

Report Child Abuse and Sexual Abuse within the IHS

How much evidence do you need to report?

Report any abuse that you **witness, hear about, or suspect**. If you're not sure, call the IHS Hotline at **1-855-SAFE-IHS** to speak to a trained professional who can do more investigating into the information you report.

If you suspect child or sexual abuse anywhere within the IHS, there are 5 steps you must take:

- Immediately**
- 1 Call your local child protective and/or law enforcement authorities
 - 2 Call the HHS OIG Hotline 1-800-HHS-TIPS (1-800-447-8477)
 - 3 Contact your supervisor. If your supervisor was involved in the incident, contact the next person in the chain of command.
- Same Day**
- 4 Call the IHS Hotline at 1-855-SAFE-IHS (1-855-723-3447) or submit a report at <https://www.ihs.gov/sexualabuseprevention/hotline>
- Within 5 Days**
- 5 Document the report in the IHS Incident Reporting System. If you are not familiar, ask the IHS Hotline how to access the system.



All IHS employees share common **responsibility and requirement** to protect our children, our patients, and our communities. We are all mandatory reporters.