

## **EEO Statement and Nonharassment Policy**

### **Equal Opportunity Statement**

American Academy of Pediatrics, California Chapter 3 is committed to the principles of equal employment. We are committed to complying with all federal, state, and local laws providing equal employment opportunities, and all other employment laws and regulations. It is our intent to maintain a work environment that is free of unlawful harassment, discrimination, or retaliation based on the following protected classes: age (40 and over), race (including traits associated with race, which include, but are not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles such as braids, locs, and twists), color, religion, religious creed (including religious dress and grooming practices), national origin, ancestry, citizenship, physical or mental disability, medical condition (including cancer and genetic characteristics), genetic information, marital status, reproductive health decision-making, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions), gender (including gender identity and gender expression), sexual orientation, veteran and/or military status, protected medical leaves (requesting or approved for leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act or the California Family Rights Act), domestic violence victim status, political affiliation, off-duty and off-premises use of cannabis, or any other status protected by federal, state, or local laws. The Organization is dedicated to the fulfillment of this policy in regard to all aspects of employment, including, but not limited to, recruiting, hiring, placement, transfer, training, promotion, rates of pay, and other compensation, termination, and all other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment.

The Organization will conduct a confidential, prompt, and thorough investigation of all allegations of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, or any violation of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy. The Organization will take appropriate corrective and remedial action, if and where warranted. The Organization prohibits retaliation against any employees who provide information about, complain about, or assist in the investigation of any complaint of discrimination or violation of the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy.

We are all responsible for upholding this policy. You may discuss questions regarding equal employment opportunity with your Supervisor or any other designated member of management.

### **Policy Against Workplace Harassment**

American Academy of Pediatrics, California Chapter 3 has a strict policy against all types of workplace harassment, including sexual harassment and other forms of workplace harassment, based upon an individual's membership in a protected class.

This policy protects all applicants and employees (including managers and supervisors) from unlawful harassment and discrimination. This includes harassment by employees, managers, supervisors, contractors, interns, volunteers, vendors, suppliers, and customers. In addition, this policy extends to conduct connected with an individual's work, even when the conduct takes place away from the workplace, such as a business trip or business-related social function.

## **Harassment**

**Harassment** means disrespectful or unprofessional conduct, including disrespectful or unprofessional conduct based on an individual's membership in a protected class.

While it is not possible to list all the circumstances that may constitute other forms of workplace harassment, some examples of conduct that may constitute workplace harassment include:

- The use of disparaging or abusive words or phrases, slurs, negative stereotyping, or threatening, intimidating, or hostile acts that relate to the above-protected categories;
- Written or graphic material that insults, stereotypes, or shows aversion or hostility toward an individual or group because of one of the above-protected categories and that is placed on walls, bulletin boards, or elsewhere on our premises, in emails or voicemails, or otherwise circulated in the workplace; and
- A display of symbols, slogans, or items that are associated with hate or intolerance toward any select group.

## **Sexual Harassment**

**Sexual harassment** means harassment based on sex or conduct of a sexual nature and includes harassment based on sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions), gender, gender identity, or gender expression. It may include all of the actions described above as harassment, as well as other unwelcome sex-based conduct, such as unwelcome or unsolicited sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, conversations regarding sexual activities, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexually harassing conduct need not be motivated by sexual desire and may include situations that began as reciprocal relationships, but that later cease to be reciprocal.

Sexual harassment is generally categorized into the following two types:

- Quid pro quo sexual harassment ("this for that"), which includes:

- Submission to sexual conduct when made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment.
- Submission to or rejection of the conduct by an employee when used as the basis for employment decisions affecting the employee.
- Hostile work environment sexual harassment is conduct of a sexual nature or on the basis of sex by any person in the workplace that unreasonably interferes with an employee's work performance and/or creates an intimidating, hostile, or otherwise offensive working environment. Examples include:
  - Unwelcome sexual advances, flirtation, teasing, sexually suggestive or obscene letters, invitations, notes, emails, voicemails, or gifts.
  - Sex, gender, or sexual orientation-related comments, slurs, jokes, remarks, or epithets.
  - Leering, obscene or vulgar gestures, or sexual gestures.
  - Displaying or distributing sexually suggestive or derogatory objects, pictures, cartoons, posters or any such items.
  - Impeding or blocking movement, unwelcome touching, or assaulting others.
  - Any sexual advances that are unwelcome as well as reprisals or threats after a negative response to sexual advances.
  - Conduct or comments consistently targeted at one gender, even if the content is not sexual.

## **Retaliation**

**Retaliation** means any adverse employment action taken against an employee because the employee engaged in activity protected under this policy. Protected activities may include, but are not limited to, reporting or assisting in reporting suspected violations of this policy and/or cooperating in investigations or proceedings arising out of a violation of this policy.

**Adverse employment action** is conduct or an action that materially affects the terms and conditions of the employee's employment status or is reasonably likely to deter the employee from engaging in protected activity. Even actions that do not result in a direct loss of compensation may be regarded as an adverse employment action when considered in the totality of the circumstances.

Examples of retaliation under this policy include, but are not limited to: demotion, suspension, reduction in pay, denial of a merit salary increase, failure to hire or consider for hire, refusing to promote or consider for promotion because of reporting a violation of this policy, harassing another employee for filing a complaint, denying employment opportunities because of making a complaint or cooperating in an investigation, changing

someone's work assignments for identifying harassment or other forms of discrimination in the workplace, treating people differently such as denying an accommodation, not talking to an employee when otherwise required by job duties, or otherwise excluding the employee from job-related activities because of engagement in activities protected under this policy.

### **Reporting Discrimination, Harassment, and/or Retaliation**

If you feel that you have witnessed or have been subjected to any form of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, immediately notify Meredith Kennedy at [mkennedy@aapca3.org](mailto:mkennedy@aapca3.org) or any member of management.

The Organization prohibits retaliation against employees who, based on a reasonable belief, provide information about, complain, or assist in the investigation of any complaint of harassment or discrimination.

We will promptly and thoroughly investigate any claim and take appropriate corrective and/or remedial action where we find a claim has merit. If the Organization begins an investigation, we will endeavor to conduct the investigation in a timely manner and will keep the investigation confidential to the extent possible. In the same way, anyone involved in an investigation of harassment has an obligation to keep all information about the investigation confidential. That is why the Organization will only share information about a complaint of harassment with those who need to know about it. Failure to keep information about an investigation confidential may result in disciplinary action. Investigations will be documented and tracked for timely resolution.

When the investigation has been completed, the Organization will normally communicate the results of the investigation to the complaining individual, to the alleged harasser, and, if appropriate, to others who are directly involved. If our policy against harassment is found to have been violated, appropriate corrective action, up to and including termination, will be taken against the harasser so that further harassment will be prevented. Both the rights of the alleged harasser and the complainant will be considered in any investigation and subsequent action.

Discipline for violation of this policy may include, but is not limited to, reprimand, suspension, demotion, transfer, and discharge. If the Organization determines that harassment or discrimination occurred, corrective action will be taken to effectively end the harassment. As necessary, the Organization may monitor any incident of harassment or discrimination to assure the inappropriate behavior has stopped. In all cases, the Organization will follow up as necessary to ensure that no individual is retaliated against for making a complaint or cooperating with an investigation.

In addition to our internal complaint procedure, employees may also contact either the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) or the California Civil Rights Department (CRD) to report unlawful harassment. You must file a complaint with the CRD within three years of the alleged unlawful action. The EEOC and the CRD serve as neutral factfinders and will attempt to assist the parties to voluntarily resolve their disputes. For more information, contact the Office of Human Resources or the nearest EEOC or CRD office.

### **Filing of Complaints Outside Company**

You may file formal complaints of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation with the agencies listed below. Contact these agencies directly for more information about filing processes.

#### **California Civil Rights Department**

651 Bannon Street, Suite 200

Sacramento, CA 95811

Voice: 800-884-1684

TTY: 800-700-2320

California Relay Service: 711

Email: [contact.center@calcivilrights.ca.gov](mailto:contact.center@calcivilrights.ca.gov)

Main website: <https://www.calcivilrights.ca.gov>

Online sexual harassment training courses: <https://www.calcivilrights.ca.gov/shpt/>

#### **U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**

450 Golden Gate Avenue 5 West

P.O. Box 36025

San Francisco, CA 94102-3661

Phone: 800-669-4000

Fax: 415-522-3415

TTY: 800-669-6820