

CAPP

Child and Adult Protection Program

Our church and school created Child and Adult Protection Program (CAPP) guidelines for our workers and volunteers that work with and care for our children and at-risk adults. The CAPP program is designed to provide a safe learning and work environment for children, at-risk adults, staff members, and volunteers.



All employees and volunteers who work with children and at-risk adults at St. John's Lutheran must comply with the CAPP certification guidelines. We provide training and partnership for the volunteers and staff of St. John's so that all may serve with confidence and joy.

Who must be CAPP certified?

- All staff members.
- Volunteers that work directly with children and at-risk adults in our church and school ... classroom helpers, field trip drivers and chaperones, sports coaches, tutors, Sunday School teachers, VBS workers, nursery workers, youth helpers, homebound visitors, and the like.

What is the certification process?

- Background check
- Interview (as needed)
- Training on CAPP procedures and guidelines (approx one hour)

How often do I need to go through the CAPP training and guidelines?

The training and certification is for a 3-year period. After three years, you must go through the process again for recertification.

I was CAPP certified for VBS this summer. Do I need to go through this again to help in the school?

No. The training and certification is for all St. John's ministries. Once you are certified at St. John's, you are certified for both church and school ministries.

I have been trained for a child protection program in another organization (ex: CYC, scouts, another church). Does this qualify me to be CAPP certified for St. John's?

No. Each organization has different guidelines and expectations, and as such, if you are helping us at St. John's, we ask you to comply with our CAPP certification process. Our insurance liability requires us to use our CAPP program for our staff members and volunteers.

Do both parents need to be CAPP certified? Grandparents?

If both parents or grandparents desire to help with children in our church and school, we ask each parent or grandparent to go through our CAPP certification process.

What if I'm just driving to an event or class trip?

Drivers are also chaperones for the event, and as such, are subject to our CAPP guidelines. Drivers must also show a valid driver's license and current insurance coverage and sign a Driver's Covenant for each driving event.

What about parents, grandparents, or friends who want to help only once during the year? Do they need to be CAPP certified too?

No. We have provisions for our "Visiting Volunteers" who help on an infrequent basis. We recognize the important role that parents and grandparents play in a child's life and we don't want to dissuade them from helping. But we also need to "protect" all children, and as such, we limit the supervision and responsibilities of our Visiting Volunteers. If parents, grandparents, or friends help three or more times in a 12-month period, we ask them to comply with our CAPP certification process.

Is there any cost for the background check or CAPP certification?

No. St. John's will cover the costs of the background check and certification process.

Contact the church or school office for CAPP training dates.

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