

Student Supervision Ratios

Students are directly supervised by adults at all times while attending Great Basin Outdoor School.

Overall Supervision Ratios

With the use of both direct and general supervision, all activities at Great Basin Outdoor School have an adult to student ratio of 1:6 or better, sometimes as low as 1:4.

General Supervision

Supervision is provided during student attendance at GBOS by the Program Director, who is on site 24 hours per day, naturalist staff members, cabin leaders, classroom teachers, and guest presenters. GBOS board members are also frequently on-site during the program. Adults present on site have been fingerprinted and background checked with both the state of Nevada and the FBI.

Direct Supervision

Cabins

Cabin leaders directly supervise students during cabin times and at night. The ratio of cabin leaders to students is 1:11 or better, with the exact number depending on the configuration of cabins and the number of students actually attending. Cabins may have a second cabin leader or cabin leader-in-training, creating a ratio as low as 1:5. High school cabin leaders are 16 or older, and are screened before service by GBOS and by their home school. College students (typically students working towards a teacher license) and parents sometimes volunteer, and are screened by GBOS and by fingerprinting and background checks through the state of Nevada and the FBI. All cabin leaders submit two or more personal references.

Field Classes

Naturalists directly supervise students during field classes, which are the major instructional and activities component of the GBOS program. The ratio of naturalist to students is usually 1:12 or better, with the exact number depending on the number of students actually attending. In addition, one or more cabin leaders assist during field classes, and classroom teachers often participate as well.

Teacher Time

Their own classroom teacher directly supervises students during Teacher Time, which occurs three times during the week.

Large group activities (night hike, campfire, meals)

Other activities occurring at GBOS have an adult to student ratio of at least 1:11, with the Program Director, naturalists, cabin leaders, and classroom teachers providing supervision. The ratio for these activities is often 1:4 or better.