

Unaccompanied Young Persons Policy

This policy should be read along with the Young Person Membership Policy.

Some of our older youth members have expressed an interest in working in the space when it is not possible for their parent or guardian to accompany them.

Under this policy, a young person who is over 16 years of age, may apply to have the restriction of parental accompaniment waived, under the following conditions:

1. Young People under 16 years of age are not eligible and must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or designate while at Protospace.
2. A Young Person who is 16 or 17 may apply for a waiver of this condition. A written application must be submitted to the Directors.
3. The Young Person and a parent or guardian must sign a document understanding the conditions that apply. In the absence of a formal agreement, a copy of this policy and a list of any specific conditions may be used.
4. The Young Person's membership must be kept current and paid. A Young Person who has been granted a free or reduced rate membership must continuously comply with the conditions of that sponsorship.
5. The Young Person must have a current Indemnity and Liability Release form on file that has been signed by a legal guardian and the Young Person.
6. The Young Person must have completed the New Member orientation and General Safety course. If more than four months have passed between when the Young Person has taken the orientation and their application for unaccompanied access, the Young Person shall attend the orientation again as a refresher or meet with a Director, Trainer or designate to ensure that expectations are clearly understood.
7. The Directors may require that the Young Person have been an active member for a period of time in order to get to know the Young Person and their abilities.
8. Upon approval:
 - a. Clause 5.1 of the Young Person Membership Policy shall not apply to this Young Person. All other conditions of that policy remain in effect.
 - b. The Directors or the Young Person's parent/guardian may set restrictions on hours that the Young Person may be at Protospace (*such as: Until Midnight on weekends, 10pm on Weekdays*)

- c. The Directors or the Young Person's parent/guardian may require that the Young Person use a "buddy system" with another member; or participate only in a group setting (such as a robotics team build).
 - d. The Young Person may not use large stationary power tools (*such as the lathe, the table saw, etc.*) without the supervision of a guardian or an adult member willing to do so. Stationary Power tools may not be used by a Young Person who is alone in the space.
 - e. In rare circumstances, exceptions to the previous paragraph may be granted to qualified Young People, and confirmed in writing.
 - f. In rare circumstances, the Directors may refuse to approve the applications. In such cases, the Young Person and their parent/guardian shall be advised of the reasons.
 - g. The name of a Young Person who has been approved shall be posted to the membership and/or noted on the membership list on the web portal.
9. Conditions set by the Directors or a declined application may be appealed by the Young Person to the membership as a whole (*Note: doing so cannot be done confidentially*).
10. It is the responsibility of the Young Person to understand and abide by these conditions and all safety and security rules and clean-up standards without being reminded. Rules and conditions may also be enforced by access controls and lockouts based on PINs, passwords, or the Member's keycard, including time-of-day restrictions. Behaviour may be investigated by reviewing the camera recordings.
11. It is recommended that a Young Person attending without a guardian not work alone, and be equipped with a mobile telephone.
12. If the Young Person disregards any of these conditions, or is observed by the Directors or Members to be acting unsafely or foolishly, the Directors may revoke the approval of unaccompanied access, or require the Young Person and/or their guardian to meet with one or more directors.