

Harassment Policy

ECS is committed to providing a workplace free from discrimination, harassment and retaliation. Therefore, we will not tolerate harassment of any type based on race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older) disability, or genetic information and other characteristics protected under state, federal or local laws. Such conduct in any form is prohibited in the workplace, at work-related functions or outside of work if it affects employees in the workplace. This policy applies to all employees, clients, customers, guests, vendors, stakeholders and persons doing business with our district. All employees must ensure they understand this policy and their obligations. Whether an employee's conduct violates this policy will be based how an employee's conduct is received and whether a reasonable person would find the conduct to be in violation of the policy.

Harassment is defined as unwelcome conduct that is based on race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information. Harassment becomes unlawful where:

- Enduring the offensive conduct becomes a condition of continued employment; or
- The conduct is severe or pervasive enough to create a work environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile or abusive.

Anti-discrimination laws also prohibit harassment against individuals in retaliation for filing discrimination charges, testifying or participating in investigations, proceedings or lawsuits under these laws, or, for opposing employment practices that they reasonably believe discriminate against individuals, in violation of these laws.

Petty slights, annoyances and isolated incidents (unless extremely serious) will not rise to the level of illegality. To be unlawful, the conduct must create a work environment that would be intimidating, hostile or offensive to reasonable people.

Offensive conduct may include, but is not limited to, offensive jokes, slurs, epithets or name-calling, physical assaults or threats, intimidation, ridicule or mockery, insults or put-downs, offensive objects or pictures, and interference with work performance. Harassment can occur in a variety of circumstances, including, but not limited to, the following:

- The harasser can be the victim's supervisor, a supervisor in another area, an agent of the employer, a co-worker or a non-employee.
- The victim does not have to be the person harassed, but can be anyone who is affected by the offensive conduct.
- Unlawful harassment may occur without economic injury to, or discharge of, the victim.
-

Appropriate performance reviews, counseling or discipline by your manager do not constitute harassment.

If you feel that you are being harassed, you should take the following steps:

- Tell the harasser that his or her actions are not welcome and that they must stop, if you feel comfortable enough to do so.
- Report the incident immediately to your administrator or Human Resources representative.
- Report any additional incidents or retaliation that may occur to your administrator or Human Resources representative.

All reports will be investigated immediately and thoroughly. Complaints and actions taken to resolve complaints will be handled as confidentially as possible. Appropriate actions will be taken to stop and remedy such conduct, including interim measures during a period of investigation.

Retaliating or discriminating against an employee who reports a suspected incident of harassment or who cooperates in an investigation is prohibited. Employees who violate this policy or retaliate against an employee in any way will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.