

**NONDISCRIMINATION IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

The County Board of Education (CBE) is committed to providing equal opportunity for all individuals in education. Santa Cruz County Office of Education (SCCOE) programs, activities, and practices shall be free from unlawful discrimination, including discrimination against an individual or group based on race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital, pregnancy, or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. SCCOE programs and activities shall also be free of any racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team names, mascots, or nicknames.

Annually, the Superintendent or designee shall review SCCOE programs and activities to ensure the removal of any derogatory or discriminatory name, image, practice, or other barrier that may unlawfully prevent an individual or group in any of the protected categories stated above from accessing SCCOE programs and activities. He/she shall take prompt, reasonable actions to remove any identified barrier. The Superintendent or designee shall report his/her findings and recommendations to the CBE after each review.

All allegations of unlawful discrimination in SCCOE programs and activities shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures specified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

Pursuant to 34 CFR 104.8 and 34 CFR 106.9, the Superintendent or designee shall notify students, parents/guardians, employees, employee organizations, applicants for admission and employment, and sources of referral for applicants about the SCCOE's policy on nondiscrimination and related complaint procedures. Such notification shall be included in each announcement, bulletin, catalog, handbook, application form, or other materials distributed to these groups and, as applicable, to the public. As appropriate, such notification shall be posted in SCCOE schools and offices, including staff lounges, student government meeting rooms, and other prominent locations and shall be posted on the SCCOE's web site and, when available, SCCOE-supported social media.

The SCCOE's nondiscrimination policy and related informational materials shall be published in a format that parents/guardians can understand. In addition, when 15 percent or more of a school's students speak a single primary language other than English, those materials shall be translated into that other language.

Access for Individuals with Disabilities

SCCOE programs and facilities, viewed in their entirety, shall be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and any implementing standards and/or regulations. When structural changes to existing district facilities are needed to provide individuals with disabilities access to programs, services, activities, or facilities, the Superintendent or designee shall develop a transition plan that sets forth the steps for completing the changes.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the SCCOE provides appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal opportunity to participate in or enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity. These aids and services may include, but are not limited to, qualified interpreters or readers, assistive listening devices, assistive technologies or other modifications to increase accessibility to SCCOE and school web sites, note takers, written materials, taped text, and Braille or large print materials. Individuals with disabilities shall notify the Superintendent or director if they have a disability that requires special assistance or services. Reasonable notification should be given prior to a school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

The individual identified in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures as the employee responsible for coordinating the SCCOE's response to complaints and for complying with state and federal civil rights laws is hereby designated as the district's ADA coordinator. He/she shall receive and address requests for accommodation submitted by individuals with disabilities, and shall investigate and resolve complaints regarding their access to SCCOE programs, services, activities, or facilities.

Senior Director, Human Resources
400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz CA 95003
831-466-5751

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
48985 Notices to parents in language other than English
51007 Legislative intent: state policy

GOVERNMENT CODE

11000 Definitions
11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state
11138 Rules and regulations
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act
54953.2 Brown Act compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act

PENAL CODE

422.55 Definition of hate crime
422.6 Interference with constitutional right or privilege

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act

1681-1688 Discrimination based on sex or blindness, Title IX

2301-2415 Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act

6311 State plans

6312 Local education agency plans

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-2000h-6 Title IX

12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.101-35.190 Americans with Disabilities Act

36.303 Auxiliary aids and services

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

100.1-100.13 Nondiscrimination in federal programs, effectuating Title VI

104.1-104.39 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

106.1-106.61 Discrimination on the basis of sex, effectuating Title IX, especially:

106.9 Dissemination of policy

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Updated Legal Guidance: Protecting Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students Against Sex Discrimination, July 2016

Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014

Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING
PUBLICATIONS**

California Law Prohibits Workplace Discrimination and Harassment

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Examples of Policies and Emerging Practices for Supporting Transgender Students, May 2016

Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015

Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010

Dear Colleague Letter: Electronic Book Readers, June 29, 2010

Notice of Non-Discrimination, January 1999

Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crime, January 1999

Nondiscrimination in Employment Practices in Education, August 1991

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS

2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, September 2010

Accessibility of State and Local Government Websites to People with Disabilities, June 2003

WORLD WIDE WEB CONSORTIUM PUBLICATIONS

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, December 2008

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Department of Fair Employment and Housing: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>

Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.casafeschools.org>

Pacific ADA Center: <http://www.adapacific.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Americans with Disabilities Act:

<http://www.ada.gov>

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: <http://www.eeoc.gov>

World Wide Web Consortium, Web Accessibility Initiative: <http://www.w3.org/wai>

Originally Adopted: May 17, 2018