

Equal Educational Opportunities

Every student enrolled in a BOCES program shall have equal educational opportunities regardless of race, color, ancestry, creed, sex, sexual orientation (which includes transgender), religion, national origin, marital status, disability or need for special education services.

This concept of equal educational opportunity shall guide the Board and staff in making decisions related to BOCES facilities, selection of educational materials, equipment, curriculum and regulations affecting students. Students with identified physical and mental impairments that constitute disabilities shall be provided with a free appropriate public education, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.

In order to ensure that BOCES programs are in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, the Board directs the executive director or designee(s) to periodically monitor the following areas:

1. Training –consider whether there is a need to provide training for staff to identify and alleviate problems of discrimination.
2. Student access – review programs, activities and practices to ensure that all students have equal access and are not segregated except when permissible by law or regulation.
3. BOCES support – ensure that BOCES resources are equitably distributed among BOCES programs including but not limited to staffing and compensation, facilities, equipment and related matters.

Adopted: January 12, 2017

LEGAL REFS.: 20 U.S.C. §1681 (*Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972*)
20 U.S.C. §1701-1758 (*Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974*)
29 U.S.C. §701 *et seq.* (*Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973*)
C.R.S. 2-4-401 (13.5) (*definition of sexual orientation, which includes transgender*)
C.R.S. 24-34-601 (*unlawful discrimination in places of public accommodation*)
C.R.S. 24-34-602 (*penalty and civil liability for unlawful discrimination*)

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
JBB*, Sexual Harassment

NOTE: State law defines “sexual orientation” as “a person’s orientation toward heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, or transgender status or another person’s perception thereof.” C.R.S. 2-4-401(13.5).