

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

The Board of Education recognizes that the district has the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Board encourages the early, informal resolution of complaints whenever possible and appropriate. To resolve complaints which cannot be resolved through such informal process, the Board shall adopt the uniform system of complaint processes specified in 5 CCR 4600-4670 and the accompanying administrative regulation.

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, after school education and safety programs, agricultural career technical education, American Indian education centers, early childhood education program assessments, bilingual education, California Peer Assistance and Review Programs for teachers, career technical and technical education, career technical, technical training: career technical education; child care and development programs, child nutrition programs, compensatory education, consolidated categorical aid, course periods without educational content, Economic Impact Aid, Education of Foster Care Pupils, Education of Homeless Pupils,; Education of Former Juvenile Court Pupils now enrolled in a school district; Children of Military Families; Every Student Succeeds Act/No Child Left Behind, Lactating Pupil (Reasonable Accommodation); Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP); migrant education, physical education instructional minutes; pupil fees; regional occupational centers and programs, school safety plans; special education programs; State preschool; and Tobacco-Use Prevention Education, and any other district implemented program listed in Education Code 64000(a) (5 CCR 4610)

(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. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)
(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 complaint alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) against any person, based on his/her actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic

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information, immigration status, or any other characteristic identified in Education Code 200 or 220, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55, or based on his/her association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in district programs and activities, including, but not limited to, those funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance (5 CCR 4610)

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

(cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)

(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 violation of 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 that the district has not complied 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, 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)

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(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 his/her 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 51225.1, 51225.2)

(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
12. Any other complaint as specified in a district policy

District personnel are required to take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so when witnessing an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The district must investigate all allegations of discrimination and implement effective corrective actions whenever necessary and appropriate and maintain documentation of complaints and their resolution for a minimum of one review cycle.

The district shall protect all complainants from retaliation. In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. As appropriate for any complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the Superintendent or designee shall keep confidential the identity of the complainant and/or the subject of the complaint, if he/she is different from the complainant, as long as the integrity of the complaint process is maintained.

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

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

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

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.

For example, a UCP regarding discrimination based on disability that includes a request for grade change, the grade change request portion shall be forwarded to the Office of Secondary Schools (OSS) or equivalent department/division and the alleged discrimination based on disability complaint shall be investigated under the UCP. Any findings of discrimination based on disability will be forwarded to OSS or equivalent department/division for consideration in the grade change review. If the UCP investigation determines that discrimination occurred, the UCP/OSS response will be tailored to stop the discrimination, remedy the effects on any such student who was discriminated against, including with respect to that student's grade (if the grade was impacted), and the district will take steps reasonably calculated to prevent such discrimination from recurring.

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

(cf. 3580 - District Records)

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 shall be sent to the Human Resources Department for review and investigating who shall notify the complainant of the transfer.
4. Any complaint alleging fraud shall be referred to 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,

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emergency or urgent facilities conditions that pose a threat to the health or safety of students or staff, or teacher and misassignments. (Education Code 35186)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
 8200-8498 Child care and development programs
 8500-8538 Adult basic education
 18100-18203 School libraries
 32289 School safety plan, uniform complaint procedures
 35186 Williams uniform complaint procedures
 48985 Notices in language other than English
 49010-49013 Student fees
 49060-49079 Student records
 49490-49590 Child nutrition programs
 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
 52800-52870 School-based program coordination
 54400-54425 Compensatory education programs
 54440-54445 Migrant education
 54460-54529 Compensatory education programs
 56000-56867 Special education programs
 59000-59300 Special schools and centers
 64000-64001 Consolidated application process

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Nondiscrimination 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 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
 6801-6871 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

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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 Act
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

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>
Family Policy Compliance Office: <http://familypolicy.ed.gov>
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>
U.S. Department of Justice: <http://www.justice.gov>

Policy
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SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
San Diego, California