

Uniform Complaint Procedures

The Governing Board recognizes the district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages early resolution of complaints whenever possible and appropriate. To resolve complaints which may require a more formal process, the Board adopts the uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation.

Complaints Subject to the UCP

The district's Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP) shall be used to investigate and resolve the following complaints:

1. Any complaint alleging district violation of applicable state or federal law or regulations governing adult education programs, consolidated categorical aid programs, after school education and safety programs, migrant education, agricultural vocational education, American Indian education centers and early childhood education program assessments, bilingual education, peer assistance and review programs for teachers, career technical and technical education and training programs, child care and development programs, child nutrition programs, compensatory education, Economic Impact Aid, English learner programs, federal education programs in Title I-VII, Regional Occupational Centers and Programs, school safety plans, special education programs, State Preschool Programs, and any other district-implemented program which is listed in Education Code 64000(a).

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)
(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)
(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)
(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)
(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)
(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)
(cf. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)
(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)
(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

2. Any complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, sexual harassment, intimidation, and bullying against any student, employee, or other person participating in district programs and activities, including, but not limited to, those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance based on their actual or perceived characteristics of race, or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital, pregnancy, or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Penal Code 422.55, or Government Code 11135 or based on their association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics (5 CCR 4610)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 4031 – Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment)
(cf. 5131.2 – Bullying)
(cf. 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment)

3. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodation to a lactating student on school campus to express breast milk, breastfeed an infant child, or address other breastfeeding-related needs of the student (Education Code 222)

(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)

4. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the prohibition against requiring students to pay fees, deposits, or other charges for participation in educational activities (5 CCR 4610)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)
(cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)

5. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with legal requirements related to the implementation of the local control and accountability plan (Education Code 52075)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

6. Any complaint, by or on behalf of any student who is a foster youth, alleging district noncompliance with any legal requirement applicable to the student regarding placement decisions, the responsibilities of the district's educational liaison to the student, the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school or district, school transfer, or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 48853, 48853.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

7. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a homeless student as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student, or a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701 who transfers into the district after their second year of high school, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school or district or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 51225.1, 51225.2)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

8. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a former juvenile court school student who transfers into the district after their second year of high school, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in the juvenile court school or the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 51228.1 and 51228.2)

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

9. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 51228.1 and 51228.2 that prohibit the assignment of a student to a course without educational content for more than

one week in any semester or to a course the student has previously satisfactorily completed, without meeting specified conditions (Education Code 51228.3)

(cf. 6152 - Class Assignment)

10. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the physical education instructional minutes requirement for students in elementary school (Education Code 51210, 51223)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

11. Any complaint alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complaint process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy

The Board acknowledges and respects every individual's right to privacy. The district shall ensure that complainants are protected from retaliation. In filing and investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. As appropriate for any complaint alleging retaliation, unlawful discrimination, discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the Superintendent or designee may keep the identity of the complainant, and/or the subject of the complaint if their different from the complainant, confidential when appropriate and as long as the integrity of the complaint process is maintained.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)

The district will ensure annual dissemination of a written notice of the complaint procedures to students, employees, parents or guardians of the students, school and district advisory committees, appropriate private school officials or representatives, and other interested parties that includes information related to unlawful pupil fees and LCAP requirements. The UCP Annual Notice will be provided in writing to all six required groups each year and will include information on how to appeal to the California Department of Education (CDE).

A copy of this UCP complaint policies and procedures document shall be available free of charge.

The Board recognizes that a neutral mediator can often suggest a compromise that is acceptable to all parties in a dispute. In accordance with uniform complaint procedures, whenever all parties to a complaint agree to try resolving their problem through mediation, the Superintendent or designee shall initiate that process. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the results are consistent with state and federal laws and regulations

When an allegation that is not subject to the UCP is included in a UCP complaint, the district shall refer the non-UCP allegation to the appropriate staff or agency and shall investigate and, if appropriate, resolve the UCP related allegation(s) through the district's UCP.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to district staff to ensure awareness and knowledge of current law and related requirements, including the steps and timelines specified in this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records of all UCP complaints and the investigations of those complaints in accordance with applicable law and district policy.

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

Non-UCP Complaints

The following complaints shall not be subject to the district's UCP but shall be referred to the specified agency: (5 CCR 4611)

1. Any complaint alleging child abuse or neglect shall be referred to the County Department of Social Services, the County Protective Services Division, and the appropriate law enforcement agency.
2. Any complaint alleging health and safety violations by a child development program shall, for licensed facilities, be referred to Department of Social Services and shall, for licensing-exempt facilities, be referred to the appropriate Child Development regional administrator.
3. Any complaint alleging employment discrimination or harassment shall be investigated and resolved by the district in accordance with the procedures specified in AR 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment.
4. Any complaint alleging fraud shall be referred to the Legal, Audits and Compliance Branch of the California Department of Education.

In addition, the district's Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures, AR 1312.4, shall be used to investigate and resolve any complaint related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials, emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, or teacher vacancies and misassignments. (Education Code 35186)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Fresno Unified School District does not harass, intimidate, or discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, ancestry, age, creed, religion, political affiliation, gender, gender identity or expression or genetic information, mental or physical disability, sex, sexual orientation, parental or marital status, military veteran status, or any other basis protected by law or regulation, in its educational program(s) or employment.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination

222 Reasonable accommodations; lactating students

8200-8498 Child care and development programs

8500-8538 Adult basic education

18100-18203 School libraries

32280-32289 School safety plan, uniform complaint procedure

33380-33384 California Indian Education Centers

35186 Williams uniform complaint procedure

44500-44508 California Peer Assistance and Review Program for Teachers

48853-48853.5 Foster youth

48985 Notices in language other than English

49010-49013 Student Fees
49060-49079 Student records
49069.5 Rights of parents
49490-49590 Child nutrition programs
49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
51210 Courses of study grades 1-6
51223 Physical education, elementary schools
51225.1-51225.2 Foster youth and homeless children; former juvenile court school students, and military-connected students; course credits; graduation requirements
51226-51226.1 Career technical education
51228.1-51228.3 Course periods without educational content
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan, especially
52075 Complaint for lack of compliance with local control and accountability plan requirements
52160-52178 Bilingual education programs
52300-52490 Career-technical education
52500-52616.24 Adult schools
54000-54029 Economic Impact Aid
54400-54425 Compensatory education programs
54440-54445 Migrant education
54460-54529 Compensatory education programs
56000-56865 Special education programs
59000-59300 Special schools and centers
64000-64001 Consolidated application process
GOVERNMENT CODE
11135 Non-discrimination in programs or activities funded by state
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act
PENAL CODE
422.55 Hate crime; definition
422.6 Interference with constitutional right or privilege
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
11023 Harassment and discrimination prevention and correction
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
3080 Application of section
4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures
4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1221 Application of laws
1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
1681-1688 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
6301-6577 Title I basic programs
6801-7014 Title III language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students
7101-7184 Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act
7201-7283g Title V promoting informed parental choice and innovative programs
7301-7372 Title V rural and low-income school programs
12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
794 Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
2000d-2000e-17 Title VI and Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
2000h-2-2000h-6 Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
6101-6107 Age Discrimination Act of 1975
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
35.107 Nondiscrimination on basis of disability; complaints
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy
100.3 Prohibition of discrimination on basis of race, color or national origin
104.7 Designation of responsible employee for Section 504
106.8 Designation of responsible employee for Title IX
106.9 Notification of nondiscrimination on basis of sex
110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age

Management Resources:

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

Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015

Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence, April 2014

Dear Colleague Letter: Bullying of Students with Disabilities, August 2013

Dear Colleague Letter: Sexual Violence, April 2011

Dear Colleague Letter: Harassment and Bullying, October 2010

Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties, January 2001

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS

Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, 2002

WEB SITES

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

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

Policy FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: September 10, 1992 Fresno, California

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admin reviewed: June 23, 2015

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