

# CSBA Sample

## Administrative Regulation

### Nondiscrimination In Employment

USE CSBA SAMPLE AS IS

AR 4030  
Personnel

\*\*\*Note: Pursuant to Government Code 11138, districts are mandated to adopt rules and regulations to ensure that district programs and activities are free from unlawful discriminatory practices. \*\*\*

\*\*\*Note: Many nondiscrimination laws and regulations require identification of an employee who will be responsible for compliance with the nondiscrimination laws, as provided in the following paragraph. 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 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:

Associate Superintendent

(position title)

375 Reina del Mar Avenue

(address)

(650) 738-6627

(telephone number)

ravila@pacificasd.org

(email)

#### Measures to Prevent Discrimination

\*\*\*Note: Government Code 12940 requires districts to take all reasonable steps to prevent unlawful discrimination and harassment. The following section reflects "best practices" for preventing unlawful harassment or discrimination, as identified in the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) informational publications. Examples of such publications are the DFEH's California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment and the EEOC's New Compliance Manual Section 15: Race and Color Discrimination. Districts should investigate these and other relevant publications and determine which practices to adopt. \*\*\*

**Comment [DF1]:** Language is added to AR due to the 34 CFR 104.7, 106.8, and 110.25 that requires the district to designate an employee who will be responsible for compliance with non-discrimination laws.

To prevent unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation against district employees, volunteers, interns, and job applicants, the Superintendent or designee shall implement the following measures:

1. Publicize the district's nondiscrimination policy and regulation, including the complaint procedures and the coordinator's contact information, to employees, volunteers, interns, job applicants, and the general public 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)

2. Provide to employees a handbook that contains information that clearly describes the district's nondiscrimination policy, procedures for filing a complaint, and resources available to anyone who feels that he/she has been the victim of any discriminatory or harassing behavior

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

3. 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

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

4. 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

Complaint Procedure

\*\*\*Note: 34 CFR 106.8 and 110.25 mandate any district that receives federal financial assistance to adopt and publish grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of employee complaints alleging discrimination on the basis of sex or age. \*\*\*

\*\*\*Note: Courts have held that an employer may mitigate liability for hostile environment

**Comment [DF2]:** Govt code 12940 requires districts to take all reasonable steps to prevent unlawful discrimination and harassment

**Comment [DF3]:** "Complaint Procedure" language included per mandate of 34 CFR 106.8 and 110.25 and transferred from AR 4031

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, 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 the EEOC or the DFEH.

\*\*\*Note: While the EEOC's guidance recommends a "prompt" investigation, neither the law nor the EEOC delineates a specific time frame for resolution. The 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 the EEOC's guidance and should be modified to reflect district practice. \*\*\*

Any complaint by an employee or job applicant alleging discrimination or harassment shall be addressed in accordance with the following procedures:

1. Notice and Receipt of Complaint: A complainant who is an employee shall inform his/her supervisor. However, if the supervisor is the person against whom the employee is complaining, the employee shall inform the coordinator or the Superintendent. A job applicant shall inform the coordinator or the Superintendent or designee.

The complainant may file a written complaint in accordance with this procedure, or if he/she is an employee, may first attempt to resolve the situation informally with his/her 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.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)  
(cf. 4032 - Reasonable Accommodation)  
(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)

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 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 allegations 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, he/she shall begin the investigation 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.

When necessary to carry out his/her 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 also shall 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 do not occur. The coordinator shall ensure that such interim measures do not constitute retaliation.

3. **Written Report on Findings and Corrective Action:** No more than 20 business days after receiving the complaint, the coordinator shall conclude the investigation and prepare a written report of his/her findings. This timeline may be extended for good cause. If an extension is needed, the coordinator shall notify the complainant 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 also shall include any corrective action(s) that have been or will be taken to address the behavior, correct the effect on the complainant, and ensure that retaliation or further discrimination or harassment does not occur.

The report shall be presented to the complainant, the person accused, and the Superintendent or designee.

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. The EEOC's guidance states that it is important for employers' nondiscrimination policies to contain information about time frames for filing charges of unlawful discrimination or harassment with the 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 employer's complaint investigation. Pursuant to DFEH procedures, DFEH will automatically forward any complaint it has accepted for investigation to the EEOC when the matter falls within the EEOC's jurisdiction. \*\*\*

In addition to filing a discrimination or harassment complaint with the district, a person may file a complaint with either the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (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 the 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)

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