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**Note:** For complaints of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation on the basis of a protected characteristic, see FFDA and FFDB.

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**Generally**

No governmental entity, including a college district, shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. *U.S. Const. Amend. XIV*

An officer or employee of a political subdivision, including a college district, who is acting or purporting to act in an official capacity may not, because of the student's race, religion, color, sex, or national origin, refuse to permit the person to participate in a program owned, operated, or managed by or on behalf of the political subdivision; refuse to grant a benefit to the person; or impose an unreasonable burden on the person. *Civ. Prac. and Rem. Code 106.001(a)*

**Religious Freedom**

A governmental entity, including a college district, shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise of religion. *U.S. Const. Amends. I, XIV*

A government agency, including a college district, may not substantially burden a student's free exercise of religion, unless the government agency demonstrates that the application of the burden to the person is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that interest. *Civ. Prac. and Rem. Code 110.003*

**Discrimination on the Basis of Sex**

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. *20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 C.F.R. 106.31*

Educational programs and activities include:

1. Housing. *34 C.F.R. 106.32*
2. Comparable facilities. *34 C.F.R. 106.33*
3. Access to course offerings. *34 C.F.R. 106.34*
4. Counseling. *34 C.F.R. 106.36*
5. Financial assistance. *34 C.F.R. 106.37*
6. Employment assistance to students. *34 C.F.R. 106.38*
7. Health and insurance benefits and services. *34 C.F.R. 106.39*
8. Athletics. *34 C.F.R. 106.41*

**Pregnancy and Marital Status**

A recipient shall not apply any rule concerning a student's actual or potential parental, family, or marital status that treats students differently on the basis of sex. *34 C.F.R. 106.40(a)*

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Sexual Harassment	Sexual harassment of students is discrimination on the basis of sex under Title IX. <u>Franklin v. Gwinnett County Schools</u> , 503 U.S. 60 (1992) [See also FFDA]
<i>Definition of Sexual Harassment</i>	Sexual harassment of students is conduct that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it can be said to deprive the victim of access to the educational opportunities or benefits provided by the school. Sexual harassment does not include simple acts of teasing and name-calling, however, even when the comments target differences in gender. <u>Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ.</u> , 526 U.S. 629 (1999)
<i>Employee–Student Sexual Harassment</i>	An official of an educational entity who has authority to address alleged harassment by employees on the entity’s behalf shall take corrective measures to address the harassment or abuse. <u>Gebser v. Lago Vista Indep. Sch. Dist.</u> , 524 U.S. 274 (1998)
<i>Student–Student Sexual Harassment</i>	An educational entity must reasonably respond to known student-on-student harassment where the harasser is under the entity’s disciplinary authority. <u>Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ.</u> , 526 U.S. 629 (1999)
Clery Act—Campus Sexual Assault Programs	<p>An institution’s Clery Act annual security report [see GCC] must include a statement of policy regarding the institution’s programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and of procedures that the institution will follow when one of these crimes is reported. The statement must include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A description of the institution’s educational programs and campaigns to promote the awareness of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as described below at Programs To Prevent Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking;</li><li>2. Procedures victims should follow if a crime of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred, including written information about:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The importance of preserving evidence that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred or may be helpful in obtaining a protection order;</li><li>b. How and to whom the alleged offense should be reported;</li><li>c. Options about the involvement of law enforcement and campus authorities, including notification of the victim’s option to:</li></ol></li></ol>

- (1) Notify proper law enforcement authorities, including on-campus and local police;
  - (2) Be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities if the victim so chooses; and
  - (3) Decline to notify such authorities; and
- d. Where applicable, the rights of victims and the institution's responsibilities for orders of protection, "no-contact" orders, restraining orders, or similar lawful orders issued by a criminal, civil, or tribal court or by the institution;
3. Information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties, including how the institution will:
  - a. Complete publicly available recordkeeping, including Clery Act reporting and disclosures, without the inclusion of personally identifying information about the victim, as defined in the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, 42 U.S.C. 13925(a)(20); and
  - b. Maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the institution to provide the accommodations or protective measures;
4. A statement that the institution will provide written notification to students and employees about existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available for victims, both within the institution and in the community;
5. A statement that the institution will provide written notification to victims about options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations or protective measures. The institution must make such accommodations or provide such protective measures if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement;
6. An explanation of the procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged dating violence, domestic violence,

sexual assault, or stalking, as described below at Procedures for Institutional Disciplinary Action; and

7. A statement that, when a student or employee reports to the institution that the student or employee has been a victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, the institution will provide the student or employee a written explanation of the student's or employee's rights and options, as described in items 1 through 6 of this list.

*20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(8); 34 C.F.R. 668.46(b)(11)*

*Programs to Prevent Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking*

An institution must include in its annual security report a statement of policy that addresses the institution's programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The statement must include:

1. A description of the institution's primary prevention and awareness programs for all incoming students and new employees, which must include:
  - a. A statement that the institution prohibits the crimes of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as those terms are defined in 34 C.F.R. 668.46(a) [see Definitions];
  - b. The definition of "dating violence," "domestic violence," "sexual assault," and "stalking" in the applicable jurisdiction [see Penal Code 22.011, 22.021, 42.072; Family Code 71.0021, 71.004];
  - c. The definition of "consent," in reference to sexual activity, in the applicable jurisdiction;
  - d. A description of safe and positive options for bystander intervention;
  - e. Information on risk reduction; and
  - f. The information described in 34 C.F.R. 668.46(b)(11) and 34 C.F.R. 668.46(k)(2); and
2. A description of the institution's ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns for students and employees, including information described at item 1.

An institution's programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking must include, at a minimum, the information required to be included in the statement.

*34 C.F.R. 668.46(j)*

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“Awareness Programs”	“Awareness programs” means community-wide or audience-specific programming, initiatives, and strategies that increase audience knowledge and share information and resources to prevent violence, promote safety, and reduce perpetration. <i>34 C.F.R. 668.46(j)(2)(i)</i>
“Bystander Intervention”	“Bystander intervention” means safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Bystander intervention includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervening, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene. <i>34 C.F.R. 668.46(j)(2)(ii)</i>
“Ongoing Prevention and Awareness Campaigns”	“Ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns” means programming, initiatives, and strategies that are sustained over time and focus on increasing understanding of topics relevant to and skills for addressing dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, using a range of strategies with audiences throughout the institution and including information described in item 1, above. <i>34 C.F.R. 668.46(j)(2)(iii)</i>
“Primary Prevention Programs”	“Primary prevention programs” means programming, initiatives, and strategies informed by research or assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome that are intended to stop dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking before they occur through the promotion of positive and healthy behaviors that foster healthy, mutually respectful relationships and sexuality, encourage safe bystander intervention, and seek to change behavior and social norms in healthy and safe directions. <i>34 C.F.R. 668.46(j)(2)(iv)</i>
“Risk Reduction”	“Risk reduction” means options designed to decrease perpetration and bystander inaction, and to increase empowerment for victims in order to promote safety and to help individuals and communities address conditions that facilitate violence. <i>34 C.F.R. 668.46(j)(2)(v)</i>
<i>Procedures for Institutional Disciplinary Action</i>	An institution must include in its annual security report a clear statement of policy that addresses the procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as defined in 34 C.F.R. 668.46(a), and that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="561 1722 1422 1892">1. Describes each type of disciplinary proceeding used by the institution; the steps, anticipated timelines, and decision-making process for each type of disciplinary proceeding; how to file a disciplinary complaint; and how the institution determines which type of proceeding to use based on the circum-</li></ol>

stances of an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking;

2. Describes the standard of evidence that will be used during any institutional disciplinary proceeding arising from an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
3. Lists all of the possible sanctions that the institution may impose following the results of any institutional disciplinary proceeding for an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and
4. Describes the range of protective measures that the institution may offer to the victim following an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
5. Provides that the proceedings will:
  - a. Include a prompt, fair, and impartial process from the initial investigation to the final result;
  - b. Be conducted by officials who, at a minimum, receive annual training on the issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and on how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability;
  - c. Provide the accuser and the accused with the same opportunities to have others present during any institutional disciplinary proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice;
  - d. Not limit the choice of adviser or presence for either the accuser or the accused in any meeting or institutional disciplinary proceeding; however, the institution may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the proceedings, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties; and
  - e. Require simultaneous notification, in writing, to both the accuser and the accused, of:
    - (1) The result of any institutional disciplinary proceeding that arises from an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
    - (2) The institution's procedures for the accused and the victim to appeal the result of the institutional

disciplinary proceeding, if such procedures are available;

- (3) Any change to the result; and
- (4) When such results become final.

*34 C.F.R. 668.46(k)*

Compliance with 34 C.F.R. 668.46(k) does not constitute a violation of Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232g. *34 C.F.R. 668.46(l)*

“Prompt, Fair, and Impartial Proceeding”

“Prompt, fair, and impartial proceeding” includes a proceeding that is:

- 1. Completed within reasonably prompt timeframes designated by an institution's policy, including a process that allows for the extension of timeframes for good cause with written notice to the accuser and the accused of the delay and the reason for the delay;
- 2. Conducted in a manner that:
  - a. Is consistent with the institution's policies and transparent to the accuser and accused;
  - b. Includes timely notice of meetings at which the accuser or accused, or both, may be present; and
  - c. Provides timely and equal access to the accuser, the accused, and appropriate officials to any information that will be used during informal and formal disciplinary meetings and hearings; and
- 3. Conducted by officials who do not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against the accuser or the accused.

*34 C.F.R. 668.46(k)(3)(i)*

“Adviser”

“Adviser” means any individual who provides the accuser or accused support, guidance, or advice. *34 C.F.R. 668.46(k)(3)(ii)*

“Proceeding”

“Proceeding” means all activities related to a non-criminal resolution of an institutional disciplinary complaint, including, but not limited to, fact-finding investigations, formal or informal meetings, and hearings. Proceeding does not include communications and meetings between officials and victims concerning accommodations or protective measures to be provided to a victim. *34 C.F.R. 668.46(k)(3)(iii)*



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“Result” “Result” means any initial, interim, and final decision by any official or entity authorized to resolve disciplinary matters within the institution. The result must include any sanctions imposed by the institution. Notwithstanding FERPA, the result must also include the rationale for the result and the sanctions. *34 C.F.R. 668.46(k)(3)(iv)*

*Definitions*

“Dating Violence” “Dating violence” means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse and dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

For the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section and 34 C.F.R. 668.41, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

*34 C.F.R. 668.46(a)*

“Domestic Violence”

“Domestic violence” is a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed:

1. By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
2. By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
3. By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
4. By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred; or
5. By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

For the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section and 34 C.F.R. 668.41, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

*34 C.F.R. 668.46(a)*

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“Programs to Prevent Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking”

“Programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking” means comprehensive, intentional, and integrated programming, initiatives, strategies, and campaigns intended to end dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking that:

1. Are culturally relevant, inclusive of diverse communities and identities, sustainable, responsive to community needs, and informed by research or assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome; and
2. Consider environmental risk and protective factors as they occur on the individual, relationship, institutional, community, and societal levels.

Programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking include both primary prevention and awareness programs directed at incoming students and new employees and ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns directed at students and employees, as defined in 34 C.F.R. 668.46(j)(2).

*34 C.F.R. 668.46(a)*

“Sexual Assault”

“Sexual assault” means an offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape as used in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program and included in Appendix A of 34 C.F.R. Part 668, Subpart D. *34 C.F.R. 668.46(a)*

“Stalking”

“Stalking” means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

For the purposes of this definition:

1. Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.
2. Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.

*34 C.F.R. 668.46(a)*

**Discrimination on the Basis of Race, Color, or National Origin**

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program to which 34 C.F.R. Part 100 applies.

A recipient under any program to which Part 100 applies may not, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, on the ground of race, color, or national origin:

1. Deny an individual any service, financial aid, or other benefit provided under the program;
2. Provide any service, financial aid, or other benefit to an individual that is different, or is provided in a different manner, from that provided to others under the program;
3. Subject an individual to segregation or separate treatment in any matter related to his receipt of any service, financial aid, or other benefit under the program;
4. Restrict an individual in any way in the enjoyment of any advantage or privilege enjoyed by others receiving any service, financial aid, or other benefit under the program;
5. Treat an individual differently from others in determining whether he satisfies any admission, enrollment, quota, eligibility, membership, or other requirement or condition that individuals must meet in order to be provided any service, financial aid, or other benefit provided under the program;
6. Deny an individual an opportunity to participate in the program through the provision of services or otherwise or afford him an opportunity to do so that is different from that afforded others under the program (including the opportunity to participate in the program as an employee but only to the extent set forth in 34 C.F.R. 100.3(c)); or
7. Deny a person the opportunity to participate as a member of a planning or advisory body that is an integral part of the program.

A recipient, in determining the types of services, financial aid, or other benefits, or facilities that will be provided under any such program, or the class of individuals to whom, or the situations in which, such services, financial aid, other benefits, or facilities will be provided under any such program, or the class of individuals to be afforded an opportunity to participate in any such program, may not, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, utilize criteria or methods of administration that have the effect of subjecting individuals to discrimination because of their race, color, or national origin, or have the effect of defeating or substantially impairing accomplishment of the objectives of the program as respect individuals of a particular race, color, or national origin.

*42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 C.F.R. 100.3(a)-(b)*

**Discrimination on  
the Basis of Age**

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. *42 U.S.C. 6102; 34 C.F.R. 110.10*

Exceptions

*Normal Operation  
or Statutory  
Objective*

A recipient is permitted to take an action otherwise prohibited by 34 C.F.R. 110.10 if the action reasonably takes into account age as a factor necessary to the normal operation or the achievement of any statutory objective of a program or activity. An action reasonably takes into account age as a factor necessary to the normal operation or the achievement of any statutory objective of a program or activity, if:

1. Age is used as a measure or approximation of one or more other characteristics;
2. The other characteristic or characteristics must be measured or approximated in order for the normal operation of the program or activity to continue, or to achieve any statutory objective of the program or activity;
3. The other characteristic or characteristics can be reasonably measured or approximated by the use of age; and
4. The other characteristic or characteristics are impractical to measure directly on an individual basis.

*34 C.F.R. 110.12*

*Reasonable  
Factors Other  
Than Age*

A recipient is permitted to take an action otherwise prohibited by 34 C.F.R. 110.10 that is based on a factor other than age, even though that action may have a disproportionate effect on persons of different ages. An action may be based on a factor other than age only if the factor bears a direct and substantial relationship to the normal operation of the program or activity or to the achievement of a statutory objective. *34 C.F.R. 110.13*

*Special Benefits  
for Children and  
the Elderly*

If a recipient operating a program or activity provides special benefits to the elderly or to children, the use of age distinctions is presumed to be necessary to the normal operation of the program or activity, notwithstanding the provisions of 34 C.F.R. 110.12. *34 C.F.R. 110.16*

*Affirmative Action*

Even in the absence of a finding of discrimination, a recipient may take affirmative action to overcome the effects of conditions that resulted in limited participation in the recipient's program or activity on the basis of age. *34 C.F.R. 110.15*

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Notice A recipient shall notify its beneficiaries, in a continuing manner, of information regarding the provisions of the Act and the associated regulations. *34 C.F.R. 110.25(b)*

**Discrimination on the Basis of Disability**

ADA Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, including a college district, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity. A public entity shall not exclude or otherwise deny equal services, programs, or activities to an individual or entity because of the known disability of an individual with whom the individual or entity is known to have a relationship or association. *42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 C.F.R. 35.130*

Section 504 Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, no otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. *29 U.S.C. 794(a)*

“Disability” “Disability” means, with respect to an individual:

1. A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of an individual;
2. A record of having such an impairment; or
3. Being regarded as having such an impairment.

An impairment that substantially limits one major life activity need not limit other major life activities in order to be considered a disability. An impairment that is episodic or in remission is a disability if it would substantially limit a major life activity when active.

The term “disability” does not include:

1. Transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, gender identity disorders not resulting from physical impairments, or other sexual behavior disorders;
2. Compulsive gambling, kleptomania, or pyromania; or
3. Psychoactive substance use disorders resulting from current illegal use of drugs.

*42 U.S.C. 12102(1), (4)(C)–(D); 28 C.F.R. 35.108(a), (d), (g)*

*“Regarded as Having Such an Impairment”*

An individual meets the requirement of being “regarded as having such an impairment” if the individual establishes that he or she has been subjected to an action prohibited under the ADA because of an actual or perceived physical or mental impairment whether or

not the impairment limits or is perceived to limit a major life activity.  
*42 U.S.C. 12102(3)(A); 28 C.F.R. 35.108(f)*

Transitory and  
Minor

Item 3 in the definition of "Disability," above, ("regarded as having such an impairment") shall not apply to impairments that are transitory or minor. A transitory impairment is an impairment with an actual or expected duration of six months or less. *42 U.S.C. 12102(3)(B); 28 C.F.R. 35.108(d)(1)(ix), (f)(2)*

*Mitigating  
Measures*

The determination of whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity shall be made without regard to the ameliorative effects of mitigating measures such as medication, medical supplies, low-vision devices (which do not include ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses), prosthetics including limbs and devices, hearing aids and cochlear implants or other implantable hearing devices, mobility devices, or oxygen therapy or supplies; use of assistive technology; reasonable accommodations or auxiliary aids or services; learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications; or psychotherapy, behavioral therapy, or physical therapy.

The ameliorative effects of mitigating measures of ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses shall be considered in determining whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity.

"Ordinary eyeglasses and contact lenses" are lenses that are intended to fully correct visual acuity or to eliminate refractive error.

"Low-vision devices" means devices that magnify, enhance, or otherwise augment a visual image.

*42 U.S.C. 12102(4)(E); 28 C.F.R. 35.108(d)(1)(viii), (4)*

*"Major Life  
Activities"*

"Major life activities" include, but are not limited to:

1. Caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, sitting, reaching, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, interacting with others, and working; and
2. The operation of a major bodily function, such as the functions of the immune system, special sense organs and skin, normal cell growth, and digestive, genitourinary, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, cardiovascular, endocrine, hemic, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, and reproductive functions. The operation of a major bodily function includes the operation of an individual organ within a body system.

In determining whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity, the term “major” shall not be interpreted strictly to create a demanding standard. Whether an activity is a major life activity is not determined by reference to whether it is of central importance to daily life.

*42 U.S.C. 12102(2); 28 C.F.R. 35.108(c), (d)*

*“Physical or  
Mental  
Impairment”*

“Physical or mental impairment” means:

1. Any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more body systems, such as: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genitourinary, immune, circulatory, hemic, lymphatic, skin, and endocrine; or
2. Any mental or psychological disorder such as intellectual disability, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disability.

Physical or mental impairment includes, but is not limited to, contagious and noncontagious diseases and conditions such as the following: orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, and cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, intellectual disability, emotional illness, dyslexia and other specific learning disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection (whether symptomatic or asymptomatic), tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.

Physical or mental impairment does not include homosexuality or bisexuality.

*28 C.F.R. 35.108(b)*

*“Qualified Individual  
with a Disability”*

The term “qualified individual with a disability” means an individual with a disability who, with or without reasonable modifications to rules, policies, or practices, the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, or the provision of auxiliary aids and services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services or the participation in programs or activities provided by the college district. *42 U.S.C. 12131(2); 28 C.F.R. 35.104*

*“Individual with a  
Disability”*

“Individual with a disability” means a person who has a disability. The term individual with a disability does not include an individual who is currently engaging in the illegal use of drugs, when the public entity acts on the basis of such use. *28 C.F.R. 35.104*

“Student with a Disability”

A “student with a disability” is one who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the student’s major life activities, has a record of having such an impairment, or is being regarded as having such an impairment.

The determination of whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity shall be made without regard to the ameliorative effects of mitigating measures, such as medication, medical supplies, low-vision devices (which do not include ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses), prosthetics, hearing aids, mobility devices, oxygen therapy, assistive technology, or learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications.

An impairment that substantially limits one major life activity need not limit other major life activities in order to be considered a disability. An impairment that is episodic or in remission is a disability if it would substantially limit a major life activity when active.

A student meets the requirement of being “regarded as” having an impairment if the student establishes that he or she has been subjected to a prohibited action because of an actual or perceived physical or mental impairment whether or not the impairment limits or is perceived to limit a major life activity. This provision does not apply to impairments that are transitory or minor. A transitory impairment is one with an actual or expected duration of six months or less.

*29 U.S.C. 705(20)(B); 42 U.S.C. 12102(1), (3)–(4)*

Reasonable Modification

A public entity shall make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures when the modifications are necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability, unless the public entity can demonstrate that making the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity.

A public entity is not required to provide a reasonable modification to an individual who meets the definition of “disability” solely under the “regarded as” prong of the definition of “disability” at 28 C.F.R. 35.108(a)(1)(iii).

*28 C.F.R. 35.130(b)(7)*

Communications

A public entity shall take appropriate steps to ensure that communications with applicants, participants, and members of the public, and companions with disabilities are as effective as communications with others. A public entity shall furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services where necessary to afford individuals with disabilities, including applicants, participants, companions, and members of the public, an equal opportunity to participate in, and enjoy the benefits of, a service, program, or activity of a public entity. In



determining what types of auxiliary aids or services are necessary, a public entity shall give primary consideration to the requests of the individual with disabilities. In order to be effective, auxiliary aids and services must be provided in accessible formats, in a timely manner, and in such a way as to protect the privacy and independence of the individual with a disability. *28 C.F.R. 35.160*

*“Auxiliary Aids  
and Services”*

“Auxiliary aids and services” includes:

1. Qualified interpreters on-site or through video remote interpreting (VRI) services; notetakers; real-time computer-aided transcription services; written materials; exchange of written notes; telephone handset amplifiers; assistive listening devices; assistive listening systems; telephones compatible with hearing aids; closed caption decoders; open and closed captioning, including real-time captioning; voice, text, and video-based telecommunications products and systems, including text telephones (TTYs), videophones, and captioned telephones, or equally effective telecommunications devices; videotext displays; accessible electronic and information technology; or other effective methods of making aurally delivered information available to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;
2. Qualified readers; taped texts; audio recordings; Braille materials and displays; screen reader software; magnification software; optical readers; secondary auditory programs (SAP); large print materials; accessible electronic and information technology; or other effective methods for making visually delivered materials available to individuals who are blind or have low vision;
3. Acquisition or modification of equipment or devices; and
4. Other similar services and actions.

*28 C.F.R. 35.104*

*Limits of  
Required  
Modification*

Title 28 C.F.R. Chapter I, Part 35, Subpart E does not require a public entity to take any action that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a service, program, or activity or in undue financial and administrative burdens. The decision that compliance would result in such alteration or burdens must be made by the head of the public entity or his or her designee after considering all resources available for use in the funding and operation of the service, program, or activity and must be accompanied by a written statement of the reasons for reaching that conclusion. *28 C.F.R. 35.164*

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

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(LEGAL)

**Direct Threat**

The ADA does not require a public entity to permit an individual to participate in or benefit from the services, programs, or activities of the public entity when that individual poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others.

“Direct threat” means a significant risk to the health or safety of others that cannot be eliminated by a modification of policies, practices, or procedures, or by the provision of auxiliary aids or services as provided below.

*28 C.F.R. 35.104*

In determining whether an individual poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others, a public entity must make an individualized assessment, based on reasonable judgment that relies on current medical knowledge or on the best available objective evidence, to ascertain:

1. The nature, duration, and severity of the risk;
2. The probability that the potential injury will actually occur; and
3. Whether reasonable modifications of policies, practices, or procedures or the provision of auxiliary aids or services will mitigate the risk.

*28 C.F.R. 35.139*

**Services Inventory**

The Coordinating Board shall maintain an inventory of all postsecondary educational programs and services provided for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities by institutions of higher education. The Coordinating Board shall:

1. Post the inventory on the Coordinating Board's Internet website in an easily identifiable and accessible location;
2. Submit the inventory to TEA for inclusion in the transition and employment guide under Education Code 29.0112; and
3. Update the inventory at least once every two years.

At times prescribed by the Coordinating Board, each institution of higher education, including each college district, shall report to the Coordinating Board all programs and services described above provided by that institution.

*Education Code 61.0663*

**Retaliation**

No recipient of federal financial assistance or other person shall intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 or because he has made a com-

plaint, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding or hearing under 34 C.F.R. Parts 100, 104, or 106. *34 C.F.R. 100.7(e) (Title VI), 104.61 (Section 504), 106.71 (Title IX)*

**Handgun License as  
Proof of  
Identification**

A person may not deny the holder of a concealed handgun license issued under Government Code Chapter 411, Subchapter H access to goods, services, or facilities, except as provided by Transportation Code 521.460 (regarding motor vehicle rentals) or in regard to the operation of a motor vehicle, because the holder has or presents a concealed handgun license rather than a driver's license or other acceptable form of personal identification.

This section does not affect the requirement under Government Code 411.205 that a person present a driver's license or identification certificate in addition to a concealed handgun license.

*Business and Commerce Code 506.001*