

Book Siskiyou Joint Community College District Administrative Procedures

Section Chapter 3: General Institution

Title Discrimination and Harassment Complaints and Investigations

Code AP 3435

Status Active

Legal Education Code Section 66281.5, 67386, 212.5 and 231.5

Government Code 12950.1

Title 2, Sections 11023 and 11024

Title 5, Sections 59320, 59324, 59326, 59328, and 59300 et seq.

34 CFR Section 106.8(b)

20 US Code Sections 1681 et seq.

Cross References Board Policy 3430

Board Policy 3435

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Origin Superintendent/President

Office Human Resources/Student Services

For sexual harassment under Title IX, Complainants must proceed under BP 3433 Prohibition of Sexual Harassment under Title IX, AP 3433 Prohibition of Sexual Harassment under Title IX, and AP 3434 Responding to Harassment Based on Sex under Title IX. For other forms of sexual harassment or gender-based harassment, Complainants should use this procedure.

### **Reporting and Filing Complaints**

The law prohibits coworkers, supervisors, managers, and third parties with whom an employee comes into contact from engaging in harassment, discrimination, or retaliation. Any person who has suffered harassment, discrimination, or retaliation or who has learned of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation may report harassment, discrimination, or retaliation. Complainants may have the option of filing an informal complaint or formal complaint.

All responsible employees are required to report all actual or suspected sexual harassment to the Chief Human Resources Officer for employees, and Vice President of Student Services for students immediately. A responsible employee is any employee who has the authority to take action to redress sexual harassment or provide supportive measures to students, or who has been given the duty of reporting incidents of sexual harassment to an appropriate District official who has that authority.

# **Informal Complaints**

An informal complaint is any of the following:

- 1. A written allegation of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation that falls outside the timelines for a formal complaint; or
- 2. A written complaint alleging harassment, discrimination, or retaliation filed by an individual who expressly indicates that he/she/they does not want to file a formal complaint.

Any person may submit a complaint to the Chief Human Resources Officer or any other district or college administrator. Administrators receiving an informal complaint shall immediately notify the Chief Human Resources Officer in writing of all pertinent information and facts alleged in the informal complaint.

Upon receipt of an informal complaint, the Chief Human Resources Officer will notify the person bringing the informal complaint of his/her/their right to file a formal complaint, if the incident falls within the timeline for a formal complaint, and explain the procedure for doing so. The Complainant may later decide to file a formal complaint, if within the timelines to do so. If the individual chooses not to file a formal complaint, or if the alleged conduct falls outside the timeline to file a formal complaint, the Chief Human Resources Officer shall consider the allegations contained in the informal complaint and determine the appropriate course of action. This may include efforts to informally resolve the matter, or a fact-finding investigation.

Investigation of an informal complaint will be appropriate if the Chief Human Resources Officer determines that the allegation(s), if proven true, would constitute a violation of the District policy prohibiting harassment, discrimination, or retaliation. The Chief Human Resources Officer will explain to any individual bringing an informal complaint that the Chief Human Resources Officer may decide to initiate an investigation, even if the individual does not wish the Chief Human Resources Officer to do so. The Chief Human Resources Officer shall not disregard any allegations of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation solely on the basis that the alleged conduct falls outside the deadline to file a formal complaint.

### **Formal Complaints**

A formal complaint is a written or verbal statement filed with the District that alleges harassment, discrimination, or retaliation in violation of the District's Board Policies, Administrative Procedures, or in violation of state or federal law. Formal Complaints must be filed with the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges or the Chief Human Resources Officer unless the party submitting the Formal Complaint alleges discrimination, harassment, or retaliation against the responsible district officer, in which case it should be submitted directly to the Superintendent/President or the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

Formal Complaints may be submitted on the form prescribed by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. A copy of the form will be available in Human Resources. A Complainant shall report verbal complaints to Chief Human Resources Officer. The Chief Human Resources Officer shall record the verbal complaint in writing. The Chief Human Resources Officer will take steps to ensure the writing accurately reflects the facts alleged by the Complainant.

A Formal Complaint must meet each of the following criteria:

- It must allege facts with enough specificity to show that the allegations, if true, would constitute a violation of District policies or procedures prohibiting discrimination, harassment, or retaliation;
- The Complainant must file any Formal Complaint not involving employment within one year of the date of the alleged discriminatory, harassing, or retaliatory conduct or within one year of the date

- on which the Complainant knew or should have known of the facts underlying the allegation(s) of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.
- The Complainant must file any Formal Complaint alleging discrimination, harassment, or retaliation in employment within 180 days of the date of the alleged discriminatory, harassing, or retaliatory conduct, except that this period shall be extended by no more than 90 days following the expiration of the 180 days if the Complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged violation after the expiration of the 180 days.

If the Formal Complaint does not meet the requirements set forth above, the Chief Human Resources Officer will promptly return it to the complainant and specify the defect. If the sole defect is that the Formal Complaint was filed outside the applicable proscribed timeline, the Chief Human Resources Officer will handle the matter as an informal complaint.

**Oversight of Complaint Procedure:** The Chief Human Resources Officer is the "responsible District officer" charged with receiving complaints of discrimination or harassment, and coordinating their investigation.

The actual investigation of complaints may be assigned by the Chief Human Resources Officer **or** to other staff or to outside persons or organizations under contract with the District. This shall occur whenever the Chief Human Resources Officer is named in the complaint or implicated by the allegations in the complaint.

**Who May File a Complaint:** Any student, employee, parent of a minor, or an individual with legal authority on behalf of a student or employee who believes the student or employee has been discriminated against or harassed by a student, employee, or third party in violation of this procedure and the related policy.

**Where to File a Complaint:** A student, employee, parent of a minor, or an individual with legal authority on behalf of a student or employee who believes the student or employee has been discriminated against or harassed in violation of these policy and procedures may make a complaint orally or in writing directed to:

- the Chief Human Resources Officer;
- the Vice President, Student Services;
- the Superintendent/President;
- the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

Complainants may but are not required to use the form prescribed by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office website. These forms are available from the Chief Human Resources Officer and the California Community College Chancellor's website.

#### **Employment-Related Complaints**

Complainants filing employment-related complaints shall be notified that they may file employment discrimination complaints with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) or the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH).

Any District employee who receives a harassment or discrimination complaint shall notify the Chief Human Resources Officer immediately.

**Filing a Timely Complaint:** Since failure to report harassment and discrimination impedes the District's ability to stop the behavior, the District strongly encourages anyone who believes they are being harassed or discriminated against to file a complaint. The District also strongly encourages the filing of such complaints within 30 days of the alleged incident. While all complaints are taken seriously and will be investigated promptly, delay in filing impedes the District's ability to investigate and remediate.

All supervisors and managers have a mandatory duty to report incidents of harassment and discrimination, the existence of a hostile, offensive, or intimidating work environment, and acts of retaliation.

The District will investigate complaints involving acts that occur off campus if they are related to an academic or work activity or if the harassing conduct interferes with or limits a student's or employee's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's program or activities.

**Communicating that the Conduct is Unwelcome:** The District further encourages students and staff to let the offending person know immediately and firmly that the conduct or behavior is unwelcome, offensive, in poor taste or inappropriate.

**Intake and Processing of the Complaint:** Upon receiving notification of a harassment or discrimination complaint, the Chief Human Resources Officer shall:

- Consider whether the District can undertake efforts to informally resolve the charges, including but not limited to mediation, rearrangement of work/academic schedules; obtaining apologies; providing informal counseling, training, etc.
- Advise the Parties that he/she/they need not participate in an informal resolution of the complaint, as described above, and they have the right to end the informal resolution process at any time.
- Advise a student Complainant that he/she/they may file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education and employee Complainants may file a complaint with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing. All Complainants should be advised that they have a right to file a complaint with local law enforcement if the act complained of is also a criminal act. The District must investigate even if the Complainant files a complaint with local law enforcement. In addition, the District should ensure that Complainants are aware of any available resources, such as counseling, health, and mental health services. The Chief Human Resources Officer shall also notify the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office of the complaint.
- In matters involving student sexual harassment, provide student Parties notice regarding appropriate counseling resources developed and maintained by the District.
- Take interim steps to protect a Complainant from coming into contact with an accused individual, especially if the Complainant is a victim of sexual violence. The Chief Human Resources
   Officer should notify the Complainant of his/her/their options to avoid contact with the accused individual and allow students to change academic situations as appropriate. For instance, the
   District may prohibit the accused individual from having any contact with the Complainant pending
   the results of the investigation. When taking steps to separate the Complainant and accused
   individual, the District shall minimize the burden on the Complainant. For example, it is not
   appropriate to remove complainants from classes or housing while allowing accused individuals to
   remain.

Regardless of whether a Complaint has been filed under this procedure, if the District knows, or reasonably should know, about possible sexual harassment involving individuals subject to the District's policies at the time, the District shall promptly investigate to determine whether the alleged conduct more likely than not occurred, or otherwise respond if the District determines that an investigation is not required.

#### **Investigation**

The Chief Human Resources Officer shall:

- Provide notice to student Parties to a sexual harassment complaint that the District is conducting
  an investigation. The notice shall include the allegations against the Respondent and the alleged
  District policy violations under review. If new allegations arise during the course of the District's
  investigation that could subject either student Party to new or additional discipline or corrective
  action, the Chief Human Resources Officer shall provide a supplemental notice to the student
  Parties.
- Authorize the investigation of the complaint, and supervise or conduct a thorough, prompt, and
  impartial investigation of the complaint, as set forth below. Where Parties opt for informal
  resolution, the designated officer will determine whether further investigation is necessary to
  ensure resolution of the matter and utilize the investigation process outlined below as appropriate.
  In the case of a formal complaint, the investigation will include interviews with the Complainant,
  the accused, and any other persons who may have relevant knowledge concerning the complaint.
  This may include victims of similar conduct.

Review the factual information gathered through the investigation to determine whether the
alleged conduct constitutes harassment or other unlawful discriminatory conduct, giving
consideration to all factual information and the totality of the circumstances, including the nature
of the verbal, physical, visual, or sexual conduct, and the context in which the alleged incidents
occurred.

**Investigation of the Complaint:** The District shall promptly investigate every complaint and claim of harassment or discrimination. No claim of workplace or academic harassment or discrimination shall remain unexamined. This includes complaints involving activities that occur off campus and in connection with all the academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs of the District, whether those programs take place in the District's facilities, on a District bus, or at a class or training program sponsored by the District at another location. The District shall promptly investigate complaints of harassment or discrimination that occur off campus if the alleged conduct creates a hostile environment on campus. The District shall notify the Complainant that the District will commence an impartial fact-finding investigation of the allegations contained in the complaint.

As set forth above, where the Complainant opts for an informal resolution, the Chief Human Resources Officer may limit the scope of the investigation, as appropriate. The District will keep the investigation confidential to the extent possible, but cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality because release of some information on a "need-to-know-basis" is essential to a thorough investigation. When determining whether to maintain confidentiality, the District may weigh the request for confidentiality against the following factors: the seriousness of the alleged harassment; the complainant's age; whether there have been other harassment complaints about the same individual; and the accused individual's rights to receive information about the allegations if the information is maintained by the District as an "education record" under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S. Code Section 1232g; 34 Code Federal Regulations Part 99.15. The District will inform the complainant if it cannot maintain confidentiality.

**Investigation Steps:** The District will fairly and objectively investigate harassment and discrimination complaints. Employees designated to serve as investigators under this policy shall have adequate training on what constitutes sexual harassment, including sexual violence, and that they understand how the District's grievance procedures operate. The investigator may not have any real or perceived conflicts of interest and must be able to investigate the allegations impartially using trauma-informed investigation techniques.

The investigation and adjudication of alleged misconduct under this procedure is not an adversarial process between the Complainant, the Respondent, and the witnesses, but rather a process for the District to comply with its obligations under existing law. The Complainant does not have the burden to prove, nor does the Respondent have the burden to disprove, the underlying allegation or allegations of misconduct.

Investigators will use the following steps: interviewing the complainant(s); interviewing the accused individual(s); identifying and interviewing witnesses and evidence identified by each Party; identifying and interviewing any other witnesses, if needed; reminding all individuals interviewed of the District's no-retaliation policy; considering whether any involved person should be removed from the campus pending completion of the investigation; reviewing personnel/academic files of all involved Parties; reach a conclusion as to the allegations and any appropriate disciplinary and remedial action; and see that all recommended action is carried out in a timely fashion. When the District evaluates the complaint, it shall do so using a preponderance of the evidence standard. Thus, after considering all the evidence it has gathered, the District will decide whether it is more likely than not that discrimination or harassment has occurred.

**Timeline for Completion:** The District will undertake its investigation promptly and swiftly as possible. To that end, the investigator shall complete the above steps and prepare a written report within 90 days of the District receiving the complaint.

**Cooperation Encouraged:** All employees are expected to cooperate with a District investigation into allegations of harassment or discrimination. Lack of cooperation impedes the ability of the District to investigate thoroughly and respond effectively. However, lack of cooperation by a Complainant or witnesses does not relieve the District of its obligation to investigate. The District will conduct an investigation if it is discovered that harassment is or may be occurring, with or without the cooperation of the alleged victim(s) and regardless of whether a complaint is filed. No employee will be retaliated against as a result of lodging a complaint or participating in any workplace investigation.

## **Written Report**

The results of the investigation of a complaint shall be set forth in a written report that will include at least all of the following information:

- A description of the circumstances giving rise to the Formal Complaint;
- A description of the procedural steps taken during the investigation, including all individuals contacted and interviewed;
- A summary of the testimony provided by each witness, including the Complainant and any available witnesses identified by the Complainant in the complaint;
- An analysis of relevant data or other evidence collected during the course of the investigation, including a list of relevant documents;
- A specific finding as to whether each factual allegation in the complaint occurred based upon the preponderance of the evidence standard;
- A table of contents if the report exceeds ten pages; and
- Any other information deemed appropriate by the District.

### **Confidentiality of the Process**

Investigations are best conducted within a confidential climate. Therefore, the District does not reveal information about ongoing investigations except as necessary to fulfill its legal obligations. The District will keep the investigation confidential to the extent possible, but it cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality because release of some information on a "need-to-know-basis" is essential to a thorough investigation and to protect the rights of student and employee Respondents during the investigation process and any ensuing discipline.

#### **Administrative Determination**

- In any case **not** involving employment discrimination, within 90 days of receiving a complaint, the District shall complete its investigation and forward a copy of the investigative report and written notice to the Complainant setting forth all of the following:
  - The Chief Human Resources Officer's or his/her/their designee's determination as to whether unlawful discrimination occurred with respect to each allegation in the complaint based on a preponderance of the evidence standard and the basis for that determination including factual findings
  - In the event a discrimination allegation is substantiated, a description of actions taken, if any, to prevent similar acts of unlawful discrimination from occurring in the future;
  - The proposed resolution of the complaint;
  - The Complainant's right to appeal to the District's Board of Trustees and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office; and
  - In matters involving student sexual misconduct, the Respondent's right to appeal to the District's Board of Trustees any disciplinary sanction imposed upon the Respondent.
- In any case involving employment discrimination, within 90 days of receiving a formal complaint, the District shall complete its investigation and forward a copy or summary of the report to the Complainant, setting forth all the following:
  - The Chief Human Resources Officer's or his/her/their designee's determination as to whether discrimination occurred with respect to each allegation in the complaint based upon the preponderance of the evidence standard and the basis for that determination, including factual findings;
  - If a discrimination allegation is substantiated, a description of actions taken, if any, to prevent similar acts of unlawful discrimination from occurring in the future;
  - The proposed resolution of the complaint; and

• The Complainant's right to appeal to the District's Board of Trustees and to file a complaint with Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

The District shall also provide the Respondent the following:

- The Chief Human Resource Officer's or his/her/their designee's determination as to whether unlawful discrimination occurred with respect to each allegation in the Complaint based upon the preponderance of the evidence standard and the basis for that determination including factual findings;
- The proposed resolution of the Complaint, including any disciplinary action against the Respondent; and
- In matters involving student sexual misconduct not subject to Title IX, the Respondent's right to appeal to the District's Board of Trustees any disciplinary sanction imposed upon the Respondent.

#### Discipline for Student Sexual Misconduct Not Subject to Title IX

In a complaint involving student sexual misconduct not subject to Title IX, if a student Respondent is subject to severe disciplinary sanctions, and the credibility of witnesses was central to the investigative findings, the District will provide an opportunity for the student Respondent to cross-examine witnesses indirectly at a live hearing, either in person or by videoconference, conducted by a neutral decision-maker other than the investigator.

In other complaints involving sexual harassment against a student, the District shall decide whether a hearing is necessary to determine whether any sexual violence more likely than not occurred. In making this decision, the District may consider whether the Parties elected to participate in the investigation and whether each Party had the opportunity to suggest questions to be asked of the other Party and witnesses during the investigation.

The District shall appoint a neutral third party to attend the hearing solely for the purpose of asking any questions to the witnesses. The neutral third party shall not be the student Respondent, the student Respondent's representative, nor any individual charged with making a final determination regarding discipline. The student Respondent may submit written questions before and during the cross-examination, including any follow-up questions. Either Party or any witness may request to answer the questions by videoconference from a remote location.

At the hearing, the other Party shall have an opportunity to note an objection to the questions posed. The District may limit such objections to written form, and neither the hearing officer nor the District are obligated to respond, other than to include any objection in the record. The hearing officer shall have the authority and obligation to discard or rephrase any question that the hearing officer deems to be repetitive, irrelevant, or harassing. In making these determinations, the hearing officer is not bound by, but may take guidance from, the formal rules of evidence.

Generally, the Parties may not introduce evidence, including witness testimony, at the hearing that the Party did not identify during the investigation and that was available at the time of the investigation. However, the hearing officer has discretion to accept for good cause or exclude such new evidence offered at the hearing.

The hearing officer shall provide an explanation of the meaning of the preponderance of the evidence standard, and affirm that it shall apply to adjudications under this procedure. The preponderance of the evidence standard is met if the District determines that it is more likely than not that the alleged misconduct occurred, based on the facts available at the time of the decision.

#### **Evidence of Past Sexual History**

An investigator or hearing officer, if required by this procedure, shall not consider the past sexual history of the Complainant or Respondent, except in the limited circumstances described below:

• The investigator or hearing officer shall not consider prior or subsequent sexual history between the Complainant and anyone other than the Respondent for any reason unless directly relevant to prove that physical injuries alleged to have been inflicted by the Respondent were inflicted by another individual;

- The investigator or hearing officer shall not consider the existence of a dating relationship or prior or subsequent consensual sexual relations between the Complainant and the Respondent unless the evidence is relevant to how the Parties communicated consent in prior or subsequent consensual sexual relations;
  - Where the investigator or hearing officer allows consideration of evidence about a dating relationship or prior or subsequent consensual sexual relations between the Complainant and the Respondent pursuant to this circumstance, the mere fact that the Complainant and Respondent engaged in other consensual sexual relations with one another is never sufficient, by itself, to establish that the conduct in question was consensual.

Before allowing the consideration of any evidence proffered pursuant to this section, the investigator or hearing officer shall provide a written explanation to the Parties as to why consideration of the evidence is consistent with this procedure.

#### **Discipline and Corrective Action**

If harassment, discrimination, or retaliation occurred in violation of the policy or procedure, the District shall take disciplinary action against the accused and any other remedial action it determines to be appropriate, consistent with state and federal law. The action will be prompt, effective, and commensurate with the severity of the offense. Remedies for the Complainant might include, but are not limited to:

- providing an escort to ensure that the Complainant can move safely between classes and activities;
- ensuring that the Complainant and alleged perpetrator do not attend the same classes or work in the same work area;
- · preventing offending third parties from entering campus;
- providing counseling services or a referral to counseling services;
- providing medical services or a referral to medical services;
- providing academic support services, such as tutoring;
- arranging for a Student-Complainant to re-take a course or withdraw from a class without penalty, including ensuring that any changes do not adversely affect the Complainant's academic record; and
- reviewing any disciplinary actions taken against the Complainant to see if there is a causal connection between the harassment and the misconduct that may have resulted in the complainant being disciplined.

If the District imposes discipline, the nature of the discipline will not be communicated to the Complainant. However, the District may disclose information about the sanction imposed on an individual who was found to have engaged in harassment when the sanction directly relates to the Complainant; for example, the District may inform the Complainant that the harasser must stay away from the Complainant.

Disciplinary actions against faculty, staff, and students will conform to all relevant statutes, regulations, personnel policies and procedures, including the provisions of any applicable collective bargaining agreement.

The District shall also take reasonable steps to protect the Complainant from further harassment or discrimination, address the hostile environment, if one has been created, prevent its recurrence, address its effects, and protect the Complainant and witnesses from retaliation as a result of communicating the complaint or assisting in the investigation.

The District will ensure that Complainants and witnesses know how to report any subsequent problems, and should follow-up with Complainants to determine whether any retaliation or new incidents of harassment have occurred. The District shall take reasonable steps to ensure the confidentiality of the investigation and to protect the privacy of all parties to the extent possible without impeding the District's ability to investigate and respond effectively to the complaint.

If the District cannot take disciplinary action against the accused individual because the Complainant refuses to participate in the investigation, it should pursue other steps to limit the effects of the alleged harassment and prevent its recurrence.

#### **Appeals**

If the District imposes discipline against a student or employee as a result of the findings in its investigation, the student or employee may appeal the decision using the procedure for appealing a disciplinary decision.

If the Complainant is not satisfied with the results of the administrative determination, he/she/they may, within 30 days, submit a written appeal to the Board of Trustees.

In a complaint involving student sexual misconduct not subject to Title IX, a Respondent who is not satisfied with the results of the administrative determination may submit a written appeal to the District's Board of Trustees within 30 days.

The Board shall review the original complaint, the investigative report, the administrative decision, and the appeal. The Board shall issue a final District decision in the matter within 45 days after receiving the appeal. A copy of the decision rendered by the Board shall be forwarded to the Complainant and the Respondent. The Complainant shall also be notified of his/her/their right to appeal this decision.

If the Board does not act within 45 days, the administrative determination shall be deemed approved on the forty-sixth day and shall become the final decision of the District in the matter. The District shall promptly notify the Complainant and the Respondent of the Board's action, or, if the Board took no action, that the administrative determination is deemed approved.

In any case not involving workplace discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, the Complainant shall have the right to file a written appeal with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office within 30 days after the Board issued the final District decision or permitted the administrative decision to become final. Such appeals shall be processed pursuant to the provision of Title 5 Section 59350.

In any case involving employment discrimination, including workplace harassment, the Complainant may, at any time before or after the issuance of the final decision of the District, file a complaint with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

### Remand

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office may remand any matter to the District for any of the following reasons: to cure defects in the investigation or in procedural compliance; to consider new evidence not available during the investigation despite the Complainant's due diligence that would substantially impact the outcome of the investigation; or to modify or reverse a decision of the District's Board of Trustees based upon misapplication of an applicable legal standard or an abuse of discretion.

If the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office remands a matter to the District, the District shall take necessary action and issue a decision after remand within 60 days. In any case not involving employment discrimination, the Complainant may appeal the District's amended determination to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office within 30 days by following the appeal procedures above.

### **Extension of Time**

A student Complainant or Respondent may request, in writing, an extension of a deadline related to a Complaint during periods of examinations or school closures. The District shall grant a student Party's reasonable request for an extension of a deadline related to a Complaint during periods of examinations or school closures.

If the District is unable to comply with the 90-day deadline, the District may extend the time to respond by up to 45 additional days. An extension may be taken only once without permission from the

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and must be necessary for one of the following reasons:

- a need to interview a party or witness who has been unavailable;
- a need to review or analyze additional evidence, new allegations, or new complaints related to the matter; or
- to prepare and finalize an administrative determination.

The District shall send a written notice to the Complainant and to a Respondent who is aware of an investigation indicating the necessity of an extension, the justification for the extension, and the number of days the deadline will be extended. The District shall send this notice no later than 10 days prior to the initial time to respond.

The District may request additional extensions from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office after the initial 45-day extension. The District shall send a copy of the extension request to the Complainant and to a Respondent who is aware of an investigation. The Complainant and Respondent may each file a written objection with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office within 5 days of receipt.

## Disclosures to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

Upon request of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, the District shall provide copies of all documents related to a discrimination complaint, including the following: the original complaint; any investigative report, unless subject to the attorney-client privilege; the written notice to the Complainant setting forth the results of the investigation; the final administrative decision rendered by the Board or a statement indicating the date upon which the decision became final; a copy of the notification to the Complainant of his/her/their appeal rights; the Complainant's appeal of the District's administrative determination; and any other non-privileged documents or information the Chancellor's Office requests.

The District shall provide to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office an annual report with the following information: the number of employment and non-employment discrimination complaints and informal charges received in the previous academic year; the number of complaints and informal charges resolved in the previous academic year; the number of complaints of unlawful discrimination received in the previous academic year; the number of those complaints that were sustained in whole or in part; and any other information requested by the Chancellor.

#### **Interim and Supportive Measures**

Interim measures are individualized services offered as appropriate to either or both the Complainant and Respondent in an alleged incident of sexual misconduct prior to an investigation or while an investigation is pending.

Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive, individualized services offered free of charge to the Complainant or the Respondent, regardless of whether a Complaint has been filed.

The District will provide interim or supportive measures to Parties as appropriate and as reasonably available.

Interim and supportive measures may include: changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations; protective measures such as counseling, extensions of deadlines, other course-related adjustments; modifications of work or class schedules; campus escort services; mutual restrictions on contact between the Parties; changes in work or housing locations; leaves of absence; increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus; and other similar measures.

## **No-Contact Directives**

When requested by a Complainant or otherwise determined to be appropriate, the District shall issue an interim no-contact directive prohibiting the Respondent from contacting the Complainant during the pendency of the investigation. The District shall not issue an interim mutual no-contact directive

automatically, but instead shall consider the specific circumstances of each case to determine whether a mutual no-contact directive is necessary or justifiable to protect the noncomplaining party's safety or well-being, or to respond to interference with an investigation. If the District issues a no-contact directive after making decision of responsibility, the no-contract directive shall be unilateral and only apply against the Party found responsible.

Upon the issuance of a mutual no-contact directive, the District shall provide the Parties with a written justification for the directive and an explanation of the terms of the directive. Upon the issuance of any no-contact directive, the District shall provide the Parties with an explanation of the terms of the directive, including the circumstances, if any, under which violation could be subject to disciplinary action.

#### **File Retention**

The District will retain on file, for a period of at least five years after closing the case, copies of:

- the original complaint;
- the investigatory report;
- the summary of the report, if one is prepared;
- the notice provided to the Parties of the District's administrative determination and right to appeal;
- · any appeal; and
- the District's final decision.

For any appeal to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, the District shall provide relevant, non-privileges documents upon request of the Chancellor.

#### **Dissemination of Policy and Procedures**

District policy and procedures related to harassment will include information that specifically addresses sexual violence. District policy and procedures will be provided to all students, all employees, all volunteers who will regularly interact with students, and each individual or entity under contract with the District to perform any service involving regular interaction with students at the District. District policy and procedures related to harassment will also be posted on campus and on the District's website.

When hired, employees are required to sign that they have received the policy and procedures, and the signed acknowledgment of receipt is placed in each employee's personnel file. In addition, these policies and procedures are incorporated into the District's course catalogs and orientation materials for new students.

#### **Training**

By January 1, 2021, the District shall provide at least two hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment to all supervisory employees and at least one hour of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment to all nonsupervisory employees. All new employees must be provided with the training and education within six months of their assumption of his/her/their position. After January 1, 2021, the District shall provide sexual harassment training and education to each employee once every two years. An employee who received this training and education in 2019 is not required to have refresher training until after two years thereafter.

The training and education required by this procedure shall include information and practical guidance regarding the federal and state statutory provisions concerning the prohibition against and the prevention and correction of sexual harassment and the remedies available to victims of sexual harassment in employment, a review of "abusive conduct" and harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation. The training and education shall also include practical examples aimed at instructing supervisors in the prevention of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation, and shall be presented by trainers or educators with knowledge and expertise in the prevention of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. Supervisors' harassment training must also

address potential exposure and liability for employers and individuals, supervisors' obligation to report sexual harassment, discrimination, and retaliation when they become aware of it, and appropriate remedial measures to correct harassing behavior.

The District will maintain appropriate records of the training provided, including the names of the supervisory employees trained, the date of training, sign in sheets, copies of all certificates of attendance or completion issued, the type of training provided, a copy of all written or recorded training materials, and the name of the training provider. If the training is provided by webinar, the District will maintain a copy of the webinar, all written materials used by the training, all written questions submitted during the webinar, and document all written responses or guidance the trainer provided during the webinar. The District will retain these records for at least two years.

The District will also provide training to students who lead student organizations. The District should provide copies of the sexual harassment policies and training to all District law enforcement unit employees regarding the grievance procedures and any other procedures used for investigating reports of sexual violence.

In years in which a substantive policy or procedural change has occurred, all District employees will attend a training update or receive a copy of the revised policies and procedures.

Participants in training programs will be required to sign a statement that they have either understood the policies and procedures, their responsibilities, and their own and the District's potential liability, or that they did not understand the policy and desire further training.

#### **Education and Prevention for Students**

In order to take proactive measures to prevent sexual harassment and violence toward students, the District will provide preventive education programs and make victim resources, including comprehensive victim services, available. The District will include such programs in their orientation programs for new students and in training for student athletes and coaches. These programs will include discussion of what constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence, the District's policies and disciplinary procedures, and the consequences of violating these policies. A training program or informational services will be made available to all students at least once annually.

The education programs will also include information aimed at encouraging students to report incidents of sexual violence to the appropriate District and law enforcement authorities. Since victims or third parties may be deterred from reporting incidents if alcohol, drugs, or other violations of District or campus rules were involved, the District will inform students that the primary concern is for student safety and that use of alcohol or drugs never makes the victim at fault for sexual violence. If other rules are violated, the District will address such violations separately from an allegation of sexual violence. An individual who participates as a Complainant or witness in an investigation of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking will not be subject to disciplinary sanctions for a violation of the District's student conduct policy at or near the time of the incident, unless the District determines that the violation was egregious, including, but not limited to, an action that places the health or safety of any other person at risk or involves plagiarism, cheating, or academic dishonesty.