

NEBRASKA AREA 33 AL-ANON REQUIREMENTS FOR AL-ANON MEMBERS INVOLVED IN ALATEEN SERVICE

Definitions:

AMIAS: *Al-Anon Member involved in Alateen Service*

Alateen Sponsor: *An AMIAS specifically performing the role of an Alateen Group Sponsor*

SAFETY AND BEHAVIORAL REQUIREMENTS

- Any Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS), including but not limited to, Area Alateen Coordinator, Alateen Sponsors, substitute Alateen Sponsors, and the District Alateen Chairperson, must meet the requirements and be certified as an AMIAS.
- Minimum age of 21.
- Has a minimum of two years in Al-Anon in addition to any time spent in Alateen.
- Currently attending a minimum of one Al-Anon meeting a week other than the Alateen meeting.
- Active participating member of Al-Anon, committed to a Home Group.
- Has not been convicted of a felony, and has not been charged with child abuse or any other inappropriate sexual behavior, and has not demonstrated emotional problems which could result in harm to Alateen members.
- Satisfactory background check.

The following safety and behavioral requirements apply to both Alateens and Al-Anon members involved in Alateen service:

- Nebraska Area 33 Al-Anon prohibits overt or covert sexual interaction between any adult and Alateen member.
- Nebraska Area 33 Al-Anon prohibits conduct contrary to applicable laws. (See NE 28-710 and NE 28-711 in the ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES OF NEBRASKA ALATEEN SPONSOR section below.)

Procedures regarding reporting child abuse:

When an AMIAS suspects child abuse, it is his/her legal responsibility as a citizen of the state of Nebraska to report child abuse to the toll-free number for the Department of Health and Human Services, 1-800-652-1999. This report to the hotline number can be made anonymously. The AMIAS should use his/her own discretion in determining whether to tell

the teen the suspected abuse is being reported.

- There must be at least one Alateen Sponsor at every Alateen meeting, but Nebraska Area 33 Al-Anon strongly suggests two sponsors at every meeting. Al-Anon members who are also members of A.A. may serve as a Sponsor by virtue of their Al-Anon membership. Emphasis must be placed on the Al-Anon interpretation of the program at all times.
- Alateen attendance at functions away from their custodial parent/legal guardian requires the attached Parental Permission and Medical Care form be completed.

PROCESS TO BECOME AN AMIAS

1. Contact Area Alateen Coordinator (AAC) who is also the Area Alateen Process Person.
2. Complete AMIAS form.
3. Complete necessary forms for background check through the Nebraska State Patrol.
4. Complete necessary forms for child abuse check through The Department of Health and Human Services.
5. Fill out and sign Alateen Group Sponsor Questionnaire Area 33.
6. Provide two recommendations from active members in the Al-Anon program.
7. Pass the criminal background check.
8. Pass the child abuse check.
9. Complete AMIAS certification process and keep updated on any changes, training, or revisions to policies by providing an e-mail address to the AAC. Attend one training session per year which can be provided by AAC, District Representative, District Alateen Coordinator, or any other AMIAS who has received the training.
10. An AMIAS is approved as an Alateen sponsor.

ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES OF NEBRASKA ALATEEN SPONSOR

- Attend Al-Anon meetings regularly.

- Make sure group is registered and update registration information periodically.
- Know how to contact your District Representative and/or Alateen Coordinator.
- Guide Alateens toward working the Twelve Steps for personal recovery.
- Help the Alateen members take responsibility for the affairs of the group and implement the Twelve Traditions and the Concepts of Service.
- Encourage the participation of Alateen members in District and Area Al-Anon functions.
- In Nebraska, it is your legal responsibility (NE 28-711) to “report any reasonable cause to believe” that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect.

28-710 - Terms, defined.

For purposes of sections 28-710 to 28-727, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) Abuse or neglect means knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child to be:
 - a. Placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health;
 - b. Cruelly confined or cruelly punished;
 - c. Deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or care;
 - d. Left unattended in a motor vehicle if such minor child is six years of age or younger;
 - e. Sexually abused; or
 - f. Sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to solicit for or engage in prostitution, debauchery, public indecency, or obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions;
- (2) Department means the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (3) Law enforcement agency means the police department or town marshal in incorporated municipalities, the office of the sheriff in unincorporated areas, and the Nebraska State Patrol; and
- (4) Out-of-home abuse or neglect means abuse or neglect occurring in day care homes, foster homes, day care centers, group homes, and other child care facilities or institutions.

28-711 - Child subjected to abuse or neglect; report; contents; toll-free number.

When any physician, medical institution, nurse, school employee, social worker, or other person has reasonable cause to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect or observes such child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which reasonably would result in abuse or neglect, he or she shall report such incident or cause a report to be made to the proper law enforcement agency or to the department on the toll-free number established by subsection (2) of this section. Such report may be made orally by telephone with the caller giving his or her name and address, shall be followed by a written report, and to the extent available shall contain the address and age of the abused or neglected child, the address of the person or persons having custody of the abused or neglected child, the nature and extent of the abuse or neglect or the conditions and circumstances which would reasonably result in such abuse or neglect, any evidence of previous abuse or neglect including the nature and extent, and any other information which in the opinion of the person may be helpful in establishing the cause of such abuse or neglect and the identity of the perpetrator or perpetrators. Law enforcement agencies receiving any reports of abuse or neglect under this subsection shall notify the state central registry on the next working day by telephone or mail.

The department shall establish a statewide toll-free number to be used by any person any hour of the day or night, any day of the week, to make reports of abuse or neglect. Reports of abuse or neglect not previously made to or by a law enforcement agency shall be made immediately to such agency by the department.

REMOVAL OF CERTIFICATION OF AMIAS

- An Alateen, Al-Anon member, or AMIAS who has reasonable knowledge that an AMIAS may not be in compliance with Area 33 guidelines may report it to an Al-Anon member, District Representative, District Alateen Coordinator or the Area Alateen Coordinator. Any non-compliance with the Area 33 Alateen Safety Guidelines must be reported to the Area Alateen Coordinator who will conduct an investigation and take appropriate action consistent with the principles of Al-Anon program and Nebraska State law.
- By Committee, consisting of Alateen Coordinator and Delegate, with District Representative and or other Area World Service Committee members as needed a recommendation of action will be made.
- The District, after consultation with the Area Alateen Coordinator, has the responsibility to remove any Al-Anon sponsor who has displayed inappropriate behavior, is a threat to the unity of the group, or no longer meets the sponsor qualifications.

WHO MAY ATTEND AN ALATEEN MEETING?

- All visitors including those below should ask permission of the Alateen Group Sponsor prior to their visit.
- Alateen sponsors of other groups with permission.

- Area Alateen Coordinator may attend any meeting.
- District Representative may attend meeting in their district in performance of their duties as DR on Al-Anon/Alateen business.
- Area Delegate may attend meeting in performance of their duties as Delegate on Al-Anon/Alateen business.
- Young people whose lives are affected by someone else's drinking.

Visitors will be limited to invited guests and individuals performing Al-Anon service. Parents should NOT attend or sponsor the meeting their child attends.

Records Retention:

- AMIAS records are confidential and must be kept in a locked file by the Area Alateen Coordinator.
- The only trusted servants with access to the AMIAS records are the AAC and Area Delegate.
- If an AMIAS is deemed "ineligible", the record will be expunged by shredding within 30 days of the determination of an ineligible status by AAC. Page 1, bullet 6 defines criteria for ineligibility.
- If an AMIAS is on "inactive" status, he/she can remain on this status for six months from the date of determination of an inactive status by AAC. Inactive status includes non-compliance with Safety and Behavioral Requirements and Process to become an Alateen sponsor.
- If an AMIAS is unable to return to active status within six months, the record will be expunged by shredding at this time.

These guidelines shall be reviewed by the Area 33 Alateen Coordinator during the 2nd year of his/her 3-year term. The Area Chairperson shall appoint a committee to help in this effort.