

Civil Rights Compliance in Child and Adult Care Food Programs

For Child and Adult Care Homes and Centers, this course provides 1 hour of Civil Rights training and is required annually for food program participation.

What are Civil Rights?

“The nonpolitical rights of a citizen; the rights of personal liberty guaranteed to U.S. citizens by the 13th and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution and by Acts of Congress.”

Civil Rights Legislation

Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964

Prohibits discrimination based on race, color and national origin

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Prohibits discrimination based on disability

Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972

Prohibits discrimination based on sex under any education program or activity that is receiving federal financial assistance

Age Discrimination Act of 1975

Prohibits discrimination based on age under any program or activity that is receiving federal financial assistance

For more information visit: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cr/civil-rights-laws-regulations>

Protected Classes

Federal law prohibits discrimination in Child and Adult Nutrition Programs based on:



Race
Color
National Origin
Age
Sex
Disability

Reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity



All participants must be allowed equal opportunities to participate in CN programs regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, gender identity, religion, reprisal, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation or individual's income derived from any public assistance program.

Federal Law defines the ages of children who can participate in the Summer Food Service Program and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. The Age Discrimination Act requires that all children (as defined by federal law) are treated equally in these programs. The Age Discrimination Act does NOT mean that meals served to populations outside the required age ranges are eligible for reimbursement.

What is Discrimination?

The act of distinguishing one person or group of persons from another, either intentionally, by neglect, or by the effect of actions or lack of actions based on their protected class. All participants must be treated in the same manner (i.e. seating arrangements, services and facilities, assignment of eating periods).

Examples of discrimination in a CN program:

1. Students whose first language is Spanish are required to sit at a "Spanish-speaking" table for meals
2. Leftovers at the end of the meal service are only offered to the boys
3. Selectively distributing outreach materials

Civil Rights Training

Sponsors are responsible for training staff on an annual basis. At the end of the training, staff:

- Should be able to identify a civil rights complaint if received
- Should know what to do if they receive a complaint
- Should understand that it is the basic right of the individual to file a complaint
- Programs must ensure all employees receive civil rights training annually



Public Notification System

All sponsors and their sites* must display in a prominent place an updated "And Justice For All" nondiscrimination poster.

* Poster is not required for child care homes in Colorado

Provide informational materials in the appropriate translation as needed. The current "And Justice For All" poster is printed in both English and Spanish. Translations in many other languages are available by contacting the state agency or program sponsor in the state where you are located.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Include the nondiscrimination statement on **all** materials that mention USDA programs (including websites, social media accounts, parent handbooks, posted menus and advertising). A nondiscrimination statement is not required to be imprinted on items such as cups, buttons, magnets and pens that identify the program, when the size or configuration makes it impractical. Also, when using graphics, reflect diversity and inclusion.

Full Statement (revised May 2022)

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online, from any USDA office, by calling 866-632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: 1) mail: US Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; 2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; 3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Minimum Statement

*If the material or document is too small to permit the full statement (above) to be included, the material **MUST**, at a minimum, include the short statement below in a print size no smaller than the text of the material being shared.:*

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Racial/Ethnic Data Collection

Participating sites shall establish a system to collect racial and ethnic data of participants on an annual basis. Self-identification (or parent/guardian identification) is the preferred method of collection. Visual identification by staff is no longer a suitable means of collecting race and/or ethnical data.

Racial and Ethnic data should be kept on file for a minimum of three years and four months past the service date, as required for all USDA record keeping.

Collect ethnic data first, then racial data:

Ethnicity Includes:

1. Hispanic or Latino
2. Non-Hispanic or Non- Latino

Race Includes:

1. American Indian or Alaska Native
2. Asian
3. Black or African American
4. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
5. White



Civil Rights Complaints

Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or fear of reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program has the right to file a complaint within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory action.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer>, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. It is recommended that all sites designate a go-to person for Civil Rights issues.

Complaints may be written or verbal. If receiving a verbal complaint, listen politely and take notes to document the details as accurately as possible. Complaints can be made by phone, letter, email, fax or any other form of communication. Complaints may be anonymous. Anonymous complaints should be handled as any other complaint and may be related to any area of CACFP operation: program administration, food service, employment, etc.

What to do if you receive a Civil Rights complaint

If staff receive a verbal complaint, they should put it in writing as quickly as possible, try to include the following surrounding details and report this information to the USDA:

- a. Name, address and telephone number, and;
- b. The specific location it is alleged to have occurred, and;
- c. The nature of the incident or action that led the complainant to feel discrimination was a factor, and;
- d. The basis on which the complainant believes discrimination exists. (The bases for nondiscrimination are race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex) and;
- e. The names and contact information of persons who may have knowledge of the alleged discriminatory action, and;
- f. The date(s) during which the alleged discriminatory actions occurred.

Reasonable Accommodations

Sponsors must make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. All sponsors participating in Child and Adult Care Food Programs are *required* to provide FOOD SUBSTITUTIONS or MODIFICATIONS if:

- A medical authority's* statement is on file that describes the participant's medical need that prevents the participant from eating the regularly offered foods, and
- The medical authority has indicated the substitutions or modifications that the participant needs.
- If the participant is not disabled, the provider may make food substitutions at their discretion.

The Medical Statement or Special Diet Statement from the medical authority* must be kept on file at the center and/or school with a copy being provided to the sponsoring agency.

*Medical Authority: an individual licensed to write prescriptions in the State of CO or WY.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

Definition: Individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and have a limited ability to read, speak, write or understand English. All organizations receiving Federal financial assistance have a responsibility to take "reasonable steps" to ensure meaningful access to their programs and activities by persons with LEP. CACFP programs that fail to provide services to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) potentially eligible persons, applicants and participants, or deny them access to federally assisted programs and activities, may be discriminating on the basis of national origin in violation of Title VI.

SHORTAGE OF RESOURCES DOES NOT ELIMINATE REQUIREMENT!!!

LEP Resources

www.lep.gov

- Information and resources
- "ISpeak" card

Household applications in other languages:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/translated-applications>

Customer Service is Important

All participants must be allowed equal opportunities to participate in Child and Adult Care Food Programs regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

All participants must be treated in the same manner:

- Seating arrangements
- Serving lines
- Services and facilities
- Assignment of eating periods
- Methods of selection for application approval processes

Treat all participants with dignity and respect

- Respond to questions in a non-threatening manner (voice tone)
- Recognize that participants have varied needs and (sometimes) few resources
- Recognize when a person feels they have been treated in a rude manner
- Develop good listening skills





When you have completed this course, click [HERE](#) to take the test.

or type this address into your browser:

<https://goo.gl/forms/ZYfEJqUfdx5jE4O11>

Be sure to read each field carefully to ensure that you receive an accurate certificate.

Thank you for choosing us for
your training needs:

Wildwood CACFP

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Visit us online for more great tips
and information:

www.wildwoodonline.org

www.facebook.com/WildwoodCACFP