

P&P 3420 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Reason for Changes

- Legal Update 38 – The Service updated this policy to add optional language to highlight diversity, equity, and inclusion issues.
- Legal Update 39 – The Service updated this procedure to reflect Government Code provisions regarding mandatory and permissible recruiting practices and to reflect all protected classifications identified in the Fair Employment and Housing Act. (Government Code Sections 7400 et seq. and 12940 et seq.) The Service also added legal citations to the same provisions.
- Correction of website for SBCCD plan.

(For more info on SBCCD’s process for Board Policies and Administrative Procedures, visit <https://sbccd.edu/ap2410>.)

Review Level: 2 Legal Edit (Non 10+1)	Review Level Approved by PPAC: 12/12/2022	Constituent Review: Due 1/31/2023	PPAC Info Item: 2/13/2023
BOT 1st Reading: 3/9/2023	BOT 2nd Reading & Approval: 4/13/2023		

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With Changes Redlined

The Board of Trustees supports the intent set forth by the California Legislature to assure that effort is made to build a community in which opportunity is equalized, and community colleges foster a climate of acceptance, with the inclusion of faculty and staff from a wide variety of backgrounds. It agrees that diversity in the academic environment fosters cultural awareness, mutual understanding and respect, harmony and respect, and suitable role models for all students. **An equitable and inclusive hiring process is essential to improve diversity, reduce barriers to employment, and allow potential applicants the opportunity to demonstrate that they meet or exceed the minimum qualifications for employment.** The Board therefore commits itself to promote the total realization of equal employment through a continuing equal employment opportunity program.

The Chancellor shall develop, for review and adoption by the Board, a plan for equal employment opportunity that complies with the Education Code and Title 5 requirements as from time to time modified or clarified by judicial interpretation. **The Chancellor shall develop hiring procedures driven by diversity, equity, and inclusion and consistent with the Board’s intent described above.**

Also see BP/AP 3410 titled Nondiscrimination and BP/AP 7100 titled Commitment to Diversity

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The District shall make a continuous good faith effort to comply with the requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity Plan. <https://www.google.com/url?client=internal-element-cse&cx=009561585056126512430:dz7ibolkrhk&q=https://sbccd.edu/district-services/human-resources/documents/2021-2024-equal-employment-opportunity-plan-ba-2021-05-13.pdf&sa=U&ved=2ahUKEwiK-JCIm-P7AhX1BUQIHQYBAwwQFnoECAUQAQ&usq=AOvVaw29szP-PtInXeFinLbPN1jc>

Employment Procedures

An equitable and inclusive employment process is essential to improve diversity, reduce barriers to employment, and allow potential applicants the opportunity to demonstrate that they meet or exceed the minimum qualifications for employment. The District’s employment procedures are driven by diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Job Analysis and Validation: The Vice Chancellor Human Resources and Police Services shall assure that a proper job analysis is performed for every job filled by the District to determine and validate the knowledge, skills, abilities, and characteristics an employee must possess to perform the job satisfactorily.

A statement of bona fide essential functions and minimum qualifications shall be developed for all positions.

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Job Description: Every job description shall provide a general statement of job duties and responsibilities.

Job specifications shall include functions and tasks; knowledge; skills; ability; and job related personal characteristics, including but not limited to sensitivity to and understanding of the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, linguistic, disability, and ethnic backgrounds of community college students.

Recruitment: Recruitment must be conducted actively within and outside of the District work force.

Open recruitment is mandated for all new full-time and part-time positions, except under limited circumstances involving interim hires.

Recruitment must utilize outreach strategies designed to ensure that all qualified individuals are provided the opportunity to seek employment with the District.

Recruitment for administrative and faculty positions (full and part-time) may include advertisement in appropriate professional journals, job registries and newspapers of general circulation; distribution of job announcements to the EEO Registry, K-12 districts, two and four year colleges, and graduate schools where appropriate candidates might be enrolled; recruitment at conferences, fairs, and professional meetings; notices to institutions and professional organizations.

Recruitment for classified positions shall include notice to all District personnel; notice to Employment Development Department; and advertising in area newspapers of general circulation.

Applicant Pools: The application for employment shall afford each applicant an opportunity to identify himself/herself voluntarily as to gender, ethnicity and, if applicable, his/her disability. This information shall be maintained in confidence and shall be used only for research, validation, monitoring, evaluation of the effectiveness of the Plan, or as authorized by law.

After the application deadline has passed, the initial applicant pool shall be recorded and reviewed by the Vice Chancellor Human Resources and Police Services or designee. All initial applications shall be screened to determine which candidates satisfy job specifications set forth in the job announcement. The group of candidates who meet the job specifications shall constitute the "qualified applicant pool."

Once the qualified applicant pool is formed, the pool must again be analyzed. If the Vice Chancellor Human Resources and Police Services or designee finds that the composition of the qualified applicant pool may have been influenced by factors which are not job related, the District *shall* immediately, and before the selection process continues, consult with legal counsel to determine what, if any, corrective action is required by law.

Screening and Selection: Screening, selecting and interviewing candidates for all positions shall include thorough and fair procedures that are sensitive to issues of diversity. Procedures to be used must address or include that:

- Hiring procedures will be provided to the State Chancellor's Office on request.
- All tests conform to generally applicable legal standards for uniformity.
- A reasonable number of candidates are identified for interview.
- Screening and selection committees are developed that are representative of the District community and campus; include administrators, faculty, and classified staff members; include a diverse membership when possible; do not include applicants or persons who have written letters of recommendation.
- Every screening and selection committee includes an individual trained to monitor conformance with EEO requirements. The Vice Chancellor Human Resources and Police Services assures that the screening and selection process conforms to accepted principles and practices, including preparation of job related questions in advance; maintains records of screening checklists and rating scales, which shall be signed and kept on file; maintains notes for all interviews and record relevant factual reasons stating why a candidate was not hired or was not invited to interview; and monitors the hiring process for adverse impact.
- Selection shall be based solely on the stated job criteria.
- For faculty and administrative positions, candidates shall be required to demonstrate sensitivity to diversity in ways relevant to the specific position.

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If the District determines that a particular monitored group is significantly underrepresented with respect to one or more job categories, the District shall take the following additional steps:

- review its recruitment procedures;
- consult with counsel to determine whether there are other, additional measures that may be undertaken that are required or permitted by law;
- consider various other means of reducing the underrepresentation which do not involve taking monitored group status into account and implement any such techniques that are feasible;

If significant underrepresentation persists:

- review each locally-established job qualification to determine if it is job related and consistent with business necessity;
- discontinue the use of any non job-related local qualification; and
- continue using job-related local qualifications only if no alternative standard is reasonably available; and
- consider the implementation of additional measures designed to promote diversity.

Delegation of Authority

- The designation of a single person as the “EEO Officer” charged with overseeing the day-to-day implementation of the EEO Plan and programs.
- Processes and responsibilities when the EEO Officer is named in a complaint or implicated by the allegations in a complaint.

Complaint Procedure

The District must identify to the public and to the State Chancellor’s Office an individual described in Title 5 as the “responsible District officer,” responsible for receiving complaints. Informal charges of unlawful discrimination should be brought to the attention of the responsible District officer. The responsible District officer shall oversee the informal resolution process. The actual investigation of complaints may be assigned to other staff or to outside persons or organizations under contract. An outside investigator must be used when the responsible District officer is named in the complaint or implicated by the allegations in the complaint.

When a person brings charges of unlawful discrimination the officer must:

- Undertake efforts to resolve the charge informally;
- Advise the complainant that he/she need not participate in an informal resolution of the complaint;
- Notify the complainant of the procedures for filing a formal complaint;
- Notify the complainant that he/she may file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education.
- If the complainant, a student or an employee, files a formal complaint, the responsible District officer must also forward a copy of the complaint to the State Chancellor’s Office.

A formal complaint not involving employment, must be processed if it is filed within one year of the date of the alleged unlawful discrimination or within one year of the date on which the complainant knew or should have known of the facts underlying the allegation.

A formal complaint alleging discrimination in employment must be filed within 180 days of the date of the alleged unlawful discrimination, unless the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged violation after the expiration of the initial 180 days.

The complaint must be filed by someone who alleges that he/she has personally suffered unlawful discrimination, or by someone who has learned

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about unlawful discrimination in his/her official capacity.

When a proper complaint is received, the District will begin an impartial fact-finding investigation, and notify the complainant and the State Chancellor's Office that it is doing so.

When the investigation is done, the results must be set forth in a written report. The written report must include a description of the circumstances giving rise to the complaint, a summary of the testimony of each witness, an analysis of any relevant data or other evidence collected during the investigation, a specific finding as to whether discrimination did or did not occur with respect to each allegation in the complaint, and any other appropriate information.

In any case that does not involve employment discrimination, the District must provide the State Chancellor's Office with a copy of the investigative report within ninety days from the date the District received the complaint. The District must also provide the complainant with a copy or summary of the investigative report within ninety days from the date the District received the complaint. The State Chancellor's Office and the complainant must also be provided with a written notice setting forth the determination of the Vice Chancellor Human Resources and Police Services as to whether discrimination did or did not occur with respect to each allegation in the complaint; a description of action taken, if any, to prevent similar problems from occurring in the future; the proposed resolution of the complaint; and notice of the complainant's right to appeal to the District's Governing Board and the State Chancellor's Office.

In any case that involves employment discrimination, the District must provide the complainant with a copy or summary of the report, and with written notice setting forth the determination of the Vice Chancellor Human Resources and Police Services as to whether discrimination did or did not occur with respect to each allegation in the complaint; a description of action taken, if any, to prevent similar problems from occurring in the future; the proposed resolution of the complaint; and the complainant's right to appeal to the District's Governing Board and to file a complaint with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

If the complainant is not satisfied with the results of the administrative determination, the complainant must be given the opportunity to submit a written appeal to the governing board within fifteen days from the date of the notice of the administrative determination. The Board must review the original complaint, the investigative report, the administrative determination, and the appeal and must issue a final District decision within forty-five days of receiving the appeal.

In any case not involving employment discrimination, a copy of the final District decision must be promptly forwarded to the complainant and the State Chancellor's Office. The complainant must be notified of his/her right to appeal. In any case involving employment discrimination, a copy of the final District decision must be promptly forwarded to the complainant. The complainant must be notified of his/her right to file a complaint with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

Where the Board does not act within forty-five days the administrative determination must be deemed approved and must become the final District decision. The District shall promptly notify the complainant and in cases not involving employment discrimination, the State Chancellor's Office, that the Board took no action and the administrative determination becomes the final District decision. In cases not involving employment discrimination, the complainant must be informed of his/her right to appeal the District's decision to the State Chancellor's Office. In cases involving employment discrimination, the complainant shall be notified of his/her right to file a complaint with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

In cases not involving employment discrimination, the complainant must be given the right to file a written appeal with the State Chancellor's Office within 30 days after the Board issues the final District decision, permits the administrative decision to become final or from the date that notice of the District's final decision was provided to the complainant pursuant to Section 59338(b) or (d), whichever is later.

The District should retain and make available the original complaint, and copies of the final decision or a statement indicating the date on which the administrative determination became final, the notice given to complainant, the complainant's appeal of the District's administrative determination, the investigative report and any other information the State Chancellor's Office may require.

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All job announcements shall contain a statement in substantially the following form: The District is an equal opportunity employer. The policy of the District is to encourage applications from persons who are economically disadvantaged and individuals belonging to significantly underrepresented groups within the District's workforce, including ethnic and racial minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. No person shall be denied employment because of ethnicity or race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, veteran or military status, or political or organizational affiliation.

Dissemination and Revision of the Plan

All managers and supervisors shall be given copies of the plan as revised from time to time and any guidelines for implementing the plan. Copies of the plan shall be provided to the Academic Senate and the exclusive representatives of any units of employees.

Statements of nondiscrimination shall be posted at locations where applications for employment are distributed.

Such plans shall be reviewed at least every three years and, if necessary, revised, and submitted to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office within 90 days of the effective date of the revision or amendment(s). If the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office determines that the District's policies are do not comply with Title 5 Sections 59300 et seq., the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office may require the District to modify its policies.

Accountability and Corrective Action

- The District shall certify annually to the State Chancellor that they have timely:
 - Recorded, reviewed and reported the data required regarding qualified applicant pools;
 - Reviewed and updated, as needed, the Strategies Component of the District's EEO Plan; and
 - Investigated and appropriately responded to formal harassment or discrimination complaints filed pursuant to subchapter 5 (commencing with Section 59300) of chapter 10 of this division.

References:

20 U.S.C. Section 1681 et seq.; Education Code Sections 87100 et seq.; Title 5 Sections 53000 et seq. and Sections 59300 et seq.; ACCJC Accreditation Standard III.A.12

END OF RECOMMENDATION