



August 11, 2021

Ref: 21-32-16

Re: Department of Education Required Annual Non-Discrimination Notification

Dear Colleagues,

As we begin preparing for the coming school year, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the requirement for distribution of an Annual Public Notice of Career and Technical Education Opportunities. This requirement is applicable to all schools receiving federal funds.

The guidelines¹ require all colleges with career and technical programs receiving federal assistance to disseminate a notice *prior* to the beginning of each school year to the general public, notifying the community that all career and technical education opportunities will be offered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Additional protected categories may be included in the notification based on state law and local guidelines, but federal guidelines require the inclusion of the six protected categories listed in this paragraph.

The notification must:

- Be made prior to the beginning of **each** school year;
- Advise students, parents/guardians, employees and the general public of the policy of nondiscrimination;
- Provide a brief summary of program offerings;
- Provide a brief description of admission criteria;
- Provide the name, title, office address, telephone number of the person(s) designated to coordinate Title IX, and Section 504 compliance;
- Contain an assurance that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in career and technical education programs; and
- Be disseminated to communities of national origin minority persons with limited English language skills in their native language;

Please note the college website is now an accepted method to disseminate the annual statement. If your service area includes a population that may be reasonably expected to *not* have access to the internet, you may need to take additional measures to ensure members of these communities receive the required notification. If this is the case in your community, please feel free to contact

¹ Title IX: 34 CFR 106.8(b), Section 504: 34 CFR 104.7(a), and Title II: 28 CFR 35.107(a) Guidelines IV-O

me to discuss possible additional steps that should be taken. As in previous years, local newspapers, school catalogs and newsletters mailed to all members of the community, are also acceptable methods of disbursing the notification as long as they are distributed prior to the beginning of the school year. Please note evidence that the notification was made and that the method of distribution was sufficient to reach students, employees and members of the public should be maintained and will be required for during civil rights reviews.

Please feel free to contact me at (360) 704-4389 or mjacobs@sbctc.edu if you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Maryam A. Jacobs

Maryam Jacobs, CPA, CFE
Methods of Administration Coordinator