Update Guidesheets

March 2019 Update Guidesheet

Nondiscrimination in Employment

(BP/AR revised) Policy and regulation updated to clarify applicability of the policy to nonemployees providing services to the district pursuant to a contract. Policy reflects NEW STATE REGULATIONS (Register 2018, No. 20) which add a definition of national origin and make it an unlawful employment practice to inquire into or discriminate against an employee on the basis of immigration status. Policy also reflects NEW LAW (SB 1300) which (1) prohibits districts from requiring an employee, in exchange for a raise or bonus or as a condition of employment or continued employment, to sign a nondisparagement agreement or release the right to file a claim against the district for unlawful acts in the workplace, including sexual harassment, and (2) provides that a district may be responsible for any harassment (not just sexual harassment) of employees by nonemployees if the district knows or should have known of the conduct and failed to take action. Regulation revises section on "Measures to Prevent Discrimination" to reflect a requirement, formerly in BP, to post the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) poster on workplace discrimination and harassment and to add the requirement to post the DFEH poster on the rights of transgender employees. Regulation also reflects NEW LAW (SB 1300) which authorizes training on bystander intervention.

See BP 4030
See AR 4030 *New AR for Jefferson School District*

CSBA Sample
Board Policy
Nondiscrimination In Employment

BP 4030
Personnel

Note: The following Board policy and accompanying administrative regulation are mandated pursuant to Government Code 11138 and 2 CCR 11023. The California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) (Government Code 12900-12996) prohibits districts and district employees from harassing or discriminating against employees and job applicants on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, religious creed, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military and veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression. Pursuant to Government Code 12940, these protections apply to employees, job applicants, persons who serve in an unpaid internship or other limited-duration program to gain unpaid work experience, volunteers, and independent contractors.

Note: The same or similar protections are available to employees and job applicants under various provisions of federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d-2000d-7), Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000e-2000e-17), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC 1681-1688), the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 USC 12101-12213), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (42 USC 2000ff-2000ff-11).

Note: For policy addressing sexual harassment of and by employees, see BP/AR 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment.

The Governing Board is determined to provide a safe, positive environment where all district employees are assured of full and equal employment access and opportunities, protection from harassment and intimidation, and freedom from any fear of reprisal or retribution for asserting their employment rights in accordance with law. For purposes of this policy, employees include job applicants, interns, volunteers, and persons who contracted with the district to provide services, as applicable.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 3600 - Consultants)
(cf. 4111/4211/4311 - Recruitment and Selection)

Note: 2 CCR 11027.1, as added by Register 2018, No. 20, provides a definition of "national origin" for the purpose of implementing state nondiscrimination laws.

No district employee shall be discriminated against or harassed by any coworker, supervisor,

manager, or other person with whom the employee comes in contact in the course of employment, on the basis of the employee's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, religious creed, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, military and veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

Note: 2 CCR 11028, as amended by Register 2018, No. 20, prohibits inquiry into an employee's immigration status or discrimination on the basis of such status, unless the district provides clear and convincing evidence that it is required to do so in order to comply with federal immigration law. Districts should consult legal counsel as necessary.

The district shall not inquire into any employee's immigration status nor discriminate against an employee on the basis of immigration status, unless there is clear and convincing evidence that it is necessary to comply with federal immigration law. (2 CCR 11028)

Note: The following items illustrate unlawful discriminatory practices as specified in Government Code 12940. Labor Code 1197.5 prohibits the payment of different wage rates to employees for similar work based on sex, race, or ethnicity and prohibits the use of prior salary history by itself to justify any disparity in compensation under the bona fide factor exception.

Discrimination in employment based on the characteristics listed above is prohibited in all areas of employment and in all employment-related practices, including the following:

1. Discrimination in hiring, compensation, terms, conditions, and other privileges of employment

(cf. 4151/4251/4351 - Employee Compensation)
(cf. 4154/4254/4354 - Health and Welfare Benefits)

2. Taking of an adverse employment action, such as termination or the denial of employment, promotion, job assignment, or training

3. Unwelcome conduct, whether verbal, physical, or visual, that is so severe or pervasive as to adversely affect an employee's employment opportunities, or that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment

***Note: Item #4 below addresses the specific practices prohibited under Government Code 12940 or 2 CCR 11006-11086 in relation to certain protected categories. For example, because "sex" as defined in Government Code 12926 includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions, any of these conditions may be the basis for an employee's sex discrimination claim. As the specific prohibitions are too numerous to list in policy, it is recommended that district legal counsel be consulted when questions arise as to any specific

claim.***

4. Actions and practices identified as unlawful or discriminatory pursuant to Government Code 12940 or 2 CCR 11006-11086, such as:

a. Sex discrimination based on an employee's pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or any related medical condition or on an employee's gender, gender expression, or gender identity, including transgender status

(cf. 4033 - Lactation Accommodation)
(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)

b. Religious creed discrimination based on an employee's religious belief or observance, including religious dress or grooming practices, or based on the district's failure or refusal to use reasonable means to accommodate an employee's religious belief, observance, or practice which conflicts with an employment requirement

(cf. 4119.22/4219.22/4319.22 - Dress and Grooming)

c. Requirement for a medical or psychological examination of a job applicant, or an inquiry into whether a job applicant has a mental or physical disability or a medical condition or as to the severity of any such disability or condition, without the showing of a job-related need or business necessity

(cf. 4119.41/4219.41/4319.41 - Employees with Infectious Disease)

d. Failure to make reasonable accommodation for the known physical or mental disability of an employee, or to engage in a timely, good faith, interactive process with an employee who has requested such accommodations in order to determine the effective reasonable accommodations, if any, to be provided to the employee

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

Note: Retaliation against complainants or other participants in the grievance procedures is prohibited by Government Code 12940 and 34 CFR 110.34. In addition to the general prohibition against retaliation, Government Code 12940 provides that an employee who requests accommodation for a physical or mental disability or religious belief is protected from retaliation as specified below. CSBA recommends that this protection be extended to all protected characteristics, as provided below.

The Board also prohibits retaliation against any district employee who opposes any discriminatory employment practice by the district or its employees, agents, or representatives or who complains, testifies, assists, or in any way participates in the district's complaint process pursuant to this policy. No employee who requests an accommodation for any protected characteristic listed in this policy shall be subjected to any punishment or sanction, regardless of whether the request was granted. (Government Code 12940; 2 CCR 11028)

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12964.5, as added by SB 1300 (Ch. 955, Statutes of 2018), the district is prohibited from requiring an employee, in exchange for a raise or bonus or as a condition of employment or continued employment, to sign a nondisparagement agreement or similar document that would deny the employee the right to disclose information about unlawful acts in the workplace or requiring an employee to release the right to file a claim or civil action against the district.

No employee shall, in exchange for a raise or bonus or as a condition of employment or continued employment, be required to sign any document that releases the employee's right to file a claim against the district or to disclose information about harassment or other unlawful employment practices. (Government Code 12964.5)

Complaints concerning employment discrimination, harassment, or retaliation shall immediately be investigated in accordance with procedures specified in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Note: Pursuant to 2 CCR 11019, in certain instances, an employee's (especially a supervisor's) knowledge or notice of prohibited conduct of another employee or individual may subject the district to liability. Therefore, it is recommended that the district require its employees with knowledge of harassment or discrimination to report the incident to the appropriate district authorities. In addition, Government Code 12940, as amended by SB 1300, provides that a district may be responsible for harassment of employees by nonemployees where the district knows or should have known of the conduct and failed to take immediate and corrective action, taking into consideration the extent of the district's control and other legal responsibility that the district may have with respect to the conduct of those nonemployees. Also see BP/AR 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment.

Note: See the accompanying administrative regulation for requirements related to the identification of the employee who will be responsible for compliance with the nondiscrimination laws.

Any supervisory or management employee who observes or has knowledge of an incident of prohibited discrimination or harassment, including harassment of an employee by a nonemployee, shall report the incident to the Superintendent or designated district coordinator as soon as practical after the incident. All other employees are encouraged to report such incidents to their supervisor immediately. The district shall protect any employee who reports such incidents from retaliation.

Note: Government Code 12940 and 2 CCR 11023 require districts to take all reasonable steps to prevent prohibited discrimination and harassment, including, but not limited to, dissemination of the district's policy on the prevention of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. In addition, Government Code 12950 requires districts to post, in prominent and accessible locations on district premises, posters developed by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), which are available on DFEH's web site. For further information on prevention strategies, see the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall use all appropriate means to reinforce the district's nondiscrimination policy, including providing training and information to employees about how to recognize harassment, discrimination, or other related conduct, how to respond appropriately, and components of the district's policies and regulations regarding discrimination. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review the district's employment practices and, as necessary, shall take action to ensure district compliance with the nondiscrimination laws.

Any district employee who engages in prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation or who aids, abets, incites, compels, or coerces another to engage or attempt to engage in such behavior in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

(cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)
(cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
CIVIL CODE
51.7 Freedom from violence or intimidation
GOVERNMENT CODE
11135 Unlawful discrimination
11138 Rules and regulations
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act, especially:
12940-12952 Unlawful employment practices
12960-12976 Unlawful employment practices; complaints
PENAL CODE
422.56 Definitions, hate crimes
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
11006-11086 Discrimination in employment, especially:
11013 Recordkeeping
11019 Terms, conditions and privileges of employment
11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction
11024 Sexual harassment training and education
11027-11028 National origin and ancestry discrimination
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
621-634 Age Discrimination in Employment Act
794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended

2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
2000ff-2000ff-11 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008
2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
6101-6107 Age discrimination in federally assisted programs
12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
100.6 Compliance information
104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
104.8 Notice
106.8 Designation of responsible employee and adoption of grievance procedures
106.9 Dissemination of policy
110.1-110.39 Nondiscrimination on the basis of age
COURT DECISIONS
Thompson v. North American Stainless LP, (2011) 131 S.Ct. 863
Shephard v. Loyola Marymount, (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 837

Management Resources:
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING PUBLICATIONS
California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment
Transgender Rights in the Workplace
Workplace Harassment Guide for California Employers
Your Rights and Obligations as a Pregnant Employee
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
Notice of Non-Discrimination, August 2010
U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS
EEOC Compliance Manual
Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, June 1999
WEB SITES
California Department of Fair Employment and Housing: http://www.dfeh.ca.gov
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: http://www.eeoc.gov

(5/16 12/16) 3/19

CSBA Sample
Administrative Regulation
Nondiscrimination In Employment

AR 4030
Personnel

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 11138 and 2 CCR 11023, districts are mandated to adopt rules and regulations to ensure that district programs and activities are free from unlawful discriminatory practices. Pursuant to Government Code 12940, protections against discrimination apply to employees, job applicants, persons who serve in an unpaid internship or other limited-duration program to gain unpaid work experience, volunteers, and independent contractors.

All allegations of discrimination in employment, including those involving an employee, job applicant, intern, volunteer, or person contracted to provide services to the district shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with procedures specified in this administrative regulation.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 3600 - Consultants)
(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

Note: Many nondiscrimination laws and regulations require identification of an employee who will be responsible for compliance with the nondiscrimination laws. For example, pursuant to 34 CFR 104.7, 106.8, and 110.25, the district is required to designate the person(s) responsible for the overall implementation of the requirements of federal laws which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability, sex, and age, i.e., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC 1681-1688), and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (29 USC 621-634). The district should fill in the blanks below to designate the responsible employee and contact information.

The district designates the position identified below as its coordinator for nondiscrimination in employment (coordinator) to coordinate the district's efforts to comply with state and federal nondiscrimination laws and to answer inquiries regarding the district's nondiscrimination policies. The coordinator may be contacted at:

_____
(position title)

_____
(address)

_____

(telephone number)

_____

(email)

Measures to Prevent Discrimination

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12940 and 2 CCR 11023, the district is required to take all reasonable steps to prevent unlawful discrimination and harassment. 2 CCR 11023 specifies certain requirements to be included in the district's policy. The following section reflects the requirements of 2 CCR 11023 and other applicable laws or regulations, as indicated.

To prevent unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in district employment, the Superintendent or designee shall implement the following measures:

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12950, districts are required to post the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing's (DFEH) posters entitled California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment and Transgender Rights in the Workplace, as provided in item #1. DFEH rules require that these materials be posted electronically and in every location where the district has employees (e.g., district office, hiring office, each school site). These posters and the rules for posting are available on the DFEH web site.

Note: In addition, 2 CCR 11049 requires posting a notice of the rights and obligations of employees who are pregnant, have a related medical condition, or are recovering from childbirth. See AR 4161.8/4261.8/4361.8 - Family Care and Medical Leave.

1. Display in a prominent and accessible location at every work site where the district has employees and post electronically on computers in a conspicuous location, the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) posters in regard to workplace discrimination and harassment and the rights of transgender employees (Government Code 12950)

(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)

2. Publicize the district's nondiscrimination policy and regulation, including the complaint procedures and the coordinator's contact information, by: (5 CCR 4960; 34 CFR 100.6, 106.9)

a. Including them in each announcement, bulletin, or application form that is used in employee recruitment

b. Posting them in all district schools and offices, including staff lounges and other prominent locations

c. Posting them on the district's web site and providing easy access to them through district-supported social media, when available

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)
(cf. 4111/4211/4311 - Recruitment and Selection)

3. Disseminate the district's nondiscrimination policy to all employees by one or more of the following methods: (2 CCR 11023)

a. Printing and providing a copy of the policy to all employees, with an acknowledgment form for each employee to sign and return

b. Sending the policy via email with an acknowledgment return form

c. Posting the policy on the district intranet with a tracking system ensuring all employees have read and acknowledged receipt of the policies

d. Discussing the policy with employees upon hire and/or during a new hire orientation session

e. Any other way that ensures employees receive and understand the policy

(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)

4. Provide to employees a handbook which contains information that clearly describes the district's nondiscrimination policy, procedures for filing a complaint, and resources available to employees who believe they have been the victim of any discriminatory or harassing behavior

Note: Item #5 below provides for training regarding the district's discrimination policy and reporting procedures. For requirements specifically pertaining to sexual harassment training, see AR 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment. Pursuant to Government Code 12950.1, if the district has 50 or more employees, it must provide at least two hours of staff development regarding sexual harassment to all supervisory employees within six months of their assumption of a supervisory position and once every two years thereafter. As amended by SB 1343 (Ch. 956, Statutes of 2018), Government Code 12950.1 requires any district that has five or more employees to provide at least two hours of sexual harassment training to supervisory employees and at least one hour of sexual harassment training to all nonsupervisory employees by January 1, 2020 and once every two years thereafter.

5. Provide training to employees, volunteers, and interns regarding the district's nondiscrimination policy, including what constitutes unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation and how and to whom a report of an incident should be made

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12950.2, as added by SB 1300 (Ch. 955, Statutes of 2018), districts are authorized, but not required, to provide bystander intervention training as provided below.

The district may also provide bystander intervention training to employees that includes information and practical guidance on how to recognize potentially problematic behaviors and

motivates them to take action when they observe such behaviors. The training and education may include exercises to provide employees with the skills and confidence to intervene as appropriate and to provide them with resources they can call upon that support their intervention. (Government Code 12950.2)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

6. Periodically review the district's recruitment, hiring, and promotion processes and regularly monitor the terms, conditions, and privileges of employment to ensure district compliance with law

7. For any district facility where 10 percent of employees have a language other than English as their spoken language, translate the policy into every language spoken by at least 10 percent of the workforce

Complaint Procedure

Note: 2 CCR 11023 mandates that a district's policy include a complaint process with specified requirements. Some of the requirements of 2 CCR 11023 are similar to those required under existing case law.

Note: Courts have held that an employer may mitigate liability for hostile environment employment discrimination when (1) the employer took reasonable care to prevent and promptly correct the discriminatory or harassing conduct (i.e., provided a complaint procedure) and (2) the aggrieved employee unreasonably failed to take advantage of corrective opportunities offered by the employer (i.e., failure to file a complaint). In its June 1999 Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) outlines the elements of an effective complaint procedure to include (1) a clear explanation of the process; (2) protection against retaliation; (3) designation of multiple individuals authorized to receive complaints; (4) a mechanism for prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation; (5) assurance of immediate and appropriate corrective action; and (6) information about time frames for filing charges with EEOC or DFEH.

Note: While EEOC's guidance recommends a "prompt" investigation, neither the law nor EEOC delineates a specific time frame for resolution. EEOC's guidance acknowledges that whether an investigation is considered "prompt" may vary depending on the seriousness and complexity of the circumstances and that intermediate measures may be necessary to prevent further harassment during the investigation.

Note: The following section, including the listed timelines, is consistent with EEOC's guidance and should be modified to reflect district practice.

Any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination or harassment shall be addressed in accordance with the following procedures:

1. Notice and Receipt of Complaint: A complainant may inform a direct supervisor, another supervisor, the coordinator, the Superintendent or, if available, a complaint hotline or an ombudsman. The employee's direct supervisor may be bypassed in filing a complaint where the supervisor is the subject of the complaint.

The complainant may file a written complaint in accordance with this procedure or may first attempt to resolve the situation informally with the employee's supervisor.

A supervisor or manager who has received information about an incident of discrimination or harassment, or has observed such an incident, shall report it to the coordinator, whether or not the complainant files a written complaint.

The written complaint should contain the complainant's name, the name of the individual who allegedly committed the act, a description of the incident, the date and location where the incident occurred, any witnesses who may have relevant information, other evidence of the discrimination or harassment, and any other pertinent information which may assist in investigating and resolving the complaint.

2. Investigation Process: The coordinator shall initiate an impartial investigation of an allegation of discrimination or harassment within five business days of receiving notice of the alleged discriminatory or harassing behavior, regardless of whether a written complaint has been filed or whether the written complaint is complete.

The coordinator shall meet with the complainant to describe the district's complaint procedure and discuss the actions being sought by the complainant in response to the allegation. The coordinator shall inform the complainant that the investigation of the allegations will be fair, timely, and thorough and will be conducted in a manner that provides all parties due process and reaches reasonable conclusions based on the evidence collected. The coordinator shall also inform the parties that the investigation will be kept confidential to the extent possible, but that some information may be revealed as necessary to conduct an effective investigation.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)
(cf. 4112.6/4212.6/4312.6 - Personnel Files)
(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

If the coordinator determines that a detailed fact-finding investigation is necessary, the investigation shall begin immediately. As part of this investigation, the coordinator should interview the complainant, the person accused, and other persons who could be expected to have relevant information.

The coordinator shall track and document the progress of the investigation to ensure reasonable progress and shall inform the parties as necessary.

When necessary to carry out the investigation or to protect employee safety, the coordinator may discuss the complaint with the Superintendent or designee, district legal counsel,

or the district's risk manager.

The coordinator shall also determine whether interim measures, such as scheduling changes, transfers, or leaves, need to be taken before the investigation is completed to ensure that further incidents are prevented. The coordinator shall ensure that such interim measures do not constitute retaliation.

3. Written Report on Findings and Remedial/Corrective Action: No more than 20 business days after receiving the complaint, the coordinator shall conclude the investigation and prepare a written report of the findings. This timeline may be extended for good cause. If an extension is needed, the coordinator shall notify the parties and explain the reasons for the extension.

The report shall include the decision and the reasons for the decision and shall summarize the steps taken during the investigation. If a determination has been made that discrimination or harassment occurred, the report shall also include any corrective action(s) that have been or will be taken to address the behavior, provide appropriate options for remedial actions and resolutions for the complainant, and ensure that retaliation or further discrimination or harassment is prevented. The report shall be presented to the Superintendent or designee.

A summary of the findings shall be presented to the complainant and the person accused.

4. Appeal to the Governing Board: The complainant or the person accused may appeal any findings to the Board within 10 business days of receiving the written report of the coordinator's findings. The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board with all information presented during the investigation. Upon receiving an appeal, the Board shall schedule a hearing as soon as practicable. Any complaint against a district employee shall be addressed in closed session in accordance with law. The Board shall render its decision within 10 business days.

(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

Other Remedies

Note: Items #1-3 below state the time limits within which employees must file their complaints. EEOC's guidance states that it is important for employers' nondiscrimination policies to contain information about timeframes for filing charges of unlawful discrimination or harassment with EEOC or DFEH. Employees should be informed that the deadline for filing charges starts to run from the last date of the unlawful act, not from the conclusion of the district's complaint investigation. Pursuant to DFEH procedures, DFEH will automatically forward any complaint it has accepted for investigation to EEOC when the matter falls within EEOC's jurisdiction.

In addition to filing a discrimination or harassment complaint with the district, a person may file a complaint with either DFEH or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). The time limits for filing such complaints are as follows:

Note: Pursuant to Government Code 12960, an employee has one year to file a complaint with DFEH, although that period may be extended under certain circumstances, such as when a person obtains knowledge of the unlawful practice after the expiration of the one-year period.

1. To file a valid complaint with DFEH, within one year of the alleged discriminatory act(s), unless an exception exists pursuant to Government Code 12960

Note: 42 USC 2000e-5 specifies that a person must file a discrimination complaint with EEOC within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act. Pursuant to 42 USC 2000e-5, the 180-day timeline for compensation discrimination starts when the discriminatory paycheck is received and that each discriminatory paycheck restarts the timeline for the filing of a complaint.

2. To file a valid complaint directly with EEOC, within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) (42 USC 2000e-5)

3. To file a valid complaint with EEOC after first filing a complaint with DFEH, within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory act(s) or within 30 days after the termination of proceedings by DFEH, whichever is earlier (42 USC 2000e-5)

(12/15 12/16) 3/19

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

The district shall not unlawfully discriminate against or tolerate the harassment of employees or job applicants on the basis of their gender, race, color, religious creed, national origin, ancestry, age over 40, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, Vietnam era veteran status, or actual or perceived sexual orientation.

Equal employment opportunity shall be provided to all employees and applicants. Physically or mentally disabled employees or applicants may request reasonable accommodation.

(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)

All employees are expected to carry out their responsibilities in a manner that is free from discriminatory statements or conduct. Employees who permit or engage in discrimination or harassment may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.'

(cf. 4119.11 - Sexual Harassment)

The Superintendent or designee shall annually publicize this policy and the availability of grievance procedures throughout the district and the community.

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)
(cf. 4119.41 - Employees with Infectious Disease)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (continued)

Legal Reference:

GOVERNMENT CODE
11135 Unlawful discrimination
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
7287.6 Terms, conditions and privileges of employment
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1681-1688 Discrimination based on sex or blindness, Title IX
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
2000d-2000d-7 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
2000e-2000e-17 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended
2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX, 1972 Education Act Amendments
12101-12213 Americans With Disabilities Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
35.101-35.190 American with Disabilities Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34
100.6 Compliance information
104.8 Notice
106.8 Designation of responsible employee and adoption of grievance procedures
106.9 Dissemination of policy

Management Resources:

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
Enforcement Guidance: Vicarious Employer Liability for Unlawful Harassment by Supervisors, June, 1999
Enforcement Guidance: Reasonable Accommodation and Undue Hardship under the Americans with Disabilities Act, March, 1999
OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS
Notice of Non-Discrimination, January, 1999
WEB SITES
EEOC: http://www.eeoc.gov
OCR: http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR
DFEH: http://www.dfeh.ca.gov

NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

Discriminatory Harassment

Unlawful harassment based on a person's race, gender, or other attribute listed in the district's nondiscrimination policy includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Slurs, epithets, threats, or verbal abuse

2. Derogatory or degrading comments, descriptions, drawings, pictures, or gestures

3. Unwelcome jokes, stories, or teasing

4. Any other verbal, visual, or physical conduct which adversely affects the individual's employment opportunities or has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with his/her work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment

Harassment may arise not only as a result of the offender's intention, but also as a result of the offended person's perception of the offensive conduct and the way in which it affects him/her.

Any employee or applicant for employment who feels that he/she is being unlawfully harassed should immediately contact his/her supervisor or the Superintendent or designee in order to obtain procedures for reporting a complaint. Such complaints can be filed in accordance with AR 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment.

Any supervisor who receives a harassment complaint shall notify the Superintendent or designee, who shall ensure that the complaint is appropriately investigated. Discrimination complaint procedures prohibit retaliatory behavior against any complainant or any participant in the complaint process.

(cf. 4031 - Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)