

AirVenture and EAA's Youth Protection Policy

EAA has three distinct policies that cover Youth Protection, with one of those aimed directly at KidVenture and Kiddie Kockpit at AirVenture. This short document is intended to help you understand how your AirVenture area is impacted by the AirVenture Youth Protection Policy in an abbreviated format. The full policy is available at eaa.org/youthprotection.

Understanding the program – Why do we need to do this now?

The EAA Youth Protection Program has been put into place to keep youth safe in our EAA programs. KidVenture and Kiddie Kockpit are successful mission based activities that belong to all of the volunteers who have worked so hard to make these activities successful. The policy, training, and background screening are all key elements to a successful youth protection program, and mirror the process found in schools, scouts, churches, and other youth-oriented programs.

Training and background checks

Chairmen and the individuals doing two-deep leadership at KidVenture and Kiddie Kockpit at AirVenture are required to complete the online training and background check.

All volunteers are encouraged to complete the training and background check.

Two-deep leadership

KidVenture and Kiddie Kockpit at AirVenture need to follow two-deep leadership practices. This simply means at least two people who are supervising the activities need to have the background check and training completed.

Communication and contact with youth

Helping youth and their parents understand the activities and what to expect has a number of benefits. First, youth and parents who know what to expect are less likely to feel anxious and are more likely to be able to have fun. Secondly, the booths at KidVenture and the pedal aircraft at Kiddie Kockpit are small, and physical contact is inevitable; helping people understand that fact saves potential misunderstandings. It also makes it more likely that you will be made aware of potential concerns your participants may have so you can help make them more comfortable.

While EAA would love to see you mentor a young person, common sense practice in today's climate is to initiate all communications through parents, not directly with the youth. The policy reflects this approach in keeping with our focus on child protection. Misunderstandings are common when using electronic communications with young people, so it is best to contact parents with any information you may need to share. The added benefit is that it is a great way to encourage the parent to get involved with aviation too!

Photography

Taking photos of youth for KidVenture and EAA use is still allowed and subject to EAA photo policy. Photos taken for social media should not include last names of youth. As always, refrain from photos if parents are uncomfortable with such photos.