

Sexual Harassment

Definitions

Prohibited sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, unwanted requests for sexual favors, or other unwanted verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made against another person of the same or opposite sex in the work or educational setting when: (Education Code 212.5; Government Code 12940; 5 CCR 4916)

1. Submission to the conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the individual's employment.
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by the individual is used as the basis for an employment decision affecting him/her.
3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work or has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment. Regardless of whether or not the alleged harasser was motivated by sexual desire, the conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, pervasive, or objectively offensive as to create a hostile or abusive working environment or to limit the individual's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity.
4. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the other individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting him/her regarding benefits, services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the district.

Other examples of actions that might constitute sexual harassment, whether committed by a supervisor, a co-worker, or a non-employee, in the work or educational setting include, but are not limited to:

1. Unwelcome verbal conduct such as sexual flirtations or propositions; graphic comments about an individual's body; overly personal conversations or pressure for sexual activity; sexual jokes or stories; unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, innuendoes, derogatory comments, sexually degrading descriptions, or the spreading of sexual rumors
2. Unwelcome visual conduct such as drawings, pictures, graffiti, or gestures; sexually explicit emails; displaying sexually suggestive objects
3. Unwelcome physical conduct such as massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking, or brushing the body; touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way; cornering, blocking, leaning over, or impeding normal movements

Training

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all employees receive training regarding the district's sexual harassment policies when hired and periodically thereafter. Such training shall include the procedures for reporting and/or filing complaints involving an employee, employees' duty to use the district's complaint procedures, and employee obligations when a sexual harassment report involving a student is made to the employee.

Every two years, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that supervisory employees receive at least two hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment. All such newly hired or promoted employees shall receive training within six months of their assumption of the new position. (Government Code 12950.1)

A supervisory employee is any employee with the authority to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or to effectively recommend such action.

The district's sexual harassment training and education program for supervisory employees shall include the provision of: (Government Code 12950.1; 2 CCR 11023)

1. Information and practical guidance regarding federal and state laws on the prohibition against and the prevention and correction of sexual harassment, and the remedies available to the victims of sexual harassment in employment
2. Practical examples aimed at instructing supervisors in the prevention of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation
3. A component on the prevention of abusive conduct that addresses the use of derogatory remarks, insults, or epithets, other verbal or physical conduct that a reasonable person would find threatening, intimidating, or humiliating, and the gratuitous sabotage or undermining of a person's work performance
4. A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy and administrative regulation, which each participant shall acknowledge in writing that he/she has received
5. All other contents of mandated training specified in 2 CCR 11023

The Superintendent or designee shall retain for at least two years the records of any training provided to supervisory employees. Such records shall include the names of trained employees, date of the training, the type of training, and the name of the training provider. (2 CCR 11023)

Notifications

A copy of the Board policy and this administrative regulation shall: (Education Code 231.5)

1. Be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building, district office, or other area of the school where notices of district rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted

2. Be provided to every district employee at the beginning of the first quarter or semester of the school year or whenever a new employee is hired

3. Appear in any school or district publication that sets forth the school's or district's comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct

All employees shall receive either a copy of information sheets prepared by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) or a copy of district information sheets that contain, at a minimum, components on: (Government Code 12950)

1. The illegality of sexual harassment

2. The definition of sexual harassment under applicable state and federal law

3. A description of sexual harassment, with examples

4. The district's complaint process available to the employee

5. The legal remedies and complaint process available through DFEH and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

6. Directions on how to contact DFEH and the EEOC

7. The protection against retaliation provided by 2 CCR 11021 for opposing harassment prohibited by law or for filing a complaint with or otherwise participating in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing conducted by DFEH and the EEOC

In addition, the district shall post, in a prominent and accessible location, DFEH's poster on discrimination in employment and the illegality of sexual harassment. (Government Code 12950)

Regulation TEHACHAPI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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