

Non-Discrimination Policy and Process

Civil Rights Compliance

As a condition for receiving VOCA funding from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), recipients (CCC/CNI) must comply with applicable federal civil rights laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Department of Justice's regulation for the Equal Treatment of Faith-Based Organizations. Depending on the funding source, a recipient must also comply with the nondiscrimination provisions within the applicable program statutes, which may include the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, the Victims of Crime Act, or the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Collectively, these federal laws prohibit a recipient of OJP funding from discriminating either in employment (subject to the exemption for certain faith-based organizations discussed below; see "Funding to Faith-based Organizations") or in the delivery of services or benefits on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability. In addition, OJP recipients may not discriminate on the basis of age in the delivery of services or benefits. See more information below on the related Statutes and Regulations.

Statutes and Regulations

The Office of Civil Right's enforcement responsibilities are derived from civil rights requirements contained in the following several nondiscrimination statutes and regulations:

- The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in programs authorized under VAWA. (42 U.S.C. § 13925(b)(13)).
- The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex, in OJP, OVW, and COPS funded programs or activities. (42 U.S.C. § 3789d and 28 C.F.R. §42.201 et seq.) A chart of grant programs generally covered by this nondiscrimination provision is located here.
- The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex in OJP funded programs or activities (42 U.S.C. § 5672(b)). A chart of grant programs generally covered by this nondiscrimination provision is located here.
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in OJP and COPS funded programs or activities. (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 28 C.F.R. §42.101 et seq.)
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in OJP and COPS funded programs or activities. (29 U.S.C. § 794 and 28 C.F.R. § 42.501 et seq.)

- Section 1407 of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability in VOCA funded programs or activities (42 U.S.C. § 10604). A chart of grant programs generally covered by this nondiscrimination provision is located here.
- Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as it relates to discrimination on the basis of disability in OJP or COPS funded programs or activities. (42 U.S.C. § 12132 and 28 C.F.R. Pt. 35).
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as it relates to discrimination on the basis of sex in OJP and COPS funded training or educational programs. (20 U.S.C. § 1681 and 28 C.F.R. pt 54).
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 as it relates to services discrimination on the basis of age in OJP or COPS funded programs or activities. (42 U.S.C. § 6102 and 28 C.F.R. § 42.700 et seq.)

Filing a Civil Rights Complaint

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) investigates complaints from members of the public who believe that an agency that receives funding from the Department of Justice has discriminated against them, either in employment or in the delivery of services or benefits.

Federal laws prohibit recipients of Department of Justice funding from discriminating against individuals or groups, either in employment or in the delivery of services or benefits, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability. In addition, federal law prohibits recipients of Department of Justice funding from discriminating on the basis of age in the delivery of services or benefits.

To file a civil rights complaint, contact the OCR at the following address:

Office for Civil Rights
Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531

You may also file a complaint with:

Arizona Department of Public Safety
VOCA Administration
Civil Rights Coordinator
PO Box 6638 – MD 1320
Phoenix, AZ 85005-6638