



CAL POLY

Strategic Business Services

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

YOUTH PROTECTION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026

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Committee Overview

The Youth Protection Committee (YPC), established in 2024 under the direction of the President, was created in response to growing concerns about the risks associated with youth (minors under the age of 18) participating in campus-sponsored or affiliated programs. Recognizing the diverse and widespread nature of youth engagement across Cal Poly's departments, auxiliaries, and external partnerships, the YPC was charged with developing a coordinated and comprehensive approach to safeguarding youth.

Committee Function

The Youth Protection Committee is appointed by the President to identify, evaluate, recommend, and implement appropriate actions to manage risks associated with campus activities involving youth. The Committee's primary focus is to standardize policies, procedures, and risk controls for youth serving programs on, and associated with, Cal Poly, to protect youth, and communicating information regarding youth serving program procedures and preventative measures.

Committee Membership

Committee appointments are confirmed by the President and are indefinite unless specifically noted.

1. Risk Manager, who shall serve as chair (ex officio)
2. Risk Analyst, who shall serve as vice chair (ex officio)
3. Assistant Vice President, Civil Rights & Compliance Office, or designee (ex officio)
4. Vice President, University Personnel and Chief Human Resources Officer, or designee (ex officio)
5. Vice President, Strategic Enrollment Management & Student Affairs, or designee (ex officio)
6. Associate Vice President, Student Affairs & Executive Director of University Housing, or designee (ex officio)
7. Associate Director of Leadership & Service (ex officio)

8. Upward Bound Director, or designee (ex officio)
9. Dean of Extended Professional and Continuing Education, or designee (ex officio)
10. Dean of College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, or designee (ex officio)
11. Dean of College of Architecture & Environmental Design, or designee (ex officio)
12. Dean of College of Engineering, or designee (ex officio)
13. Dean of Bailey College of Science and Mathematics, or designee (ex officio)
14. Dean of College of Liberal Arts, or designee (ex officio)
15. Dean of Orfalea College of Business, or designee (ex officio)
16. Director of Athletics, or designee (ex officio)
17. Associated Students Incorporated Children's Center Director (ex officio)
18. Director of Associated Students Incorporated, or designee (ex officio)
19. CEO, Cal Poly Partners, or designee (ex officio)
20. Academic Senate Executive Committee (faculty rep.)
21. Director, Performing Arts Center, or designee (ex officio)

2025/2026 Summary of Committee Meetings

Throughout FY 2025–2026, the Youth Protection Committee continued to strengthen Cal Poly's Youth Protection Program through policy oversight, compliance management, and program coordination. Major areas of focus included implementation of the new CSU Youth Protection Policy, development of a Medication Administration Policy, expansion of the Ideal-Logic platform for program registration and compliance tracking, and ongoing efforts to improve background screening, training, and incident reporting processes. The committee also addressed fire code and permitting requirements, reviewed peer benchmarking along with industry trends, and monitored compliance across youth-serving programs. Through collaboration with program coordinators and campus partners, the committee supported safe and successful operation of youth programs while promoting consistent youth protection practices and oversight across the university.

First Quarter

During the first quarter, the Youth Protection Committee advanced several initiatives to strengthen youth safety, compliance, and program oversight across campus. The committee reviewed a draft Medication Administration Policy for youth programs, continued development of a visual identification system for authorized adults and introduced the Ideal-Logic platform to streamline youth program registration, compliance tracking, training verification, and live scan management.

Compliance and training remained key areas of focus, with twenty-nine youth programs registered during the quarter. Committee members discussed challenges related to training completion, live scan processing timelines, and registration requirements, emphasizing the importance of early planning and proactive compliance efforts. The committee also promoted professional development through Praesidium youth protection resources and prevention-focused learning opportunities.

Department representatives reported successful youth program operations across campus, including Music Camp, Youth Aquatics, Upward Bound, and the Children's Center, with no significant incidents reported. Looking ahead, the committee will focus on finalizing the authorized adult identification system, expanding outreach to youth programs, and continuing to strengthen compliance and registration processes.

Second Quarter

During the second quarter, the Youth Protection Committee focused on strengthening compliance processes and advancing key youth protection initiatives. The committee confirmed that overnight youth programs remain compliant with fire code requirements when following the adult-to-youth supervision ratios outlined in the Youth Protection Policy.

The committee continued developing a visual identification protocol for authorized adults to help participants, families, and staff easily recognize access levels within youth programs. Work also continued on implementing the Ideal-Logic platform, which serves as the centralized system for program registration, compliance tracking, background checks, training verification, and incident reporting.

Program registration activity increased during the quarter, with several programs successfully completing the process. The committee emphasized the importance of early registration, timely completion of compliance requirements, and ensuring all required documentation is submitted through the system.

Department representatives reported successful program operations with no significant incidents. Planning efforts focused on upcoming youth programs, onboarding departments to Ideal-Logic, and expanding oversight of youth programs across all university locations. Looking ahead, the committee will finalize the Authorized Adult identification protocol and continue enhancing campus-wide youth protection compliance efforts.

Third Quarter

During the third quarter, the Youth Protection Committee focused on implementing new systemwide requirements and preparing for the upcoming summer youth program season. The committee reviewed the newly adopted CSU Youth Protection Policy, which supersedes the campus policy while remaining closely aligned with Cal Poly's established youth protection practices.

The committee also discussed new Fire Marshal permitting requirements for youth programs and explored opportunities to streamline approvals for recurring programs through collaboration with Facilities Management and campus scheduling systems.

Program registration and compliance tracking remained a priority. Committee members reported that eleven programs had completed registration, with additional programs preparing to launch in the spring and summer. Continued emphasis was placed on completing reference checks, background screening requirements, and required youth protection training in a timely manner. Efforts were also made to improve communication with references and streamline compliance documentation within the Ideal-Logic system.

Department representatives reported active planning for summer programs, including Upward Bound, academic enrichment programs, mentorship initiatives, and student outreach events. While some programs experienced delays due to incomplete compliance requirements, no significant incidents were reported. Looking ahead, the committee will continue refining

compliance processes, supporting program coordinators, and expanding oversight of youth programs across all university locations.

Fourth Quarter

During the fourth quarter, the Youth Protection Committee focused on strengthening program compliance, advancing youth protection practices, and preparing for the busy summer program season. Compliance remained a key priority, with thirty-four youth programs registered since September 2025, including nineteen active or preparing for summer operations and eleven programs scheduled to begin between June and August. While 495 of 710 individuals achieved full compliance during the reporting period, the remaining individuals largely consisted of staff who were entered into the system but did not ultimately participate in programs, were associated with late program registrations, were awaiting completion of reference checks or training requirements, or were connected to programs still undergoing review. The committee identified early registration and earlier staff onboarding as the primary opportunities for improving compliance rates in future years. Committee members continued to emphasize the importance of registering programs at least 60 days in advance and engaging staff early to allow sufficient time for background checks, training, and other compliance requirements.

The committee reviewed the results of the California Department of Justice Live Scan audit, which closed with only one finding related to security awareness training. The audit reinforced ongoing efforts to improve efficiency and consistency in background check processing. The committee also reviewed benchmarking information from peer institutions and discussed opportunities to improve oversight of third-party and Athletics-affiliated youth programs while maintaining compliance with university and CSU requirements.

A major focus of the quarter was the review of the 2026 Praesidium Report and the continued maturation of Cal Poly's Youth Protection Program. Discussions emphasized moving beyond policy development and ensuring that youth protection practices are consistently implemented through training, supervision, monitoring, and continuous improvement. Committee members examined emerging risks associated with virtual programs, electronic communications, and participant interactions, while exploring opportunities to strengthen accountability and prevention practices across campus.

Department representatives reported successful youth program operations and ongoing preparations for summer programming. Several programs highlighted improved compliance readiness, enhanced staff training efforts, and the successful use of Ideal-Logic to manage registration and compliance requirements. Committee members also shared best practices for identifying and addressing potential red-flag behaviors and improving participant oversight.

As the fiscal year concluded, the committee recognized the noteworthy progress made in building and implementing Cal Poly's Youth Protection Program. With foundational policies, systems, and processes now established, the committee remains focused on strengthening program execution, compliance, and continuous improvement to ensure a safe and supportive environment for youth participants across all university programs.

Key Accomplishments

- Developed and advanced the Medication Administration Policy for youth programs.
- Reviewed and implemented the new CSU Youth Protection Policy.
- Launched and operationalized the Ideal-Logic system for youth program registration, compliance tracking, background checks, training verification, reference checks, and incident reporting.
- Continued development of a visual identification protocol for authorized adults working with youth participants.
- Reviewed and addressed Fire Marshal permitting requirements for youth programs.
- Conducted benchmarking of youth program governance models at peer institutions and collaborated with Athletics and Conference and Event Planning leadership to evaluate Athletics-affiliated LLC programs. Recommendations were developed to support transition of selected programs to internal operations, improving oversight, compliance, and insurance coverage. Specialized training and compliance support were provided to coaches and program staff to facilitate successful implementation.
- Reviewed compliance and insurance challenges associated with third-party and Athletics-affiliated youth programs.
- Expanded oversight and engagement with youth programs across campus locations.

- Promoted prevention-focused practices through Praesidium resources, training opportunities, and committee discussions.
- Reviewed the 2026 Praesidium Report and identified opportunities to strengthen implementation, monitoring, accountability, and continuous improvement.
- Shared best practices for identifying and responding to red-flag behaviors.
- Increased awareness of youth protection requirements among program coordinators, staff, and departments.
- Initiated integration planning for Cal Maritime youth programs, including outreach, program identification, policy alignment, and preparation for incorporation into Cal Poly's Youth Protection Program and compliance management systems.
- Reported no significant incidents across youth programs during the fiscal year.

Challenges and Recommendations

As the Youth Protection Program continues to mature, several challenges emerged during FY 2025–2026. The most common obstacles included late program registration, delays in completing required training and background checks, staff turnover, and difficulties obtaining timely reference check responses. While the implementation of Ideal-Logic significantly improved compliance tracking and oversight, users continued to navigate the learning curve associated with a new system and processes. The committee also identified ongoing challenges related to third-party youth programs and emerging risks associated with virtual programming and electronic communications.

Although compliance rates improved throughout the year, program success often depended on a small number of individuals completing outstanding requirements. Additionally, committee participation varied throughout the year, limiting opportunities for collaboration, information sharing, and consistent representation from all operational areas. Increased committee attendance and engagement will be important to support program oversight, strengthen communication, and ensure youth protection considerations are consistently incorporated across campus.

Looking ahead, the committee recommends continued emphasis on registering programs at least 60 days in advance, initiating compliance activities as early as possible, strengthening

accountability for training and background check completion, and fully leveraging Ideal-Logic for program management and reporting. Additional priorities include enhancing training and resources focused on prevention and supervision, improving oversight of third-party and virtual programs, and increasing committee participation to support continuous improvement and long-term program success.

Goals for 2026/2027

The Youth Protection Committee will focus on transitioning the Youth Protection Program from implementation to sustained execution and continuous improvement. Key goals for FY 2026–2027 include:

- Increase overall program compliance rates by strengthening accountability for timely completion of background checks, reference checks, and required training.
- Improve program registration timelines by ensuring youth programs are registered at least 60 days prior to program start dates.
- Fully operationalize and optimize the use of Ideal-Logic as the university's centralized system for youth program registration, compliance tracking, incident reporting, and program oversight.
- Continue implementing prevention-focused practices by strengthening supervision, monitoring, reporting, and accountability measures throughout youth programs.
- Enhance training resources and educational materials for program coordinators, staff, volunteers, and authorized adults.
- Develop additional guidance and oversight mechanisms for virtual youth programs and electronic communications with youth participants.
- Improve oversight and compliance management of third-party youth programs.
- Expand outreach and engagement efforts to ensure all youth-serving activities are identified and operating within the university's Youth Protection Program framework.
- Support the integration of Cal Maritime youth programs into Cal Poly's Youth Protection Program, policies, systems, and compliance processes.

- Strengthen incident reporting and trend analysis to support continuous improvement and risk-informed decision-making.
- Increase committee participation and attendance to improve collaboration, information sharing, and representation from all operational areas involved in youth programs.
- Advance the program from implementation toward verification and continuous improvement by evaluating effectiveness, identifying gaps, and using data to inform future program enhancements.

These goals will help strengthen Cal Poly's culture of prevention and accountability while ensuring a safe and supportive environment for youth participating in university-sponsored programs.