Fingerprinting and Criminal History Report for Volunteers and Contractors

- Volunteers are required to provide an Interested Persons Report (IPR) from the State of Alaska Department of Public Safety before volunteering with KCI. If enrolled in local degree program a letter from the university stating, they have undergone a background check may suffice. There are two exceptions to this provision: (1) volunteers working in buildings or on projects where children are not present, or possibility of contact is minimal; (2) current parents in the program.
- KCI maintains background checks for consultants and contractors whose activities involve direct contact with and/or direct services to children and families. Documentation is kept with the contract for service.

Upon hire, all applicants will have completed or provided the following:

- **Medical Examination (Reference 45 CFR 1302.93)**
 - Employees are provided with a form to take to the health care provider that KCI uses and KCI will pay for the examination in full. Employees may use their own health care provider, but the amount KCI will reimburse an employee will be limited to the amount KCI pays its providers.
- **Employee, Volunteer, Contractor Code of Conduct Form (Reference 45 CFR 1302.90)**
- **W-4 Employee Withholding Allowance Certificate**
- **I-9 (Immigration and Naturalization Service Form)**
 - Employees will upload supporting documents into BambooHR, and on their first day, will bring the items for the HRM to review for validity.
- **Employee Information Form**
- **Signed Job Description**
- **Annual Health History**

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Within the first fifteen (15) days of employment, unless otherwise arranged with the hiring manager and approved in writing, the following personnel records must be completed and on file for all employees:

- New Employee Orientation and Child Care Worker Orientation
- At least 3 references on KCI forms (both professional and personal)

Document	Positions Affected	Comments
Requirements of Anchorage Municipal Licensing Code	All staff and volunteer positions with more than eight hours per month of child contact	These are requirements as outlined for caregivers under AMC 16.55

Other documents may be required to be completed or updated periodically. This includes:

Document	Positions Affected	Frequency of Updates
Annual Self Prepared Health History	All staff positions working with children and families	Annually
Proof of insurance and Drivers License	All Staff	Stored on BambooHR Documents, Drivers License and Insurance Tab
Employee Information Form	All Staff	Annually or as needed
Employee Job Description	All Staff	Annually and with a position change
Employee Standards of Conduct	All Staff	Annually

2.06 INTRODUCTORY PERIOD

All newly hired employees undergo a ninety (90) day introductory period. Management employees and the Executive Director undergo a one hundred eighty (180) day introductory period. This allows KCI to monitor and review employee performance. This also allows the employee to better understand and become familiar with KCI and his/her position.

The existence and/or successful completion of the introductory period does not alter the at-will employment status of any employee.

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SECTION III. EMPLOYEE CONDUCT

The nature of the work performed by employees of KCI requires frequent contact and interaction with members of the public. All employees are expected to maintain conduct that is courteous and professional and reflects favorably upon the agency and the employee. Staff annually sign an agreement to abide by KCI's code of conduct.

3.01 GENERAL CONDUCT

In accordance with 45 CFR 1302.90 (c), all staff, consultants, contractors, and volunteers are required to:

- implement positive strategies to support children's wellbeing and prevent and address challenging behavior
- respect and promote the unique identity of each child, staff, or family, and refrain from stereotyping on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or family composition
- adhere to program confidentiality policies concerning information about children, families, and other staff members
- not allow any child to be left alone or unsupervised while under their care
- use positive methods of child guidance
- staff, volunteers, contractors, consultants, and parents must not engage in ignoring a child for an extended period, corporal punishment, emotional, verbal, or physical abuse which includes humiliation, rejecting, terrorizing, or corrupting a child, using profane, sarcastic language, threats, or derogatory remarks about a child or child's family, using toilet training methods that punish, demean, or humiliate a child. In addition, no one will bind or tie a child to restrict movement or tape a child's mouth, or employ methods of discipline that involve isolation, the use of food, physical activity or outdoor time as a punishment or reward or deny a child's basic needs.
- staff must report all concerns regarding others inability to follow KCI's code of conduct concerning child, staff, or family interactions and/or child guidance by either informing their direct supervisor or using the KCI website whistleblower system as soon as reasonably possible but must be before they leave that day. If their supervisor is not available, they must report the concern to the appropriate manager.
- supervisors are required to inform the appropriate manager about any concerns brought to their attention regarding another person's failure or reluctance to abide by KCI's code of conduct with regards to child , staff, or family interactions

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and/or child guidance as soon as reasonably possible but must before they leave at the end of the day. If their manager is not available, they must report the concern to another manager.

- it is the policy of KCI for employees to have a working environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination and conduct, which can be considered harassing, coercive, or disruptive. Improper behavior of an employee which is not welcome, which is personally offensive, which is severe or pervasive and adversely impacts morale, and which, therefore, improperly interferes with work effectiveness may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination even when it does not meet the definition of harassment.

3.02 REGULAR ATTENDANCE

Employees are expected to attend regularly and work within their designated work hours to perform their duties. Excessive absenteeism, tardiness, and early departures are not acceptable and are grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination.

3.03 WORK FROM HOME POLICY

Objective

To enable employees to work at home for all or part of their workweek in direct response to employee needs and business needs. Kids' Corps, Inc. considers working from home to be a viable, flexible work option that can support the health and safety of our employees, families, and community when both the employee and the job are suited to such an arrangement. Telecommuting may be appropriate for some employees and jobs but not for others.

Telecommuting is not an entitlement or a companywide benefit, and it in no way changes the terms and conditions of employment or the at-will nature of the employment relationship. Telecommuting employees must abide by all Kids' Corps, Inc. policies and procedures. Kids' Corps, Inc. retains the right in its sole discretion to designate such positions as ones eligible for telecommuting and to terminate the work from home arrangement at any time.

Procedures

Working from home can be informal, formal, or at the instruction of the Executive Director to ensure business continuity.

Informal work is for instances such as a one-time reason, a short-term project, or when on the road during business travel. Informal work arrangements are approved on an as-needed basis, with no expectation of ongoing continuance. All informal work arrangements are made on a case-by-case basis, focusing first on the business needs of

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the organization. Either an employee or supervisor can suggest an informal work from home arrangement. Supervisors may approve informal work from home arrangements.

A formal work from home arrangement with a set schedule is described below. Either an employee or a supervisor can suggest working from home as a formal work from home arrangement. Managers must approve any formal arrangement.

Formal work from home arrangements must be in writing and include a trial basis that may be discontinued at will and at any time by either the employee or the organization. Every effort should be made to provide 2 weeks' notice of such a change to accommodate commuting, childcare and other issues that may arise from the termination of a work from home arrangement. There may be instances, however, when no notice is possible.

The Executive Director, in consultation with the Board of Directors, can require employees to work from home temporarily to ensure business continuity without a prior written work from home arrangement prepared. If an employee's position responsibilities cannot be fulfilled by working from home, KCI's management team will determine if that employee reports to work deemed an essential worker, be laid off of work temporarily, or be provided with alternative work tasks outside of their regular scope of duties.

Eligibility

Individuals requesting formal and informal telecommuting arrangements must have satisfactorily completed their introductory period, be a regular employee of KCI, and have a satisfactory performance record.

Before entering into a formal telecommuting agreement, the employee and supervisor, with the assistance of the supervising manager and Human Resources Manager, will evaluate the suitability of such an arrangement, reviewing the following areas:

- *Job responsibilities:* The employee and supervisor will discuss the job responsibilities and determine if the job is appropriate for a telecommuting arrangement.
- *Equipment needs, workspace needs, and scheduling issues:* The employee and supervisor will discuss the current equipment the employee has available and the physical workspace available at home. They will determine what else would be needed in terms of equipment and workspace for the employee to begin working from home.

Work from Home Agreements and Evaluations

Agreements will be prepared and signed by the employee, supervisor, and manager during a formal work from home situation, and a trial period will commence. Management is responsible for creating work from home agreements by job position in the event of public emergencies. Public emergency work from home agreements may look different than formal work from home arrangements for individual employees.

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Evaluation of telecommuter performance will include regular interaction by phone and e-mail between the employee and the supervisor to discuss work progress and challenges. The employee and manager will each complete an evaluation of the arrangement and make recommendations for continuance or modifications at the end of the trial period. Evaluation of telecommuter performance beyond the trial period will be consistent with that received by employees working at the office in both content and frequency. The same high standards apply to working from home as would normally be expected. Additionally, all KCI policies and procedures continue to apply while performing work remotely.

An appropriate level of communication between the telecommuter and supervisor will be agreed to as part of the discussion process and will be more formal during the trial period. After conclusion of the trial period, the manager and telecommuter will communicate at a level consistent with employees working at the office or in a manner and frequency that is appropriate for the job and the individuals involved.

Equipment

Management will determine, with information supplied by the employee and the supervisor, the appropriate equipment needs (including hardware, software, modems, phone and data lines and other office equipment) for each telecommuting arrangement. The IT contractor, LMJ Consulting, is available to review these equipment needs with employees and to provide support in telework situations. Equipment supplied by the organization is to be used for business purposes only.

Employees are responsible for any Kids' Corps, Inc. provided equipment used off-site and to ensure the workspace does not present any hazards or risk in damaging said equipment. Kids' Corps, Inc. equipment is to be used by employees only and is prohibited from being used by anyone other than the employee and only for business-related work. The employee will not make any changes to security or administrative settings on any Kids' Corps, Inc. equipment. Employees may be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of any equipment if not used or handled appropriately.

Equipment supplied by the organization will be maintained by the organization. Equipment supplied by the employee, if deemed appropriate by the organization, will be maintained by the employee. Kids' Corps, Inc. accepts no responsibility for damage or repairs to employee-owned equipment. Kids' Corps, Inc. reserves the right to make determinations as to appropriate equipment, subject to change at any time. The telecommuter must sign an inventory of all Kids' Corps, Inc. property received and agree to take appropriate action to protect the items from damage or theft. Upon termination of employment, all company property must be returned to the company.

The employee will establish an appropriate work environment within his or her home for work purposes. Kids' Corps, Inc. will not be responsible for costs associated with the setup of the employee's home office, such as remodeling, furniture or lighting, nor for repairs or modifications to the home office space.

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Security

Consistent with the organization's expectations of information security for employees working at the office, telecommuting employees will be expected to ensure the protection of confidential information including personally identifiable information accessible from their home office. Steps include the use of locked file cabinets and desks, regular password maintenance, and any other measures appropriate for the job and the environment.

Employees working from home must use a virtual private network, or VPN, remote desktop or portal, rather than public Wi-Fi. Public Wi-Fi can put internal company data at higher risk for cyber-attacks. Employees should choose a unique password for each account to prevent hackers from using one password to breach more than one account and be cautious before clicking. Most data breaches arise from social engineering and phishing malware attacks. Employees should report cyber mistakes quickly so that IT can investigate potential problems as soon as possible.

Safety

Employees are expected to maintain their home workspace in a safe manner, free from safety hazards. Kids' Corps, Inc. will provide training to telecommuting employees regarding injury prevention and setting up ergonomically-sound home offices. Employees working from home must complete a safety checklist within the first two weeks of beginning a work from home agreement and biannually.

Injuries and illnesses that occur while an employee is working at home will be considered work-related if the injury or illness occurs while the employee is performing work for pay or compensation in the home, and the injury or illness is directly related to the performance of work rather than to the general home environment or setting. Work from home employees are responsible for notifying the employer of such injuries as soon as practicable in accordance with the workplace injury reporting procedure. The employee is liable for any injuries sustained by visitors to his or her home worksite. KCI prohibits any work-related visitors or in person meetings in individual homes.

Telecommuting is not designed to be a replacement for appropriate childcare. Although an employee's schedule may be modified to accommodate childcare needs, the focus of the arrangement must remain on job performance and meeting business demands. Prospective telecommuters are encouraged to discuss expectations of telecommuting with family members prior to entering a trial period.

Time Worked

Telecommuting employees who are not exempt from the overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act will be required to accurately record all hours worked using the QuickBooks TSheets time-keeping system.

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Employees are expected to continue to comply with all applicable KCI policies regarding meal and break periods, recording all hours worked, and preapproval for overtime. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in the immediate termination of the telecommuting agreement.

The telecommuter must observe regular agency working hours, record their daily attendance on a timesheet and only perform work during those designated hours. The telecommuter is expected to maintain regular contact with his or her supervisor and any change in schedule must be pre-approved by his/her supervisor.

Telecommuting employees must remain accessible and productive during scheduled work hours which means logging into their computer, answering phone calls, promptly responding to work-related communication, attending scheduled meetings, and addressing assigned tasks. Employees will report to the employer's work location as necessary upon directive from his or her supervisor and communicate regularly with his or her supervisor and co-workers, which includes a weekly written report of activities.

3.04 CRIMINAL RECORDS AND IMPENDING CRIMINAL CHARGES

KCI staff are required to notify their supervisor in the event that they are arrested or otherwise charged with a crime while employed at KCI. The supervisor should immediately report this information to the supervising manager, who will inform the Executive Director. The Executive Director or designate, in consultation with KCI's Human Resources Manager, will determine the need for action based upon Municipality of Anchorage Child and Adult Care Licensing Code and Head Start Performance Standards.

3.05 USE OF OFFICE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT AND COMMUNICATION, COMPUTERS, AND E-MAIL

KCI has established a policy regarding access and disclosure of electronic communications – fax, e-mail, telephone, and Internet. KCI intends to honor the policies set forth below but reserves the right to change them at any time as may be required under the circumstances.

- KCI maintains an electronic communication system. This system is provided to assist in the conduct of business within the organization.
- The electronic systems, software and hardware are KCI's property. Additionally, all messages composed, sent or received on these electronic systems are and remain the property of KCI. They are not the private property of any employee.
- The Electronic systems may not be used to solicit or proselytize for commercial ventures, religious or political causes; outside organizations; or other non-job-related solicitations.

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- The electronic systems are not to be used to create or store any offensive or disruptive messages. For example, any messages, which contain sexual implications, racial slurs, gender-specific comments or any other comment that offensively addresses someone's age, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, national origin or disability, are considered offensive.
- The electronic systems shall not be used to access, send (upload) or receive (download) copyrighted materials, trade secrets, proprietary financial information, nude or sexually graphic or inappropriate data or pictures, or similar materials without express prior written authorization.
- KCI reserves and intends to exercise the right to review, audit, intercept, access and disclose all messages created, received, sent or maintained over these electronic systems for any purpose. The contents are properly obtained for legitimate business purposes and may be disclosed without the permission of the employee.
- The confidentiality of any message should not be assumed. Even when a message is erased it is still possible to retrieve and read that message.
- Notwithstanding KCI's right to retrieve and read any electronic messages, such messages should be treated as confidential by other employees and accessed only by the intended recipient. Employees are not authorized to retrieve or read any electronic messages that are not sent to them. Any exception to this policy must receive prior approval.
- Employees should not use a code, access a file, or retrieve any stored information unless authorized to do so. Employees should not attempt to gain access to another employee's messages without the latter's written permission.
- Employees should immediately report lost, stolen or broken equipment that is the property of KCI. Employees will report to their supervisor and the Administrative Specialist.
- Employees should not bring their KCI Phone or Laptop home unless prior arrangements are made with their supervising manager. If employees do bring their equipment home, it is to be used by the employee for work purposes only.

Any employee who discovers a violation of this policy shall notify his/her immediate supervisor, who will in turn notify the appropriate manager.

Any employee who violates this policy or uses these electronic systems for improper purposes may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination.

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KCI employees are expected to use KCI office equipment, computers, and email in a manner consistent with the type of work performed by the agency.

3.06 USE OF PERSONAL AND AGENCY CELLULAR TELEPHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Employees must not use personal cellular telephones, smart watches, or any other type of device (for calling, text-messaging, e-mail, internet, etc.) while supervising children. KCI staff and volunteers are prohibited from bringing their personal cellular telephones into any KCI classroom, bus, or playground.

Staff are allowed to bring their personal cell phones, with approval from their Center Director or Supervisor, on field trips. Personal cell phones must only be used to communicate with other staff that are present for the field trip and are prohibited from being used for personal use. Center Directors are responsible for contacting families in the event of an emergency during a field trip. Staff that are observed misusing their phones (visiting social media sites, YouTube videos, Tik Tok, texting non-classroom/KCI staff, etc.) may face disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Staff with agency cell phones with cellular service must not bring the device into the classroom.

Staff are allowed to use the classroom designated agency cell phone without cellular service for approved applications including ChildPlus, My Teaching Strategies, and Tadpoles. These devices may also be used for taking coaching videos or taking pictures of children for MTS/Tadpoles. These cell phones are to be kept out of the reach of the children and locked when not in use.

Employees who need to receive telephone calls during the day are instructed to have calls come through the main telephone for the center so that coverage can be arranged before the employee takes the telephone call. All efforts will be made to get emergency calls to staff members as quickly as possible. However, KCI must fulfill its obligation to assure child safety by assuring adequate supervision prior to removing the staff member from the classroom.

Non-classroom staff must follow the guidance of their supervisor regarding appropriate personal cellular telephone use.

Cellular telephones will be silenced (not turned to vibrate) during meetings and training sessions.

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3.07 PERSONAL SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE

Kids' Corps, Inc. values the integrity and reputation of our employees both during and outside of work hours. This policy outlines guidelines for responsible social media use to ensure that our employees always maintain a positive representation of themselves and KCI.

General Guidelines

- **Transparency:** If you are posting to a site speaking about job related content, identify yourself, making it clear that these views are not reflective of the views of KCI directly. "The opinions expressed are my own and do not necessarily represent the views of KCI."
- **Respect and Professionalism:** Uphold respectful and professional communication standards. Avoid posting content that is outrightly offensive, discriminatory, defamatory, or otherwise inappropriate. Speak respectfully about current, former and potential families, partners, employees and competitors. Do not engage in name-calling or behavior that will reflect negatively on your or KCI's reputation.
- **Confidentiality:** Employees must maintain confidentiality and not post any confidential information about KCI or families KCI serves.

Off-Duty Conduct

- **Awareness:** While you have the right to a personal life outside of work, remember that your actions and online presence can reflect on Kids' Corps, Inc. Exercise good judgment and discretion in your social media activities. Beware of comments that could reflect poorly on you and the company. Social media sites are not the form for venting personal challenges regarding supervisors, co-workers, or the agency.
- **Public Perception:** Recognize that your online behavior may influence public perception of our organization. Be mindful that your actions and comments can impact our reputation.

Representing Kids' Corps, Inc

- **Official Communication:** Only designated individuals are authorized to speak on behalf of Kids' Corps, Inc. If approached about company-related matters on social media, refer inquiries to the appropriate channels.
- **Brand Alignment:** When mentioning Kids' Corps, Inc. or discussing work-related topics, ensure that your statements align with our values, mission, and policies.

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Users who violate the policy may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment. Kids, Corps, Inc. may monitor content on the web and reserves the right to remove posts that violate policy.

If you are unsure about the appropriateness of a social media post or activity, seek guidance from your manager or the HR department. If you see unfavorable opinions, negative comments or criticism about yourself or KCI, do not escalate the situation. Notify the Human Resources Manager.

3.08 CONFIDENTIALITY

All employees are required to maintain confidentiality of agency, family and staff in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Employees acknowledge this requirement by signing the Employee, Volunteer and Contractor Conduct Form.

(a) Family Information

All employees are informed in the orientation process that information concerning families is private information. This information is not to be discussed outside of the agency, with family, friends or relatives, or with other employees who do not have a need to know the information.

There are circumstances where KCI can disclose personally identifiable information (PII) without parent consent. These circumstances are described in the Head Start Performance Standards, 1303.22(c)(1-8) and must be reviewed prior to sharing PII. Parent participation in any program activity is voluntary, including consent for data sharing, and is not required as a condition of the child's enrollment.

In any other circumstances, KCI staff are required to secure parental consent in writing before disclosing PII. Staff use an exchange of information form to document consent for records disclosure. The exchange of information specifies (1) what records we wish to disclose; (2) why we wish to disclose the records; and (3) identifies the parties or class of parties to whom the records will be disclosed. The form includes a notice to the parent that the granting of consent is voluntary on the part of the parent and may be revoked at any time.

(b) Personnel Information

Employees who have knowledge of KCI personnel information are bound by the same rules of confidentiality. KCI safeguards personal employee information in its possession to ensure the confidentiality of the information. Additionally, KCI will only collect personal information that is required to pursue its business operations and to comply with government reporting and disclosure requirements.

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Personal employee information will be considered confidential and as such will be shared only as required and with those who have a need to access such information. Participants in KCI benefit plans should be aware that personal information will be shared with plan providers as required for their claims handling or record keeping needs.

Personal information that may be shared and not be considered a breach of confidentiality include the following:

- Release of partial employee birth dates i.e., day and month and work anniversary dates are not considered confidential and may be shared to recognize employees on such dates
- Personal telephone numbers or e-mail addresses may be distributed to supervisors and management to facilitate company work schedules or business operations.

(c) Confidential Documents

Confidential documents are to be secured and locked when not in use. Breach of confidentiality is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Confidentiality permanently binds employees after separation from employment with KCI.

3.09 ENROLLMENT FRAUD

Knowingly accepting false or incomplete eligibility information is an act subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

3.10 PERSONAL APPEARANCE STANDARDS

Employees are expected to present themselves during working hours in attire that is appropriate to their position and the nature of the work to be performed. Employees should be particularly conscious of maintaining dress, grooming and hygiene standards that reflect favorably on them and on KCI.

Dress length, cut of clothing, footwear, etc. should be considered based upon the regular work environment of the employee. The impression staff makes on families and the community is a direct reflection of the agency. Therefore, some articles of clothing or body art are considered inappropriate.

The following is intended to provide examples of inappropriate personal appearance but is not intended to be comprehensive:

- Flip-flops or thong-style footwear are not permitted for health and safety reasons. Sandals must have an ankle strap. Sandals with a toe strap that include an ankle strap are permissible.

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- All articles of clothing and accessories must be free from promotion for alcohol, bars or alcoholic clubs, tobacco products, legal and illegal drugs, sexual innuendo, gang-related symbols, discriminatory remarks, offensive language, offensive symbols, or anything otherwise deemed inappropriate for working around families and children.
- Clothing should be free from holes and in good repair. Sweatpants are not allowed. Staff may wear leggings as long as they are not see through or made from a thin material. Employees who are unsure if their leggings are appropriate for work, should err on the side of caution and not wear them.
- Any clothing with spaghetti straps, tank tops, tube tops, clothing that reveals bare backs or bare midriffs is not appropriate. Sleeveless blouses must cover the shoulders to the arms.

KCI allows reasonable self-expression through personal appearance, unless a) it conflicts with an employee's ability to perform his or her position effectively or with his or her specific work environment, or b) it is regarded as offensive or harassing toward co-workers or others with whom KCI conducts business and has contact with. Therefore, KCI permits employees to display tattoos within the following guidelines.

- Tattoos must be free from promotion for alcohol, bars or alcoholic clubs, tobacco products, legal and illegal drugs, sexual innuendo, nudity, gang-related symbols, discriminatory remarks, offensive language, offensive symbols, or anything otherwise deemed inappropriate for working around families and children.
- Any tattoo that has yielded customer complaints must be covered.

Tattoos that do not meet guidelines must be covered at all times.

The determination of what is inappropriate or appropriate is made by supervisory staff if such standards are within reason and are applied fairly and equitably. If a supervisory staff member is uncertain about the appropriateness of a staff member's tattoo, he/she should contact the appropriate manager for further guidance.

Other Personal Appearance Reminders:

- Hair should be clean, combed and neatly trimmed or arranged
- Good personal hygiene habits must be maintained

If an employee appears for work not meeting the personal appearance standards, the employee will be asked to correct the areas of concern by changing clothing. If the employee must leave and return to make the corrections, the time will be considered employee's personal time and will not be compensated as work time. These standards always apply while working. This includes Parent Committee Meetings, classroom cleaning, trainings, meetings, etc.

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3.11 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicts arise on occasion when an employee engages in activities that can create potential problems for the agency.

(a) Unacceptable Personal Benefits from Employment

Employees will not be allowed to solicit, obtain, accept or retain any personal benefit from any supplier, vendor, parent or any individual or organization doing or seeking business with KCI. As used here, personal benefit means a gift, gratuity, favor, service and compensation in any form, discount, special treatment, or anything of monetary value. Employees should consult with supervisory personnel in circumstances which the employee believes may be in question.

Any employee who is offered a personal benefit as a result of their employment with KCI must report it immediately to his or her supervisor. The acceptance of a personal benefit by a KCI employee, which can or appears to offer benefit to the donor in any program operated by KCI, is grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Employees should not solicit business in the workplace (e.g. Thirty-one, Lip Sense, Younique, Monat etc.).

(b) Employment Outside of KCI

An employee may hold a position with another organization if he/she satisfactorily performs the responsibilities of their position with KCI. All employees are held to the same performance standards and are subject to the same scheduling demands, regardless of any existing outside employment requirements.

An employee's outside employment activities must not create a conflict of interest with KCI. Employees engaging in any other employment activity, which might constitute a conflict of interest, must notify the Executive Director in writing. Outside employment will present a conflict if it has an adverse impact on KCI or the employee's performance of duties for KCI.

Employees who are performing outside employment may not use a KCI facility, resources or equipment while conducting outside employment nor conduct such business on KCI time. Should a conflict arise as the result of other employment activities, KCI will notify the employee in writing and will state recommendations based upon findings and the employee will be asked to resolve the conflict.

(c) Community Boards/Representatives

Employees who accept positions on community boards and commissions or speaking engagements must clearly indicate they are speaking for themselves only and not as a

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representative of KCI. The Executive Director may approve an employee to speak or act in an official capacity on behalf of KCI. This approval will be in writing on KCI letterhead (or stationery).

(d) Political Activities

No employee shall participate in partisan political activities while on official duty status. Employees must not identify themselves as working on behalf of KCI in any partisan or nonpartisan political activity. It is the responsibility of each employee, prior to engaging in political activity during off duty time, to determine their individual status with regard to the Federal "Hatch" Act.

3.12 STAFF CHILDREN IN THE WORKPLACE

Children of staff members are not permitted in the workplace without prior approval from the employee's direct supervisor. Approval will be granted only for special projects or events. This approval must be obtained in writing and each time a request is made.

Any employee who appears for work with his/her child/children without prior approval from his/her supervisor will be required to return home. This absence will be treated as leave time.

For purposes of enforcement of this policy, "staff children" are defined as natural, step, adopted, foster, or other significant relationships (nephew, niece, living in the home, etc.)

3.13 STAFF TRANSPORTING CHILDREN

Staff may transport children enrolled in KCI in their own insured vehicle if they are on the child's emergency information form and they are not working while transporting. A staff member must receive management approval prior to transporting a child enrolled in KCI if transporting will occur during the employee's scheduled work time.

3.14 STAFF BABYSITTING

Staff members cannot babysit for families with children enrolled in our program unless the employee is related to the child and family through blood, marriage, or adoption.

3.15 SMOKING

All KCI sites are designated as smoke-free which includes the use of e-cigarettes and similar devices. Smoking is not permitted in any buildings, buses or on playgrounds at any KCI site. Smoking by employees while on field trips or home visits is prohibited. Smoking is prohibited within fifty (50) feet of any entrance or window of any KCI facility. Smoking is permitted in a privately owned vehicle or in an otherwise designated

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smoking area at sites that are not designated as a smoke-free campus. Smoking should never occur in the presence of children and families.

The East Center location, 3710 East 20th Avenue, is a smoke free campus. Smoking is not permitted on the East 20th property.

3.16 DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

No employee may unlawfully manufacture, distribute, possess or use a controlled substance in the workplace. A violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

An employee who is arrested or charged with violation of a criminal drug statute or is convicted under any criminal drug statute for a violation occurring in the workplace must notify KCI of this arrest, charge, or conviction within five (5) days after the incident. Notice of the conviction will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Such action will be taken no later than thirty (30) days after receiving notice of the conviction. If covered by federal regulation, the funding source for the employee's position will be notified of such a conviction within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice of conviction. Failure of the employee to notify KCI of any criminal drug statute violation will result in personnel action, up to and including termination.

Definitions for the purposes of this policy are defined as:

- *Workplace* – any place or time when the employee is performing work for KCI.
- *Controlled Substance* – any substance that is listed in Schedules I through V of Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and is further defined in federal regulations at 21 CFR 1308.11-1308.15.
- *Conviction* – means a finding of guilt, including a no-contest plea or imposition of sentence or both by any judicial body, charged with the responsibility to determine violations of federal or state criminal drug statutes.
- *Criminal drug statute* – a federal, state or local criminal law involving the manufacture, distribution, possession or use of any controlled substance.

KCI retains the right to direct employees, during their working hours, to provide breath or urine samples for medical testing when probable cause exists. Probable cause exists if the employee is involved in an accident, sustains a reportable injury while in the workplace, or exhibits behavior or actions that may indicate they may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The decision to direct employees for drug or alcohol screening lies with the supervising manager or his/her designee.

Reporting for work under the influence of drugs or alcohol is not permitted. Employees reporting for work under the influence of drugs or alcohol will receive disciplinary action up to and including termination.

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3.17 THREATS AND/OR VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE

Threats in the workplace will not be tolerated. A threat is defined as an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone (including self). A threat can be spoken, written, or symbolic. Not all threats, nor those that threaten, are equal in their potential to harm, but all threats must be brought to the attention of management, taken seriously, evaluated, and documented.

Any employee who engages in making threats of intent to do harm will be immediately suspended without pay and subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination, pending the results of the investigation.

Any volunteer, consultant, contractor, or parent who engages in making threats of intent to do harm will be asked to leave KCI premises and not return while an investigation is conducted. Volunteers, consultants, contractor, or parents may be asked to stay off KCI premises and sponsored events indefinitely depending on the results of the investigation.

Threats can be classified into four different categories; direct, indirect, veiled, conditional.

- A **direct threat** identifies a specific target and is delivered in a straightforward, clear, and explicit manner.
- An **indirect threat** tends to be vague, unclear, and ambiguous. The plan, the intended victim, the motivation, and other aspects of the threat are masked or equivocal.
- A **veiled threat** is one that strongly implies but does not specifically threaten violence.
- A **conditional threat** is the type of threat often seen in extortion cases. It warns that a violent act will happen unless certain demands or terms are met.

Violence in the workplace will not be tolerated. Any employee who engages in violence on any KCI site or at any KCI sponsored event will be immediately suspended without pay and be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination, pending the results of the investigation.

Any volunteer, consultant, contractor, or parent who engages in violence will be asked to leave KCI premises and not return while an investigation is conducted. Volunteers, consultants, contractors, and parents may be asked to stay off KCI premises and sponsored events indefinitely depending on the results of the investigation.

Violence is defined as any act or imminent threat of physical harm to another person (staff, child, client, volunteer, vendor, or contractor).

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Violence in the workplace will be reported to the appropriate authorities (e.g., Alaska State Troopers, Municipality of Anchorage Police Department).

Anyone who witnesses or experiences a threat or violence must report the incident to their supervisor and or management immediately. Supervisors must report to management immediately.

3.18 WEAPONS IN THE WORKPLACE

Weapons of any type are not allowed in any of KCI's workplaces. This includes personal lockers, desks, or other storage areas provided by KCI for its employees, which remain solely the property of KCI. These items are subject to search at any time and no employee should have any expectation of privacy for any materials placed in these items. Even those licensed to carry concealed or other weapons shall adhere to this policy. Discovery of a weapon at work will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination and will result in a report to appropriate authorities.

3.19 SECURITY

It is the policy of KCI to maintain strict control over the entrance to each of the sites and access to files, equipment, materials, and anything of monetary value.

Employees who are assigned keys or provided with special access to facilities, materials and equipment are expected to use sound judgment and discretion when carrying out their duties. Employees will be held accountable for any wrongdoing or acts of indiscretion as a result of having access to facilities, materials and equipment and may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Employees holding keys, materials, identification tags, business cards or equipment belonging to KCI will surrender the items prior to leaving at any time when he/she will be away from the agency for more than Twenty (20) days, including employees going on summer lay-off.

3.20 INTERNAL COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS

KCI employees are expected to use Microsoft Teams, all staff chat for internal information.

KCI employees are expected to access their e-mail at least once each workday to assure timely flow of information.

KCI employees are expected to participate fully in meetings and training activities.

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KCI employees are expected to maintain positive communication with families.

KCI employees are expected to maintain professionalism in their communications with co-workers, families, children, vendors, and the community.

3.21 GRANTS, DONATIONS AND FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES

KCI employees who wish to write a grant on behalf of KCI must inform the Executive Director prior to moving forward.

KCI employees who wish to solicit donations or complete a fundraiser for KCI must seek approval before proceeding with the process since all donations must be documented.

3.22 INTERNAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Personal or professional conflicts may occur in any workplace. KCI employees are expected to always attempt to resolve a workplace conflict by first meeting with the person(s) with whom the conflict exists.

If in the event that safety is a concern, staff must seek their supervisor or management immediately. Supervisors must contact management immediately.

If the individuals in conflict cannot reach a mutually satisfactory resolution, either employee may contact his/her supervisor to request mediation between the conflicting parties. The supervisor will ensure the other supervisor is informed of the conflict. If this meeting facilitated by the supervisor(s) of conflicting employees does not resolve the conflict, either employee may address a written request for conflict resolution to the responsible manager. The manager, in consultation with the Human Resources Manager, will meet with the conflicting parties to develop a plan for timely resolution of the conflict.

If the conflict involves an employee and his/her supervisor, the employee should still first seek a face-to-face meeting with the supervisor to attempt to resolve the conflict. If this meeting does not produce a resolution, the employee may address a written request for conflict resolution to the responsible manager. (This request should be addressed to the Executive Director if the employee's supervisor is a manager.)

3.23 CIRCUMVENTION

Any discussion by an employee with Board members/parents that is designed to circumvent KCI personnel policies and procedures or is intended to interfere with the ability of administrative personnel to carry out their duties shall be grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

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The Board of Directors and Policy Council of Kids' Corps, Inc. is responsible for setting policies for its employees. These governing bodies employ the Executive Director to whom they delegate responsibilities for the day-to-day management of KCI. KCI employs and manages employees with policies set and approved by these governing bodies.

KCI's employees are accountable to the Executive Director, through whom all communication to the Board and Policy Council is channeled. An employee who does not follow the stated policy of channeling information through the Executive Director may be subject to disciplinary action.

Reports of Harassment by the Executive Director are exempted from this policy (cross reference Harassment in Section 1).

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SECTION IV. CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

All KCI employees are required to report suspected child abuse and neglect or child sexual abuse to the appropriate authorities.

4.01 REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

In accordance with Alaska State Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting Law, as defined in Alaska Statutes 47.17, Program staff must report suspected child abuse, child sexual abuse or neglect of a child to the Office of Children's Services (OCS). In addition, KCI will ensure the following:

- All staff members are informed of their responsibility to report suspected child abuse and neglect. This is documented in the orientation process.
- Each staff member, staff substitute, and classroom volunteer will receive a copy of KCI's Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Procedure within their first week of work.
- All staff that work with families or children are required to participate in mandatory annual training that reviews the Child Abuse and Neglect Law and KCI's reporting procedure.

(a) Reporting Process

Staff members who suspect a child has suffered abuse or neglect should immediately contact the Family Services Coordinator or their Supervisor. If the Coordinator or Center Director is not available, staff members may contact management. The staff member and Coordinator make the decision whether to file a report with OCS.

- If a report of harm needs to be filed, the staff member closest to the incident will complete the Referral for Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect form, available from the Family Services Coordinator or Center Director, and call OCS.
 - The Family Services Coordinator and each Supervisor has access to the referral form. Copies of the form are not circulated or maintained in the standard Forms File Cabinet.
- After completing the referral, calling OCS, and faxing the referral to OCS, the Supervisor forwards the original to the Family Services Coordinator or designated back-up such the appropriate Manager. The Family Services Coordinator will place the referral in a binder kept in a locked filing cabinet.

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- The reporting staff member records in the family contact section of the child's file that a report was faxed to OCS and that an intake social worker was contacted, either directly or through a telephone message. Staff must not place the OCS referral in the child's file nor describe its contents in the family contact section of the child's file.

(b) Volunteers and Substitutes Concerned with Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect

Any substitute, parent or volunteer who becomes concerned about the safety of a child is required to discuss the situation with the Center Director. If the Center Director is unavailable, the concern is taken to the Family Services Coordinator or Teacher.

Special care is taken to protect the confidentiality of the family involved when volunteers or parents approach staff with child abuse and neglect concerns. KCI staff are responsible for making the determination for filing a report.

(c) After a Report is Made

The Family Services Coordinator and Family Advocate assigned to the family involved work together to support the family and assist them in locating resources that the family may need.

(d) Child Abuse and Neglect Training

KCI is committed to increasing its effectiveness in protecting all children. With this goal in mind, KCI provides training to staff, parents, and volunteers in recognizing the obvious signs, as well as the "gray areas" of child abuse and neglect. This training is offered at least one time per year to all staff working with families and children directly. KCI staff working with children and families are required to attend once a year.

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SECTION V. EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND SAFETY

KCI is committed to providing a safe and healthy working environment for employees. At times, training on specific health and safety issues will be offered, or in some cases, required.

Employees are responsible for managing their own health and assisting in keeping themselves safe in the workplace.

5.01 HEALTH

Employees with communicable diseases such as strep throat or conjunctivitis will not be allowed to work until such a time that a physician has provided a written release to work notice. Releases are maintained in an employee's medical file.

If a health issue involves a physical and/or mental disability, the supervising manager or his/her designee will need to be notified immediately. In the case of an employee returning to work or a new hire being employed with a physical and/or mental disability the Executive Director, in consultation with the Human Resources Manager, will work with the employee and others, as appropriate, to determine if and what reasonable accommodations and temporary job modifications may be appropriate to accommodate illness, injury or other disability to allow the employee to perform the essential functions of the position.

5.02 SIT STAND DESKS

KCI provides ergonomically designed office furniture to employees; however, employees wanting to purchase their own sit-stand desk may do so following the conditions mentioned here.

1. Employees may purchase a sit-stand desk with their personal funds as long as they adhere to the following process.
 - Inform the Human Resources Manager so he/she can follow up on the proper usage of a sit-stand desk and ensure that it is ergonomically safe and will provide information on proper usage of the sit stand desk.
 - Have to assemble. Ensure you have a ledge on back of desk to clamp it.
 - Inform their direct supervisor of the purchase
 - Assembly, installation, maintenance and repair are the employee's responsibility. If an employee leaves KCI for any reason, including layoff, they should take the sit-stand desk with them. KCI is not responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen sit-stand desks.

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2. Employees may request a sit-stand desk due to a physical impairment that substantially limits their ability to perform the essential functions of their position. To initiate the reasonable accommodation interactive process, contact the Human Resources Manager. Employees requesting a reasonable accommodation must obtain a written evaluation from a doctor explaining the need for a sit-stand desk. Other accommodations for sitting and standing may be explored during the interactive process with the employee and the Human Resources Manager depending on the need of the employee. If the employee and Human Resources Manager decide the most suitable accommodation is a sit-stand desk, KCI will cover the purchase of one for the employee.

5.03 SAFETY

KCI will make every effort to provide a safe work environment. Employees are expected to be conscientious about safety and accident prevention. Guns are absolutely prohibited in the workplace. Pocket knives or other potentially dangerous instruments should not be brought to work or used in any threatening manner.

Employees' responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Ensuring that the Administrative Specialist has the most current information on emergency contacts
- Using appropriate barriers when assisting children with injuries
- Using ice-gripping devices on shoes whenever outside in slippery conditions or ice buildup is present
- Using agency provided checklists and procedures to document safety of the workplace
- Having a current pediatric First Aid & CPR certification on file with the Human Resource Department (required for employees who have direct child contact only)
- Taking reasonable safety precautions at all times during working hours
- Using carts and dollies for lifting and moving heavy items
- Using appropriate ladders and step stools to reach high places
- Immediately reporting potential safety hazards to their supervisor
- Fire prevention and control
- Knowing and following accident and reporting procedures
- Following OSHA requirements
- Complying with the Drug-Free Workplace policy
- Using proper work methods (e.g., ergonomic equipment, seat belts, carts, etc.)
- Avoiding known hazards
- Using ergonomically correct equipment to avoid repetitive motion injuries
- Not performing tasks that may be physically harmful to themselves or others because of a disability or for any other reason
- Reporting to their supervisor that they are unable to safely perform an assigned or expected task

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KCI's safety policies will be strictly enforced. Employees who fail to follow or uphold these safety policies will be disciplined.

5.04 USE OF PORTABLE ELECTRIC HEATERS

KCI staff are not allowed to bring in their own personal portable electric heaters to use in offices or classrooms. Staff may contact their supervising manager if they need a heater for their office.

All portable electric heaters must be equipped with a tip over switch and be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Heaters must be plugged directly into the wall outlet. Extension cords and power strips cannot be used for electric heaters. Heaters must be turned off when staff leave the office for an extended period of time and before going home each day.

Electric heaters cannot be used in any classroom without the approval of their supervising manager.

5.05 WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Disabilities or illnesses that arise out of and in the course of employment with KCI are compensable through KCI's Workers' Compensation insurance carrier. Employees injured on the job must immediately notify their supervisor of the injury and report the injury to the supervising manager as soon as possible in order for the appropriate paperwork to be completed. A Report to the worker's compensation insurance must be submitted within 3-days of accident or injury. For more information on reporting a staff injury, see the Standard Operating Procedure, "Reporting a Staff Accident or Injury." The Administrative Specialist files these reports after they are entered and reviewed by the Human Resources Manager.

In the case of serious injury where time loss from work occurs, the Human Resources Manager will work with the supervising manager and the employee and the Workers' Compensation insurance carrier to determine the appropriate course of action. In the event that time loss occurs, an employee will not be allowed to return to work without a release from a qualified physician.

On a case-by-case basis where a qualified physician has approved a partial resumption of work, KCI may consider if any reasonable accommodation can be made to assist an employee in returning to work. These accommodations must be approved by the Executive Director. In no instance will an accommodation be made that KCI does not believe is appropriate or reasonable or will cause undue hardship to the agency.

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If time loss from work occurs, the employee has the option of using their accrued paid time off or time off without pay.

SECTION VI. HOURS, BREAKS AND ATTENDANCE

6.01 GENERAL HOURS OF WORK

Work schedules are established that assist KCI in meeting its goals and objectives for service provision. All employees are expected to work within their scheduled work hours. Permanent changes to work hours must be approved in writing by management personnel and formally recorded in the employee's file. Temporary adjustments to regular work schedules for special events are arranged with supervisors.

6.02 WORK WEEK

KCI's workweek begins at 12:01:01 a.m. on Sunday and ends at 12:00 midnight on Saturday.

6.03 REST AND MEAL PERIODS

Most employees are entitled to a sixty (60) minute unpaid lunch break each workday. Typically, the lunch period will be between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., as established by the employee's immediate supervisor.

Employees may be allowed additional rest periods during the workday. Typically, two (2) fifteen (15) minute rest periods will be observed during the day, one rest period during the morning and one in the afternoon. In no instance will breaks be allowed if services are compromised. Employees will not be allowed breaks during times where classroom/bus child and adult ratios will be compromised.

6.04 ATTENDANCE

Employees are expected to be at work during their scheduled working hours if they are not exhibiting any symptoms of illness. Excessive tardiness, absenteeism and early departures are disruptive to the services provided by KCI.

- KCI expects employees who are going to be late or absent to notify their supervisor a minimum of one (1) hour in advance of their starting time. If the employee's supervisor is unavailable, the employee is expected to notify their supervising manager. Lack of a telephone is not an adequate excuse for failure to notify.
 - Failure to call in an absence will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

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- Failure to use appropriate channels to communicate an absence may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination
- KCI uses QuickBooks Time for leave request submission. Most leaves of absence should be requested in advance and approved by the employee's supervisor prior to the dates of leave. Advance leave requests of 3 or more days must be approved by the employee's supervisor AND the manager who oversees the program in which the employee works.
 - Leave Requests should be submitted and approved before purchasing airline tickets or making other reservations.
 - Leave Requests may be filled out 90-days in advance
- Employees are expected to remain at work for their entire work period, excluding the employee's scheduled sixty (60)-minute lunch break if applicable.
- Early departures must be scheduled in advance with the employee's immediate supervisor or manager.
- Excessive tardiness, absenteeism and/or early departures are grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination.
- Patterns of lack of attendance (absent every other Monday, 1 day every pay period, etc.) may be subject or follow-up by the employee's supervisor.
- Unscheduled absences of 3 or more days will be reported to the supervising manager for follow-up. The manager may require proof of reason for the absence (physician's note, legal authority, etc.) depending upon the reason stated by the employee. The determination of any disciplinary follow-up will be made by the manager after review of documentation. All information used in making the determination will be placed into the employee file. As with any disciplinary situation, the manager may seek guidance from KCI's Human Resources Manager at any time.

Employees are expected to be at work as often as possible during their program option school year to assure quality, consistent services to families and children enrolled. Staff need to work together to schedule planned leave of absences and vacations.

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SECTION VII. COMPENSATION AND PAYROLL PRACTICES

7.01 COMPENSATION PHILOSOPHY

KCI is committed to paying equitable wages that are based on an assessment of the position, training, experience, education and the market for similar jobs.

Compensation for each job is based on several factors. These factors include job analysis and evaluation, the essential duties and responsibilities of the job, KCI budgetary concerns and salary survey data (how other employers pay comparable employees). KCI periodically reviews its salary administration program and changes it as necessary.

KCI complies with all applicable payroll and compensation regulations.

7.02 SALARY/WAGE PLAN

The Salary and Placement Ranges will be maintained in the Human Resources office and will be reviewed and updated at least annually. Salary Ranges will become effective after approval by the Board and PC. The Accountant and Executive Director will establish Placement Ranges. The Human Resources Manager will conduct a salary survey no less than once every three years.

Salary and Placement Ranges are maintained with Job Descriptions as an attachment to Personnel Policies and Procedures once they are approved by the PC and the Board of Directors each year (Reference 642(c)(1)(E) of the Head Start Act).

7.03 INITIAL COMPENSATION RATES

New employees will be hired at a pay rate within the designated Placement Range for each position. All new employees will be advised on their first day of work their starting rate of pay, date of pay, place of pay, leave accrual rate, benefits, mileage reimbursement procedures and holidays.

KCI has a ten-step wage scale based on education levels and years of experience in the position. Each step is a 1% increase. New employees will start at the base rate unless other arrangements are made with Executive Director approval. Employees will move to the next step of the wage scale in November after completing one full year.

Employees who have been in their current position for 10 years will be capped out on their wage scale. When this happens, employees are no longer eligible for experience increases, but will be awarded an annual anniversary stipend in November.

(a) Internal Transfer to Higher Position

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Employees who transfer to a new position will start at the base rate of the new position unless the employee currently makes more than that rate. If the employee makes more than the base rate of the new position, they will be placed on the wage scale based on their current rate of pay prior to the transition. If their current rate falls between two steps, their new rate will be a step above their current rate.

For example (Cindy makes \$24.32 as a Master Assistant Teacher with a CDA and has been in the position for 9 years. She moves into a teacher position and the base rate of that position is \$23.66. Cindy currently makes more than the new position rate due to her experience in the previous role. The closest rates to her current rate are \$24.07 (step 2) and \$24.43 (step 3). Cindy's new rate of pay will be \$24.43 placing her on step 3 of the Teacher CDA Rate.

(b) Internal Transfer to Lower Position

Employees who accept a lower paying position will start at the base level for the new position unless they held the position prior. If the employee held the position prior, they will be placed on the wage scale based on their years in the position prior.

7.04 EXEMPT AND NONEXEMPT CLASSIFICATIONS

(a) Exempt Employees

An employee who meets the criteria for exclusion from overtime pay within the guidance of the wage and hour laws (e.g., administrative, professional, managerial) is considered an exempt employee. Exempt employees do not receive overtime pay for hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours per day or forty (40) hours per week.

(b) Non-exempt Employees

Non-exempt employees will be compensated for actual hours worked and are eligible for overtime pay at one and one-half (1 ½) the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over eight (8) hours per day or forty (40) hours per week. Non-exempt employees will not be paid for time not worked unless such time is designated as annual leave or holiday time for which the staff member qualifies.

7.05 SALARY AND WAGE ADJUSTMENTS

(a) Increase for Educational Accomplishment

Employees who accomplish a degree related to their position or Child Development Associate for classroom staff, are eligible for an increase as described under Compensation for Educational Achievement. Employees who have reached the top of

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their salary range will not receive the increase if it will place them over the top of the salary range for their position.

(b) Cost of Living Allowance (COLA)

Depending on availability of funds, a cost-of-living adjustment may be approved by the Board and PC for all employees.

Only regular employees and introductory employees are eligible for a retroactive cost of living allowance increase. Employees must be employed with KCI on the date that KCI distributes the increase in order to be eligible for the increase and any retroactive award. Former employees are not eligible for any retroactive awards.

(c) Position Experience Increase

KCI has a ten-step wage scale based on education levels and years of experience in the position. Each step is a 1% increase. New employees will start at the base rate unless other arrangements are made with Executive Director approval. All existing employees will move to the next step of the wage scale in November after completing one full year if they have a satisfactory performance appraisal and no performance improvement plan in effect.

(d) Exceptional Performance

The Executive Director has authority to provide increases for exceptional performance based on selected criteria, available funds, etc.

The Board of Directors and Policy Council can provide an increase for the Executive Director for exceptional performance based on selected criteria, available funds, etc.

7.06 CHANGE IN POSITION

Any regular employee who assumes a different position as a regular employee will have an introductory period of 90 days or 180 days if a management position. His/her pay rate will be increased or reduced to the rate consistent with the range in which the new position is based, according to his/her qualifications for the new position. Prior position experience increases will be added to the new pay rate. The Executive Director approves the placement in the range in writing on the Status/Payroll Change Report Form.

7.07 TEMPORARY WORK IN HIGHER POSITION

An employee may temporarily be assigned to a position in a higher pay range. The employee will be paid at the level of the Placement Range for the position based upon

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their education, as long as the level is greater than the present rate of pay for the incumbent. The Executive Director approves of this action.

7.08 TEMPORARY WORK ADDITIONAL DUTIES WITHIN SAME CLASSIFICATION LEVEL

An employee may be temporarily assigned to full or partial duties outside the current scope of their job duties but not at a higher classification. Typically, this occurs when an employee is assuming duties of a similar position where there is a vacant position, or an employee is out due to a leave of absence. In order for an employee to receive a temporary pay increase, they must normally perform the temporary duties for at least 20 workdays. The temporary duties must be assigned by management and not voluntarily assumed or acquired by the employee.

An employee is not eligible if they are assuming responsibilities of a subordinate. If the amount of the work or the duration of the work is significant for the supervisor, management may consider hiring a temporary employee.

Typically, an increase between 3-5% is recommended for temporary pay increases in which the employee assumes more than 25% of the job duties. An increase of 7-10% is recommended for temporary pay increases in which the employee assumes 50-75% of the job duties. An increase of 15-20% is recommended for temporary pay increases in which the employee assumes the full 100% of the job duties. The Executive Director must approve temporary additional duty pay.

7.09 EXTRA HOURS (NOT OVERTIME)

Some employees are scheduled to work less than 8 hours in a day. Therefore, additional hours must be requested in advance by supervisory staff and presented to management for approval. In the event that extra hours were worked and the employee did not receive prior approval, a notation must be made on the timesheet explaining the reasons for the extra hours and initialed by the supervisor the next working day after the extra hours were worked.

7.10 OVERTIME COMPENSATION

All non-exempt employees are eligible to receive overtime compensation at the rate of one and one-half (1-1/2) times their regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours each workweek (defined as: Sunday through Saturday) or eight (8) hours each day, rounded to the nearest quarter hour.

- The direct supervisor must be informed of all overtime. The supervisor must approve any planned overtime, prior to the overtime occurring, when the employee expects to work overtime in order to finish a job task, project, or deadline. Overtime hours worked without prior approval may be grounds for disciplinary action, except in cases of extenuating circumstances such as a late

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pick-up of a child or a home visit that lasted longer than planned. In those type of situations where the overtime is unplanned, the overtime hours must be reported by the employee to his /her supervisor within twenty-four (24) hours. All overtime is documented and explained on the timesheet.

- Exempt employees do not receive overtime compensation.
- Leave, jury leave, and holidays do not count as hours worked for the purpose of determining overtime pay eligibility.

7.11 COMPENSATION FOR EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Salary increases and awards for educational accomplishments may be initiated by the Human Resources Manager after appropriate documentation is received. Increases may be awarded for completion of position related degrees and credentials from accredited institutions as follows:

Child or Family Development Credential = (\$100 award)	Bachelor's Degree = (\$300 award)
Associate's degree = (\$200 award)	Master's Degree = (\$400 award)

If a degree accomplishment would place an employee into a higher salary range the employee will be placed in the higher salary range. The employee will also receive the one-time award for the accomplishment.

Awards are processed when certified documentation is received. Awards are a one-time only reward for each educational accomplishment.

Some certifications may qualify for increase and/or award if they are from an accredited source on a case-by-case basis. This action will be approved by the Executive Director.

If an employee receives a double major or a second degree of a same level, they will only receive one reward for the accomplishment of one of the degrees earned.

If the employee has already reached the top of the wage scale for their position, the employee is not eligible for any further increase in pay. However, the employee will receive the one-time award for educational accomplishment.

CDA renewal and second-setting CDA credentials are not eligible for educational accomplishment awards and pay increases.

7.12 COMPENSATION FOR OUTSIDE TRAININGS AND FUNCTIONS

KCI will pay regular wages in accordance with applicable wage and hour regulations for employees engaged in agency requested/required training whether it is locally obtained or out of town.

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Whether or not travel time is considered compensable is dependent upon the determination of Human Resources and approval of the Executive Director in accordance with applicable state regulations.

7.13 MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

Mileage reimbursement is available to any staff person who drives their own vehicle while working for meetings, trainings, home visits, etc. KCI does not pay employees for mileage to and from work or to and from lunch breaks. Employees must submit their mileage report form to their supervisor and have current driver's license and proof of insurance uploaded to BambooHR by the first of the following month. Failure to turn in mileage for reimbursement by the first of the following month in which it occurred will result in the denial of a reimbursement. KCI uses the mileage reimbursement rates established by the Internal Revenue Service.

7.14 PAYROLL RECORDS

Employees are responsible for submitting complete and accurate time records for the purposes of processing payroll. Timesheets must be submitted through QuickBooks Time to supervisors by close of business on the due date. E.g., every other Friday alternating pay dates.

Direct supervisors are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their subordinate's timesheet through the review and approval process. Supervisors must review timesheets and approve timesheets in QuickBooks Time by 10am the following Monday.

Payroll timesheets will be created and retained in QuickBooks Time. Employees are responsible for creating and submitting their own timesheet each pay period. Comments must be made for any overtime.

If an employee is unable to create or submit their timesheet in QuickBooks Time due to a severe illness or injury, or in the event Kids' Corps, Inc. cannot reach the employee, the supervisor, the supervising Manager, or HR Manager may create the timesheet in QuickBooks Time for the employee.

The QuickBooks Time tracking application captures the following at minimum:

- Employee name
- Payroll period ending date
- Dates and hours of overtime worked if applicable
- Dates and hours of all forms of paid leave
- Electronic submission by employee with date of submission
- Approval and submission that the employee's supervisor or his/her designee has reviewed and concurs with the hours noted on the timesheet

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7.15 PAYDAYS

KCI pays on a bi-weekly schedule. Timesheets are turned in by close of business every other Friday. Paydays follow the next Friday depending upon processing and timeliness of necessary documentation.

Paydays may be earlier at the discretion of management. The following procedures and options apply:

- KCI encourages all employees to sign up for direct deposit of their payroll checks.
- Payroll checks may be received by mail if an employee elects a payroll check instead of direct deposit. Payroll checks are not distributed at KCI's offices or centers.
- Employees are paid by KCI's bank draft or electronic funds transfer.
- Employees are required to notify the Administrative Specialist in writing of any address changes to assure correct mailing address for check.
- Final payroll checks are either mailed or electronically deposited.

Late timesheets create a delay in payroll processing for the employee whose timesheet is not received on time. Employees who turn in late timesheets will receive notice from the Bookkeeper with regard to anticipated timeline for compensation. In no event will the compensation be delayed beyond the next pay period after the discovery of the missing timesheet.

7.16 PAYROLL ERRORS

Employees need to review their payroll for accuracy. In the event that there is an error in payroll:

1. Employee reports error to his/her supervisor immediately upon discovery
2. Supervisor reports the error to the Bookkeeper
 - If the error has resulted in underpayment, Bookkeeper will work to correct the error and will make the employee aware of when they will receive the difference in what they were paid and what they should have received
 - If the error has resulted in overpayment to the employee, the Bookkeeper will provide guidance to the employee for returning the funds to KCI.

7.17 PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

There are two types of deductions from each employee's gross earnings.

(a) Voluntary Deductions

Voluntary deductions are those requested by the employee. Examples are health insurance, tuition deduction agreements, and 401 (k) contributions. These deductions will

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not be made without written authorization from the employee.

Employees may elect special voluntary deductions by using a Voluntary Payroll Deduction form. These forms are completed by the employee and must be approved by the Executive Director.

(b) Mandatory Deductions

Mandatory deductions are those required by law or court order.

- Standard deductions required by law are deductions such as federal income tax, FICA and ESC.
- Court ordered deductions are deductions ordered for wage garnishments by the court or with court authority through another source such as Child Support Enforcement.

Deductions are made automatically by KCI in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

KCI relies on information provided by employees to make deductions. Therefore, it is the employee's responsibility to provide KCI with accurate information for payroll purposes.

7.18 FINAL PAYCHECKS

Employees separating from KCI will receive their final paycheck and any accrued leave if they are eligible for leave (up to 240 hours) within three business days after separation if terminated from the position. If the employee resigned, they will be paid on the upcoming payroll.

Final pay will include all hours worked since the last payday and any accrued but unused leave that is not in excess of two hundred forty (240) hours if the employee qualified for leave benefits as provided under 8.04 of these Policies.

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SECTION VIII. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

KCI provides health, dental, vision, short term disability, 401(k), life accidental death and dismemberment insurance to all regular employees once they have met eligibility requirements. Employees are eligible for health insurance the first of the month after 60 calendar days. Employees are eligible for other benefits the first of the month after 90 calendar days.

For an accurate detailed description and eligibility requirements regarding employee benefits, please refer to the specific benefit booklets available from Human Resources. KCI reserves the right to modify, amend or rescind its benefit plans.

8.01 HEALTH INSURANCE

(a) Premiums

If the employee elects a health insurance plan, KCI will share in the cost of the premium for the employee only. The total cost of any voluntarily elected dependent coverage and the employee's portion of their own coverage will be withheld from the employee's paycheck. This is considered a voluntary deduction from payroll and the employee must complete an insurance enrollment form and voluntary deduction form.

The portion of premiums paid by KCI depends on availability of funds and is subject to change as determined by the Board and Policy Council.

(b) Premiums for employees on Family and Medical Leaves of Absence

Employees on Family and Medical Leaves of absence will pay premiums under the same provisions as employees who are working. If an employee on a Family and Medical Leave of absence fails to return to work the day after the expiration of the leave, they will be required to reimburse KCI for the portion of the premium KCI paid on their behalf. Employees required to pay back the portion paid by KCI will be mailed an invoice for the amount owed or the appropriate amount will be withheld from their final paycheck.

(c) Termination and COBRA/HIPAA

The same coverage which was in effect just prior to termination for employees and their dependents will continue through the last day of the month in which the employee was terminated, provided their share of the premium has been paid.

Employees will be advised by the Human Resources Manager during their check out procedure of the opportunity to continue coverage through COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act) insurance and of the costs involved. Once KCI's COBRA Administrative Service (Navia Benefit Solutions) provider receives a written

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notice of a qualifying event, Navia will notify the qualified beneficiary of their rights to continue coverage under COBRA. Navia will handle all of the comprehensive record keeping and documentation from that point forward.

Under COBRA insurance rules an employee must pay the full premium for elected medical, dental, and vision policies and will be required to pay an administrative fee as well. Termination of coverage will result if a qualified COBRA beneficiary fails to pay the premium. COBRA insurance includes only major medical, dental, and vision insurance that was in effect at the time of the "qualifying event" or termination. Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance are not included in COBRA coverage.

The COBRA administrative service provider is also responsible for administering Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for KCI.

8.02 401(K) DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN

Employees may elect to participate in KCI's 401(k) retirement plan. This allows qualifying employees to contribute on their own behalf to a retirement plan. KCI provides matching funds as determined by the Board and the PC based upon funding availability. Information about KCI matching funds (if available) can be found on the Employee Benefits Information Sheet available at the administrative office.

Employee contributions to the 401(k) plan will be deducted from the employee's paycheck at the employee's direction. This deduction is considered to be a voluntary deduction with the employee having completed an enrollment/change form.

KCI contributions are determined by the Board and PC and based on funding availability and follow a vesting schedule based upon years of service (one year of service equal to at least 1,000 hours):

Years of Service	1	2	3	4	5	6
Vested Percentage	0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Vested Portion						

8.03 EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

All regular employees and their immediate family members are entitled to use the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). This program is available to any staff member wishing to consult with an outside resource regarding a personal problem or issue. The EAP is provided at no cost to employees for the purpose of staff wellness. (Reference 45 CFR 1302.93)

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The services provided by the EAP provider are confidential and are not shared with KCI. However, the EAP provider may provide information that is statistical in nature in order for KCI to monitor the effectiveness of the benefit.

8.04 PAID TIME OFF

KCI offers an accrued paid time off (PTO) plan that can be used for illness and/or vacations. This allows for more flexibility of use as employees may use their annual leave for either purpose. Use of PTO is optional; staff can choose to take PTO or unpaid leave, with the exception of Family Medical Leave (FML). Employees eligible for FML will need to use their PTO concurrently with FML. For more information on FML see policy 8.08.

(a) Paid Time Off Accrual Rate

All regular employees begin accruing paid time off (PTO) on their first day of work and are eligible to use paid time off after successful completion of their introductory period or 90 days of employment, whichever comes first.

KCI permits one exception to this general leave policy by allowing employees to use their accrued paid time off for winter break, spring break, and summer layoff while still in the introductory period or first 90 days of employment.

Accrual rates are based upon length of service as follows:

Hourly Employees less than three (3) years of service .06 (6%) of every hour worked	Salaried Employees less than three (3) years of service 5.2 hours accrued each pay period
Hourly Employees three (3) or more years* of service .10 (10%) of every hour worked	Salaried Employees three (3) or more years of service 8.6 hours accrued each pay period

Employees are eligible for the leave accrual rate increase after completion of three or more years of service from their date of hire.

Employees are provided with an accounting of their leave balance on their TSheets account. It is the responsibility of each employee to monitor and ensure the accuracy of their leave balance.

Employees may accrue no more than two hundred forty (240) hours of leave at any time. Employees who reach a balance of two hundred forty (240) hours of accumulated leave will not accrue additional leave until their leave balance falls below two hundred forty (240) hours.

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Employees will be paid for all accumulated leave up to two hundred forty (240) hours upon termination if they worked here for more than one consecutive year. The last hourly rate the employee received will be the pay rate used to pay the accumulated leave.

Employees who separate from KCI will forfeit all leave if they have been employed less than one calendar year.

(b) Use of Leave

Employees may use accumulated annual leave for any purpose after successful completion of their introductory period or 90 days of employment, whichever is first. Leave is charged to the employee's leave balance until the balance of the leave account is zero. Employees can determine their last accumulated leave balance by reviewing their TSheets account by going to the time off tab, and clicking accruals and balances, which indicates an accounting of the employee's leave.

Employees requesting planned leave submit a request for time off to their supervisor through TSheets prior to taking the time off.

- Supervisors are responsible for scheduling and tracking employee leave time and leave requests. Under no circumstances will planned leave be approved if the agency's operations will be compromised as a result of approving the leave.
- If employee leave is requested for 3 or more days, the request requires the approval of management. Supervisors are responsible for securing managerial approval prior to approving leave for 3 or more days. Once the leave is approved or denied by the manager, the supervisor will make a note in the comment section with the date that the manager approved or denied the leave.
- Supervisors will notify the employee as soon as possible if their leave request is approved or denied.
- It is the responsibility of each staff person to provide a clear plan for backup that is thoroughly discussed and agreed upon with the supervisor.
- A positive leave balance is not an automatic approval for leave – all leave usage must be approved prior to usage.

(c) Leave Donation

Employees may donate leave to another employee with written notification to the Bookkeeper for a specific pay period. However, employees wishing to make a donation must retain a balance of at least forty (40) hours after the donation is made. Leave Donation Forms are available on KCI's website www.kcialaska.org.

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No employee, supervisor or manager should solicit leave donations from others.

8.05 JURY DUTY LEAVE

Employees who receive a jury summons are eligible for Jury Duty Leave. They will be paid for their jury service for up to eighty (80) working hours in a twelve (12)-month period.

- The employee must notify their supervisor as soon as possible by completing a Leave Form noting jury duty dates (if known) and attaching a copy of the summons. If dates are not known, the employee should designate jury duty on the timesheet and forward the court's summons to their supervisor.
- When the jury duty week arrives, the employee must contact their supervisor as soon as he/she knows the date(s) of jury service anticipated.
- When called, employees are expected to obtain a receipt from the Jury Clerk. This receipt states the time the employee was on Jury Duty. This receipt is turned into the supervisor upon return to work.
- Hours of jury service are included in payroll documentation along with a receipt from the Jury Clerk.
- Money received from the court, excluding parking fees, must be paid to KCI within two weeks from the date of jury duty or the employee may be required to repay KCI the amount of their Jury Duty leave pay.

Hours of jury service are not considered work time for purposes of calculating overtime pay.

If jury service falls on a KCI paid holiday, the employee will receive the holiday pay only without additional compensation for jury service.

8.06 MILITARY LEAVE

Employees who go on active military duty or are required to attend training or field exercises in conjunction with reserve, guard or auxiliary duties may return to their position as long as they:

- Provide KCI with a copy of their orders prior to leaving or in the case of an extreme emergency, as soon as practical.
- Return to work the next working day after duty is completed or at a time agreed to in writing with KCI in advance.

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- Notify KCI of the duration of the duty.
 - If the duration of duty is included in the orders, a copy of the orders will serve as notification. However, if new orders are issued, the employee must provide a copy as soon as practical.
 - In the case of active duty when the duration is unknown, the employee must notify KCI every thirty (30) days if possible, but not less than every ninety (90) days, that they are still on duty and intend to return to work.

Regular employees may elect to receive pay from KCI within the limits described below or take annual leave until it is exhausted and then go on leave without pay.

Regular employees called to active duty may receive their regular pay, for regularly scheduled work hours, for not more than five (5) working days if the procedures below are followed. After five (5) working days the employee will use annual leave until it is exhausted and then go on leave without pay.

Regular employees who are members of the Reserves or Auxiliary units who are required to attend training, field exercises, etc. may receive their regular pay, for regularly scheduled work hours, for not more than sixteen and one-half (16 ½) working days per twelve (12)-month period if the procedures below are followed. After sixteen and one-half (16 ½) working days, the employee will use annual leave until it is exhausted and then go on leave without pay.

To be eligible to receive pay for approved military leave, employees must:

- notify KCI in writing that they wish to be paid for the days allowed above;
- submit evidence and dates of the service;
- note service on their timesheets in the leave column with an asterisk identifying it as military leave (This leave will not be deducted from annual leave until the limits as described above have been exhausted.);
- submit evidence of the amount of pay received from the military with their time sheet; and
- submit reimbursement to KCI for the amount paid by the military for the time they are requesting compensation from KCI, prior to being paid.

8.07 UNPAID LEAVE

Employees have the option of using unpaid leave for absences that occur during their regularly scheduled work time, spring, and winter break and well as summer layoff with the exception of Family Medical Leave (FML). Employees are required to use paid time off concurrently with Family Medical Leave. For more information on FML, see policy 8.08.

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8.08 FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

A Family and/or Medical Leave of absence shall be defined as an approved absence available to eligible employees for up to twelve (12) weeks of unpaid leave per year under particular circumstances that are critical to the life of a family. Leave may be taken upon the birth of the employee's child; upon the placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care; when the employee is needed to care for a child, spouse or parent who has a serious health condition; or when the employee is unable to perform the functions of his or her own position because of a serious health condition.

(a) Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for Family or Medical Leave under this policy, an employee must have been employed by KCI for at least twelve (12) months in total and must have worked at least 1250 hours during the twelve (12) month period preceding the commencement of the leave.

Spouses who are both employed by KCI are entitled to a total of twelve (12) weeks of leave, rather than twelve (12) weeks each, for the birth or adoption of a child or for the care of a sick parent, spouse, or child.

(b) Use of Paid Leave Concurrently

The provisions of this policy shall apply to all Family and Medical Leaves of absence. If an employee is entitled to be paid leave under another benefit plan or policy, including PTO, the employee must take paid leave concurrently with leave granted under this policy. If an employee does not have sufficient PTO, the remaining leave will be unpaid.

An employee does not accrue any PTO hours while on FML.

(c) Intermittent or Reduced Leave

If medically necessary for a serious health condition of the employee or his or her spouse, child or parent, leave may be taken on an intermittent or reduced leave schedule. If leave is requested on this basis, KCI may require the employee to transfer temporarily to an alternative position, which has equivalent pay and benefits and which better accommodates recurring periods of absence, or to a part-time schedule.

(d) Medical Certification Requirements

KCI may require medical certification to support a claim for leave for an employee's own serious health condition or to care for a seriously ill child, spouse or parent. For the employee's own medical leave, the certification must include a statement indicating that

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the employee is unable to perform the functions of his/her position and the expected length of time of the condition will last. For leave to care for a seriously ill child, spouse or parent, the certification must include an estimate of the amount of time the employee is needed to provide care. In its discretion, KCI may require a second medical opinion and periodic re-certification at its own expense. If the first and second opinions differ, KCI, at its own expense, may require the binding opinion of a third health care provider, approved jointly by KCI and the employee.

Requests for Family and Medical Leaves of absence due to illness will include sufficient medical certification stating the following:

- the date on which the serious health condition commenced,
- the probable duration of the condition and
- the appropriate medical facts within the knowledge of the health care provider regarding the condition.

For purposes of leave to care for a child, spouse or parent, the certificate should also give an estimate of the amount of time that the employee is needed to provide such care. For purposes of leave for an employee illness, the certificate must state the employee is unable to perform the functions of his/her position. In the case of certification for intermittent leave or leave on a reduced leave schedule for planned medical treatment, the dates on which such treatment is expected must be stated.

(e) Process for Requesting Family and Medical Leaves of Absence

In the event that an employee needs to take Family and Medical Leave, the following procedure is followed by managers to provide information for KCI's Family and Medical Leave Process:

- Employee works with the Human Resources Manager to complete Family and Medical Leave form and appropriate paperwork.
- KCI will require doctor's certification prior to granting foreseeable Family and Medical Leave for personal medical reasons.
- After reviewing the completed Family and Medical Leave form and any supporting documentation the Human Resources Manager will notify the requestor by certified mail of the approval or denial of a Family and Medical Leave request
- After certifying the Family and Medical leave, the Human Resources Manager notifies the employee of his or her rights by providing the "Notice of Eligibility and Rights & Responsibilities (Family and Medical Leave Act) form to the employee in person whenever possible. It is mailed to the employee if the employee is unavailable to meet in person.

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- In case of a qualifying emergency, no advance notice is required. The Human Resources Manager will notify the employee in writing that KCI is considering the leave to be Family and Medical Leave based upon any information available that qualifies the leave as Family and Medical Leave.

Family and Medical Leave information will be maintained in a file folder separate from all other Personnel information to protect the employee's confidentiality.

Employees will be required to, at management's request, report periodically on his or her leave status and intention to return to work.

For more information, see the Standard Operating Procedure, "Family and Medical Leave."

(f) Benefits During Family Medical Leaves of Absence

Employees granted unpaid Family and Medical Leaves of absence will be responsible for retaining group insurance coverage by arranging to pay the employee portion of premium contributions during the period of unpaid absence. In the event the employee elects not to return to work upon completion of an approved unpaid leave of absence, KCI may recover from the employee the cost of any payments made to maintain insurance coverage, unless the failure to return to work was for reasons beyond the employee's control. Benefit entitlement based upon the length of service will be calculated as of the last paid workday prior to the start of the unpaid leave of absence. Service for benefit entitlement purposes will resume upon the employee's return to work.

(g) Protection While On Family and Medical Leave

Once an employee is approved for Family and Medical Leave, he or she receives protection as outlined in the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993:

- The employee will be restored to their position or to an equivalent position with equivalent benefits, pay and terms and conditions of employment upon their return (on or before the date designated as the return date).
- Employment benefits accrued prior to the commencement date of the leave will be maintained.
- KCI will continue to pay its portion of the employee's health care benefits during the approved Family and Medical Leave period as long as the employee pays his/her share of the premium as agreed to on the Payroll Deduction Form.
- An employee does not accrue any PTO hours while on FML.

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- All regular employees will be paid Holiday pay while on FML.

MILITARY FAMILY LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS

Military Caregiver Leave: is available for any eligible employee who is a spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of a covered service member with a serious injury or illness up to a total of **26 workweeks of unpaid** leave during a “single 12-month period” to care for the service member. A covered service member is a current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness. A serious injury or illness is one that was incurred by a service member in the line of duty on active duty that may render the servicemember medically unfit to perform the duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating. The “single 12-month period” for leave to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness begins on the first day the employee takes leave for this reason and ends 12 months later. An eligible employee is limited to a **combined** total of 26 workweeks of leave for any FMLA-qualifying reason during the “single 12-month period.” (Only 12 of the 26 weeks total may be for a FMLA-qualifying reason other than to care for a covered service member.)

Qualifying Exigency Leave: KCI will grant an eligible employee up to a total of **12 workweeks of unpaid** leave for FMLA leave for qualifying exigencies arising out of the fact that the employee’s spouse, son, daughter, or parent is on active duty, or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty, in support of a contingency operation. Under the terms of the statute, qualifying exigency leave is available to a family member of a military member in the National Guard or Reserves; it does not extend to family members of military members in the Regular Armed Forces.

Qualifying exigencies include:

- Issue arising from a covered military member’s short notice deployment (i.e., deployment on seven or less days of notice) for a period of **seven** days from the date of notification;
- Military events and related activities, such as official ceremonies, programs, or events sponsored by the military or family support or assistance programs and informational briefings sponsored or promoted by the military, military service organizations, or the American Red Cross that are related to the active duty or call to active duty status of a covered military member;
- Certain childcare and related activities arising from the active duty or call to active duty status of a covered military member, such as arranging for alternative childcare, providing childcare on a non-routine, urgent, immediate need basis, enrolling or transferring a child in a new school or day care facility, and attending certain meetings at a school or a daycare facility if they are necessary due to circumstances arising from the active duty or call to active duty of the covered military member;
- Making or updating financial and legal arrangements to address a covered military member’s absence;
- Attending counseling provided by someone other than a health care provider for oneself, the covered military member, or the child of the covered military

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- member, the need for which arises from the active duty or call to active duty status of the covered military member;
- Taking up to **five** days of leave to spend time with a covered military member who is on short-term temporary, rest and recuperation leave during deployment;
 - Attending to certain post-deployment activities, including attending arrival ceremonies, reintegration briefings and events, and other official ceremonies or programs sponsored by the military for a period of 90 days following the termination of the covered military member's active duty status, and addressing issues arising from the death of a covered military member;
 - Any other event that the employee and employer agree is a qualifying exigency.

Spouses employed by KCI are limited to a **combined** total of 26 workweeks in a "single 12-month period" if the leave is to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness, and for the birth and care of a newborn child, for placement of a child for adoption or foster care, or to care for a parent who has a serious health condition.

(h) Reinstatement Upon Return From Family and Medical Leave

An eligible employee who is returning from Family and Medical Leave will be restored to their position or to an equivalent position with equivalent benefits, pay, terms and conditions of employment.

An employee who suffered a serious health condition may need to provide certification that they are able to return to work and perform the essential functions of their position.

Key employees (those who are among the top 10% highest paid employees) may be denied restoration of their position if their return to work would cause "substantial and grievous economic injury" or hardship (not inconvenience) to agency operations. Key employees will be notified in writing prior to taking the Family and Medical Leave that there is a possibility that they may not be reinstated at the end of their leave.

8.09 HOLIDAYS

A list of holidays is distributed to all employees in the fall of each year or upon hire. All regular employees are eligible to receive holiday pay. In no case will holiday pay exceed 8 hours for a day.

8.10 HOLIDAY PAY

Overtime is not considered when calculating holiday pay. Therefore, the maximum number of hours the employee will be paid for a holiday is eight (8) hours.

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If an employee works or travels for an outside meeting or function on a scheduled KCI observed holiday, KCI will allow the employee holiday pay on a different day of the same work week.

Employees are entitled to take leave in order to accommodate an individual religious holiday. Leave would need to be requested as planned leave.

If a Substitute works the day before and the day after the holiday, they will become eligible for holiday pay. The holiday pay will be the average of hours worked the day before and day after the holiday.

8.11 INCLEMENT WEATHER/HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS PAY

In the event that KCI closes its programs for a day due to inclement weather or other environmental concerns that make it unsafe for employees to work, KCI will treat those days as paid days off from work. Employees will be notified of inclement weather closures. Full-time employees will have up to 40 hours of weather closure pay available to them to be used only on days KCI designates. Part-time employees will have up to 20 hours designated. In no case will weather closure pay exceed 40 hours in a fiscal year.

Individual employees may be called into work on a scheduled weather closure day to complete tasks that are time sensitive and necessary to support business operations. These employees will be paid in accordance with the hours they work, including any overtime. If they do not work their full schedule, they will be compensated for the remaining hours with weather closure pay.

If KCI is open for the day and the employee is unable to get to work because of the conditions, the employee will use paid time off (or leave without pay should PTO not be available) to cover the day away from work.

All employees are eligible to receive inclement weather/hazardous conditions pay if the following conditions are met:

- the resulting program closure occurs on a normally scheduled workday for KCI, **and**
- the employee is either in pay status or on paid leave the day before and the day after the closure.

If an employee works a partial day or is on paid leave for a partial day, the hours the day before the closure and the hours the day after the closure are added together and averaged for purposes of calculating the amount of inclement weather/hazardous conditions pay the employee is entitled to receive.

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8.12 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

For the improvement of working conditions, employee-employer relations, employee morale and employee performance, KCI customarily provides employee recognition activities for all KCI employees. Sometimes, pay increases are a part of this recognition.

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SECTION IX. JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND POSITION RECLASSIFICATIONS

Managers are responsible for preparing and maintaining current job descriptions for all positions, which are reviewed and approved by the PC. The Board will also approve the job description for the Executive Director.

Job descriptions contain information about the duties, physical qualifications, minimum job skills qualifications, minimum educational level and whether or not the position is exempt or nonexempt.

Positions whose duties, responsibilities and/or qualification requirements have changed from the current job description may be authorized by KCI to be reclassified. Should the current employee meet the requirements, the employee, with the approval of the PC, may be assigned the new position. If the current employee does not meet the requirements, all efforts will be made to transfer the employee to a position for which he or she is qualified.

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SECTION X. PERFORMANCE APPRAISALS

Performance appraisals are conducted annually with all KCI employees. The intent of the Performance Appraisal process is to evaluate an employee's performance as it relates to his/her specific job duties, acknowledge and identify work performance, make determinations regarding an employee's training needs and career development goals, and to provide methods for correcting performance deficiencies.

Performance expectations are discussed with supervisors in the orientation process for all new employees. If an employee is transferred to a new position or is assigned to another supervisor, it is the new supervisor's responsibility to inform the employee of any expectations he or she may have.

The Human Resources Manager monitors Performance Appraisal due dates for employees ending their introductory period. All other Performance Appraisals are completed annually after their introductory period appraisal. The performance appraisal process and the performance improvement agreement process are further explained in Standard Operating Procedures.

10.01 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

The Executive Director notifies the Board and PC at least two (2) months prior to the expiration of the Executive Director's Performance Appraisal.

The Board will work with the PC to determine the process for evaluating the Executive Director's performance.

10.02 PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENTS

A Performance Improvement Agreement outlines objectives for correcting any performance issues and for reaching the goals and timelines discussed during the Performance Appraisal. The Agreement is attached to the Performance Appraisal Form. Regular follow-up occurs for Performance Improvement Agreements. Within 45-60 days of the Performance Improvement Agreement, the employee and his/her supervisor meet to discuss the plan and progress toward improvement. Documentation of this meeting is forwarded to the supervising manager along with any revisions or additions to the plan. The updated plan is returned to the Human Resources Manager.

10.03 DISCRETIONARY PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

The Discretionary Performance Appraisal is used to acknowledge performance changes between performance appraisals. Supervisors must secure the authorization of the Executive Director or his/her designee before completing the discretionary appraisal indicating the performance change (can be excellence in an area or a severe drop in

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performance). Once completed, the form is forwarded to the Executive Director for approval.

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SECTION XI. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

11.01 INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Supervisors begin an Individual Professional Development Plan with each of their reports within the first 90 days of employment for new staff, or quarterly starting in September/October for existing employee. All plans should be forwarded to the supervising manager for review. The employee and supervisor will update and upload copies of the plan to BambooHR. A copy will be filed in the employee's personnel file on the employee's BambooHR account under Documents, Personnel, Professional Development Plan.

Individual Professional Development Plans are updated quarterly. Plans should evolve as training needs are met and new goals are developed. (Reference 45 CFR 1302.92). The employee may update Individual Professional Development Plans any time by contacting their supervisor. Follow up documentation for existing plans needs to be submitted to the supervising manager in April along with the new plan for the next year.

11.02 STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Training and staff development are ongoing processes at KCI. Employees are encouraged to continually work toward professional goals that will enhance their skills and abilities.

KCI offers a variety of training internally that assists staff in better understanding Head Start Performance Standards, child development, outcome measures, nutrition, preventing communicable disease and child abuse and neglect reporting requirements. Training is also offered to assist individuals in fine-tuning skills in an area of need.

(a) Required Training

Staff must attend training that is required as part of their job position. These are trainings required by Head Start Performance Standards, Municipality of Anchorage Child and Adult Care Licensing and any other applicable regulations and/or agencies.

An employee may also be required to take certain training as a result of findings from a Performance Appraisal or as indicated in an Individual Professional Development Plan or Performance Improvement Agreement.

Agencywide in-service training will be entered by the trainer or the Human Resources Manager if the trainer is not a KCI employee. All employees are responsible for tracking their own individual training on BambooHR, training, and entering their new entry in the custom training table. If the employee receives a certificate for their training, after documenting in the training tab, they will upload the certificate to the document tab, under employee uploads.

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(b) Recommended Training

Recommended training is either offered within KCI or in the community that relates to an employee's Individual Professional Development Plan or the employee's position. The Human Resources Manager monitors the completion of mandatory training and ensures that staff are uploading their individual training to their BambooHR profile.

(c) Personal Professional Development Training

All employees are encouraged to further their professional development. Examples of personal professional development training may include Child Development Associate and workshops/seminars offered through KCI and throughout the community.

At the time of hire, all assistant teachers must be enrolled in a program to complete the CDA or AA early childhood education degree process within two years. At the time of hire, all family advocates without a degree must obtain their family development credential (FDC) within 18 months. Other employees who wish to complete their CDA credential or other credential through KCI's training program must have completed their introductory period with KCI prior to starting the program, or they will need approval from Management.

If an employee leaves KCI within 1 (one) year of completion of the training or receipt of the CDA or FDC Credential for which KCI paid the cost, the employee may be required to reimburse KCI for costs associated with the credential. Employees acknowledge this policy by signing a CDA Agreement Form.

11.03 EMPLOYEE EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Dependent upon funding, KCI may assist in some of an employee's tuition with a college or university if conditions are met in accordance with KCI's Training Plan and Policies.

Recipients of tuition assistance must teach or work for Kids' Corps, Inc. for a minimum of three (3) years after receiving the degree (HS Act 2007, Section 648A Staff Qualifications and Development). Recipients who obtain the degree and separate from employment with Kids' Corps, Inc. before three (3) years will need to repay a prorated amount based on their length of service.

Recipients who separate from Kids' Corps, Inc. prior to obtaining the degree will need to repay the total amount of tuition assistance provided.

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11.04 KCI COLLEGE CLUB

To invest in staff's personal development, increase the number of qualified teachers, and as part of an effort to increase the benefits children receive from Head Start/Early Head Start, Kids' Corps, Inc. has created the KCI College Club. The KCI College Club provides the opportunity, support, and time for teaching staff to pursue higher education. Staff accepted into the KCI College Club are provided with two hours of paid time during each work week to pursue degrees in Early Childhood Education or a closely related field.

Scheduling Weekly Study Sessions:

All club members must work with their direct supervisors to decide on a consistent, two-hour block of time that works best during the work week to focus on their studies. The time frame chosen will be the regularly scheduled college club study time. Frequent changes to the agreed upon schedule are discouraged. The intent is that the schedule is known and expected by all and can be relied on by the club members. This study time should take place during the staff office time to minimize disruption to the classroom schedule.

Eligibility Requirements for Membership of the KCI College Club:

A. Head Start and Early Head Start employees in the positions outlined below, who are regularly scheduled to work thirty or more hours per week and have completed their initial introductory period. Teachers on approved waivers must join KCI College Club immediately and not wait until their introductory period concludes.

Eligible positions, in order of priority are:

1. Head Start teachers who are currently on approved waivers from OHS or KCI
2. Early Head Start teachers who are pursuing a two-year degree
3. Assistant teachers who possess a CDA pursuing a two-year degree
4. Head Start/Early Head Start teachers and assistant teachers pursuing a four-year degree

B. Employees must be taking college level courses, extension, on-line and/or independent study courses leading to a credentialed degree in early childhood education/development or closely related field (AA or higher).

C. Employees must enroll at least part time (six credits).

D. Employees must provide a degree plan, confirmation of registration (e.g. fee statement/receipt), and a grade report proving successful completion with a course grade of A, B, C, or Pass for a pass/fail course in order to remain eligible for the KCI College Club.

E. Employees who withdraw or do not successfully complete a course may no longer be eligible for KCI College Club.

F. Club members must continue to complete all regular work assignments. If unexpected absences or staff shortages occur, or if there are work assignments that are time sensitive

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and cannot wait, club members may need to miss study sessions. Exact scheduling needs are to be worked out with the club members, their direct supervisor, and their program manager.

G. To ensure continuity of services to KCI children and families, the number of staff accepted into the college club may need to be limited. When deciding to limit the number of college club participants the management team will consider current staffing levels and the impact on services. If a limit is implemented, priority will be given to those already in the college club. Individuals would be allowed to join once staffing levels allowed and the impact on services became minimal.

Tuition Assistance:

Kids' Corps, Inc. supports all staff who want to further their education. Any staff person needing assistance with admissions or financial aid is encouraged to contact the Human Resources Manager. To learn more about KCI tuition assistance available see the Teacher Education Assistance and the Tuition Reimbursement policies.

11.05 EMPLOYEE SELF-PAY TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Employees can enter into an agreement with KCI to have college tuition deducted from their payroll check if the employee wishes to pay for his/her own tuition through the use of a voluntary deduction form. This can be arranged with the Human Resources Manager at any time.

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SECTION XII. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

KCI's disciplinary policies and procedures are designed to provide progressive (when deemed appropriate), fair and equal treatment to all employees. Any employee who does not agree with a disciplinary action may use the employee grievance procedures in Section XII of this Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual.

However, the existence of progressive disciplinary procedures does not affect or change the at-will employment status of all KCI employees.

12.01 TYPES OF DISCIPLINE

KCI uses several disciplinary techniques, which are applied on a case-by-case basis. These disciplinary techniques are used in a progressive manner when deemed appropriate. However, depending upon the severity of the incident, KCI may employ any level of discipline at its sole discretion. In addition, any failure by KCI to follow any particular aspect of these disciplinary procedures does not affect the disciplinary action taken or the employee's at-will status.

(a) Verbal Warning

A verbal warning is normally given by a supervisor to a subordinate and is intended to be corrective or cautionary. When a verbal warning is given, the following procedure is followed:

- The supervisor meets with the employee and explains the reason for the verbal warning. The supervisor discusses any actions taken to date with the employee and discusses steps for changing the behavior or practice.
- The supervisor documents the conversation in memorandum format and reviews the memorandum with the employee. The memorandum must include a statement that failure to improve may result in stronger disciplinary action. The employee is encouraged to comment if they are in disagreement with the content of the memorandum.
- The employee and supervisor both initial and date the original memorandum to indicate that the conversation took place.
- The supervisor provides the employee with the original memorandum and forwards a copy of the memorandum to Human Resources.

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(b) Written Reprimand

A written reprimand is more serious than a verbal warning. It is intended to be corrective and is issued usually by the employee's supervisor.

A written reprimand will typically include the following content and should be reviewed by the supervising manager and the Human Resources Manager prior to review with the employee:

- the reasons for the written reprimand;
- training or other disciplinary steps that have taken place resulting in a written reprimand;
- action steps that will be taken to resolve the problem;
- a statement that explains that further disciplinary action will occur if the issue does not improve; and
- the signatures of both the employee and the supervisor (if the employee refuses to sign, a manager must witness the refusal on the document).

The original copy of the written reprimand is forwarded to the Human Resources Manager and a copy is provided to the employee.

(c) Suspension Without Pay

Suspension without pay is a form of corrective discipline used when it is deemed that a written reprimand is not strong enough and termination is too strong.

The Executive Director will determine suspensions without pay. Suspensions are issued with improvement plans and clear indicators of the next disciplinary action the employee can expect if there is no improvement.

The employee's supervisor will issue a suspension without pay after all documents are prepared with the assistance of the Human Resources Manager.

(d) Termination

The Human Resources Manager and the Executive Director work together in the event that termination becomes necessary.

The Human Resources Manager will advise and assist the supervising manager in preparing all documentation necessary for the Executive Director to present to the PC. The Policy Council must approve all terminations. (Reference 45 CFR 1301.3 (d) (1) (x) and (xi)).

The Policy Council is provided all information gathered at a special session of the Policy Council arranged for the purpose of requesting the termination of an employee. Policy

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Council Representatives present must agree to maintain confidentiality of all information shared in the special session.

Employees who are recommended for termination may be suspended with pay until approval is gained from the PC. The suspension will in no case be longer than five (5) working days without pay.

(e) Suspension With Pay

Suspension with pay is issued with the authorization of the Executive Director. Suspension with pay may be for disciplinary reasons or to conduct an investigation into the allegations the behavior and/or actions of the employee are in conflict with the organization. Granting of suspension with pay is at the sole discretion of the Executive Director.

(f) Non-Disciplinary Administrative Leave with Pay

In some cases, paid administrative leave may be assigned a situation that requires more investigation of a situation to determine if disciplinary or other action is warranted. Non-disciplinary administrative leave is usually assigned for no more than 5 workdays.

12.02 EXAMPLES OF PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The following examples of disciplinary actions are for illustrative purposes only. They are not meant to be limiting. All discipline is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, which takes into consideration the severity of the offense.

- Minor rule violations are those which have a less severe effect on the continuity, efficiency, or safety of work, but which cannot be permitted and which warrant corrective action. Repetitive violations of these rules could result in more severe corrective action, including possible suspension or termination: tardiness or unexcused absenteeism, failure to observe work hour schedules (starting time, quitting time, rest and meal periods), loafing or other abuse of time during assigned working hours, leaving assigned job without permission, performing unauthorized personal work during work time and defacing bulletin boards or notices posted therein.
- Major rule violations are those that could have a considerable effect on the continuity, efficiency or safety of work. Violations of these rules may result in termination without warning. The following list is illustrative of major violations, but does not necessarily cover all such violations: violations of safety rules and practices; deliberate or negligent acts which endanger the safety or life of others; willful failure to carry out proper instructions; willful falsification of records, reports, or statements; leaving work without your supervisor's permission or without being properly

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relieved; deliberately abusing, destroying, damaging, using without authorization or stealing KCI property, tools, equipment, or the property of others; using abusive language to supervisors or fellow employees, etc.

Any combination of disciplinary action may be appropriate depending upon the incident, historical documentation of similar offenses and other documentation. The Human Resources Manager will assist the supervising manager with assessing the situation and recommending the course of discipline. The chart that follows refers to those offenses that are referenced by the CFR.

Examples of Offenses	Verbal Warning	Written Reprimand	Suspension	Termination
Physical, sexual or emotional abuse of a child, emotional or physical abuse or humiliation. In addition, employing methods of discipline that involve isolation, demeaning, punishing, rejecting, terrorizing, extended ignoring, the use of food or physical activity or outdoor time as punishment or reward or the denial of basic needs. (Reference 45 CFR 1302.90)			X	X
Intentional violation of participant eligibility determination regulations			X	X
Breach of confidentiality. (Reference 45 CFR 1302.90)		X	X	X
Leaving a child unsupervised while under the care of KCI. (Reference 45 CFR 1302.90)		X	X	X
Violation or neglect of safety rules or contributing to hazardous conditions. (Reference 45 CFR 1302.90)		X	X	X
Any act or conduct that is discriminatory or harassing in nature toward another person's race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. (Reference 45 CFR 1302.90)		X	X	X
Soliciting or accepting personal gratuities, favors or anything of significant monetary value from contractors or potential contractors.		X	X	X
Unintentional violation of participant eligibility determination regulations (errors and omissions that are easily identified as oversights)		X	X	X

12.03 SERVICE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

If unable to serve a disciplinary action in person, a notice will be prepared and mailed to an employee. All mailed disciplinary actions will be sent by first class to the last known address of the employee.

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SECTION XIII. EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCES

Employees who have complaints, problems, concerns, or disputes concerning an employee disciplinary action, performance appraisal or work condition may initiate the Employee Grievance Process.

Employees may use the Employee Grievance Process without fear of retaliation. Any complaints of retaliation will be dealt with swiftly and disciplinary action will be taken if necessary.

Supervisors and managers must disclose to their supervisor all complaints from subordinates that involve them. This allows the employee's supervisor the opportunity to determine if he/she should involve themselves at earlier stages of the Grievance Process. The Executive Director will notify the Board President.

Employees filing grievances may request that another employee (not involved in the grievance) act as witness throughout the grievance process. The employee selected will act as witness to the process and may do so without fear of retaliation as a result of their role in the process.

13.01 INITIAL GRIEVANCE

An employee who has a problem, concern, dispute, or complaint should make every effort to resolve the issue through informal discussion with the parties involved. Should informal discussion not resolve the issue, the employee may file a written statement to his/her supervisor explaining the issues and naming all parties involved.

The supervisor shall attempt to resolve the issue within five (5) business days after receipt of the grievance statement.

If the employee is satisfied with the resolution after meeting with his or her supervisor, the issue will be considered closed.

If the employee is dissatisfied with the resolve, they may progress to a Formal Grievance.

13.02 FORMAL GRIEVANCE

An aggrieved employee who was unable to achieve resolve through use of the Initial Grievance process may file a written complaint with the Executive Director within five (5) business days after the meeting from the initial grievance. The written complaint must include information about the employee's initial complaint and information about attempts to resolve the issue.

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- The Executive Director will consult with the Human Resources Manager to determine the investigative process that will be used to investigate the complaint.
- The Human Resources Manager and the Executive Director will agree on the timeline for the investigation of issues and concerns. The investigation may include consultation with a Human Resources specialist from the Wilson Agency or the Foraker Group. The Executive Director will respond in writing to the aggrieved employee within seven (7) working days of the date the complaint was received. The response will include the timeline for completion of investigation of the complaint (usually within 20 working days), and any temporary changes that may be put in place to maintain a comfortable working environment for all involved. The letter will provide any necessary time adjustments with regard to the timeline for investigation.
- The Human Resources Manager will conduct the investigation.
- After thorough investigation, the Human Resources Manager and the Executive Director will work together to formulate a written response to the complaint and present the proposed response to the Policy Council. The Policy Council may approve the proposed response or recommend additional investigation. After the Policy Council approves a response, it will be provided to the aggrieved employee. This written response will be considered the final response with regard to the issue.

13.03 END RESULT

The aggrieved employee will receive a copy of the written final report. However, he/she will not be entitled to information regarding the issuance of action taken with regard to another employee or person as a result of the investigation.

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SECTION XIV. EMPLOYEE SEPARATION

Employees and KCI may terminate or separate the employment relationship at any time and for any reason.

14.01 SEPARATION BY RESIGNATION

An employee wishing to leave employment with KCI should file a written resignation to his or her supervisor. Although two (2) weeks' notice is normally preferred, some positions may allow for more or less time for transition.

The supervisor must promptly route the original resignation letter to the supervising manager.

Employees who have previously resigned their position with KCI and are in good standing at the time of separation are considered eligible for rehire. These employees must submit an application and other necessary documentation at the time of rehire. Employees who return to employment on rehire status will lose seniority and will be started at the starting rate and starting leave accrual rate for the position in which they return.

14.02 SEPARATION BY LAY OFF

An employee may be subject to a separation from work due to shortage of funds, elimination of a position or lack of work performed by an employee or a group of employees. KCI will endeavor to give at least two (2) weeks' notice to employees being laid off for any reason.

KCI determines layoffs by length of time employed and positions held within the last five years. If an employee's position is being eliminated the employee has the choice to transfer to a previous position if (1) they have seniority as defined by length of employment and (2) they held the position transferring into within the last five years. If the employee chooses to transfer the person in the position with the lesser amount of time employed is laid off work with one exception.

- An employee with a high school diploma cannot displace an assistant teacher or family advocate with a credential or related degree even if they have been employed longer than the credentialed employee has.

If the employee is laid off temporarily, and the employee qualifies for the use of the leave benefit, the employee will be offered the opportunity to be paid for all accrued leave (not to exceed 240 hours) or to maintain a balance of leave throughout the period of layoff as long as the layoff is not projected to last longer than one hundred twenty (120) days. Employees who wish to save their accrued paid leave, will be required to use all but forty (40) hours of their paid leave at the time of their layoff. If the employee elects not to

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receive all accrued leave at the time of layoff, but the layoff exceeds one hundred twenty (120) days, KCI will automatically pay the remaining accrued leave.

Employees returning from layoff whose benefits were paid by KCI during the layoff period must continue to work for KCI for a period of 30 days or they will be required to repay the benefit amount paid by KCI.

Employees returning after layoff will regain their pre layoff wage, if employed in the same position, in addition to their same level of leave accrual.

In no instance will KCI hire temporary or substitute staff without placing a qualified laid off staff person into a position first.

Employees on layoff status should visit KCI's website frequently to view any openings.

Employees who are on layoff do not qualify for KCI holiday pay for the duration of their layoff period.

14.03 SEPARATION DUE TO LOSS OF QUALIFICATIONS OR INABILITY TO RETURN

Employees who no longer meet the qualifications for their position due to loss of a certification, credential, license or failure to meet the physical requirements of a position (where reasonable accommodations cannot be made) will be terminated from employment from KCI. These employees are considered eligible for rehire with KCI once they meet the qualifications for their position or if they apply to another position for which they qualify.

14.04 SEPARATION DUE TO SUSPENSION

Employees who are suspended for investigation purposes or as a result of disciplinary action are considered to be separated from KCI for the period of suspension.

Suspended employees whether on paid suspension for purposes of investigation or unpaid suspension may be requested to surrender keys and KCI owned equipment prior to beginning his or her period of suspension.

14.05 INVOLUNTARY SEPARATION

Employees involuntarily separated from their position for disciplinary reasons are considered ineligible for rehire at KCI.

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14.06 CHECKOUT UPON FINAL SEPARATION

Supervisors route all appropriate information (timesheets, completed performance appraisals forms and any other related personnel items specific to the employee) to the supervising manager. The Human Resources Manager or his or her designee will complete the employee exit paperwork and information process.

14.07 FINAL PAYROLL

Employees separating from KCI will receive their final paycheck and any accrued leave if they are eligible for leave (up to 240 hours) within three business days after separation if terminated from the position. If the employee resigned, they will be paid on the upcoming payroll.

14.08 REFERENCES

KCI will endeavor, in good faith, to provide accurate information based principally on the personnel records of the employee or former employee. The amount of information disclosed will be limited to the following information:

- Date of Hire
- Positions Held
- Date of Termination

Release of additional information will require a release signed by the employee or former employee authorizing KCI to release additional information about the employee at the discretion of KCI.