Liberty Union High School District

Administrative Regulation

Classification:	Personnel	Policy No.	AR4030
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Subject:	Nondiscrimination in Employment	Effective	1/20/16
		Revised	11/09/22

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)

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, Human Resources
20 Oak Street
Brentwood, CA 94513
925-634-2166, ext. 2047

Measures to Prevent Discrimination

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. 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)

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 application and new employment forms 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 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)

5. 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.

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 (2 CCR 11023)

Complaint Procedure

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 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 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

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:

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

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)