

Community Relations

BP 1312.3 (a)

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 resolution of complaints whenever possible. 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 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 any program subject to *the* UCP which is offered by the district, including adult education programs; After School Education and Safety programs; agricultural career technical education; ~~American Indian education centers and early childhood education program assessments; bilingual education; California Peer Assistance and Review programs for teachers; state career technical and technical education and training programs;~~ federal career technical education; child care and development programs; child nutrition programs; compensatory education; consolidated categorical aid programs; ~~Economic Impact Aid;~~ the federal Every Student Succeeds Act; migrant education; Regional Occupational Centers and Programs; school safety plans, ~~special education programs;~~ California State Preschool Programs; ~~Tobacco Use Prevention Education programs;~~ and any other district-implemented state categorical program that is not funded through the local control funding formula pursuant to Education Code 6400.

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)

~~*(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)*~~

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

(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. 6178.1 - Work-Based Learning)*~~

~~*(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)*~~

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

2. Any complaint, by a student, employee, or other person participating in a district

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UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

program or activity, alleging the occurrence of unlawful discrimination (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying) in district programs and activities, including those programs or activities funded directly by or that receive or benefit from any state financial assistance, based on the person's actual or perceived characteristics of race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, 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, Government Code 11135, or Penal Code 422.55, or based on the person's 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. 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 requirements to provide a pregnant or parenting student the accommodations specified in Education Code 46015, including those related to the provision of parental leave, right of return to the school of previous enrollment or to an alternative education program, if desired, and possible enrollment in school for a fifth year of instruction to enable the student to complete state and Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 46015)
5. 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)

6. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with applicable requirements of Education Code 52060-52077 related to the implementation of the local control accountability plan, including the development of a local control funding formula budget overview for parents/guardians (Education Code 52075)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

7. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with requirements related to the development of a school plan for student achievement or the establishment of a school site council, as required for the consolidated application for specified federal and/or state categorical funding (Education Code 64000-64001)

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

8. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a foster youth as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging district noncompliance with any 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, district, or country; school or records 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)

9. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who transfers into the district after the second year of high school and is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student currently enrolled in the district, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, or a migrant student as defined in Education Code 54441, or by or on behalf of an immigrant student participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2 in the third or fourth year of high school, alleging district noncompliance with any requirement applicable to the student regarding the grant of an exemption from Board-imposed graduation requirements (Education Code 51225.1)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

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

10. Any complaint, by or on behalf of a student who is a homeless child or youth as defined in 42 USC 11434a, a former juvenile court school student, a child of a military family as defined in Education Code 49701, a migrant child as defined in Education Code 54441, or a newly arrived immigrant student who is participating in a newcomer program as defined in Education Code 51225.2, alleging district noncompliance with requirements for the award of credit for coursework satisfactorily completed in another school, district, or country (Education Code 51225.2)
11. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the requirements of Education Code 51228.1 and 51228.2 that prohibit the assignment of a student in grades 9-12 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)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

(cf. 6152 - Class Assignment)

12. Any complaint alleging district noncompliance with the physical education instructional minutes requirement ~~for students in elementary school~~ (Education Code 51210, *51222*, 51223)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

13. ~~Any complaint~~ *Complaints regarding the noncompliance of a license-exempt California State Preschool Program (CSPP) with health and safety standards specified in Health and Safety Code 1596.7925 and related state regulations (Education Code 8235.5; Health and Safety Code 1596.7925) 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.*
14. ~~Any other complaint as specified in a district policy.~~ *alleging retaliation against a complainant or other participant in the complain process or anyone who has acted to uncover or report a violation subject to this policy.*
15. *Any other complaint as specified in district policy.*

The Board recognizes that alternative dispute resolution (ADR) can, depending on the nature of the allegations, offer a process *for resolving a* ~~to reach a resolution to the complaint~~ *in a manner* that is acceptable to all parties. *An ADR process* such as mediation may be offered to resolve complaints that involve more than one student and no adult. However, mediation shall not be offered or used to resolve any complaint involving sexual assault or where there is a reasonable risk that a party to the mediation would feel compelled to participate. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the use of ADR is consistent with state and federal laws and regulations.

The district shall protect all complainants from retaliation. In investigating complaints, the confidentiality of the parties involved shall be protected as required by law. For any complaint alleging retaliation or unlawful discrimination, (such as discriminatory harassment, intimidation, or bullying), the Superintendent or designee shall keep the identity of the complainant, and/or the subject of the complaint, if 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)

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.

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

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

(cf. 4131/4231/4331 – Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a records of each complaints and subsequent related actions, including steps taken during the investigations and all information required for compliance with 5 CCR 4631 and 4633.

(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 Protective Services Division, and the appropriate law enforcement agency.

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)

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 fraud shall be referred to the Legal, Audits and Compliance Branch of the California Department of Education.

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, including the right to file the complaint with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

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 ~~or health and safety violations in any license-exempt California State Preschool Program~~ shall be investigated and resolved in accordance with the procedures in AR 1312.4 – Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures. (Education Code 8235.5, 35186)

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (continued)

(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
32280-32289 School safety plan, uniform complaint procedures
35186 Williams uniform complaint procedure
~~44500-44508 California Peer Assistance and Review Program for Teachers~~
46015 Parental leave for students
48853-48853.5 Foster Youth
48985 Notices in language other than English
49010-49014 Student fees
49060-49079 Student records, especially;
49069.5 ~~Rights of parents~~ *Records of foster youth*
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, military-connected students, migrant students, and new arrived immigrant 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~~
52300-52462 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; school plan for student achievement
65000-65001 School site councils

GOVERNMENT CODE

11135 Nondiscrimination in programs or activities funded by state
12900-12996 Fair Employment and Housing Act

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1596.792 California Child Day Care Act; general provisions and definitions
1596.7925 California Child Day Care Act; health and safety regulations
~~104420 Tobacco Use Prevention Education~~

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~~

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4600-4670 Uniform complaint procedures
 4680-4687 Williams 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
 6301-6576 Title I Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged
 6801-7014 Title III language instruction for limited English proficient and immigrant students
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
 12101-12213 Title II equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities
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
 110.25 Notification of nondiscrimination on the basis of age

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Uniform Complaint Procedure 2020-2021 Program Instrument
 Sample UCP Board Policies and Procedures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS
 Dear Colleague Letter, September 22, 2017
 Dear Colleague Letter: Title IX Coordinators, April 2015
 Dear Colleague Letter: Responding to Bullying of Students with Disabilities, October 2014
 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://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco>
 U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/ocr>
 U.S. Department of Justice: <http://www.justice.gov>

Policy amended: June 8, 2020

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Policy amended: March 15, 2018

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Policy amended: November 3, 2016
Policy amended: August 13, 2015
Policy amended: June 6, 2013
Policy amended: March 21, 2013
Policy amended: August 9, 2012
Policy amended: June 26, 2008
Policy amended: February 6, 2003
Policy adopted: May 3, 2001