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On June 23, 2022, the U.S. Department of Education circulated the unofficial version of its forthcoming Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“NPRM”), in which it proposes to amend the current Title IX regulations. Among other things, the NPRM contemplates changes to the role of the Title IX Coordinator, definitions of critical concepts (*e.g.*, sexual harassment), requirements for responding to allegations of sexual misconduct, protections for transgender students, and procedural standards.

Below, we provide a redline that compares the changes proposed in the NPRM to the current version of 34 C.F.R. Part 106. We have created this document to assist institutions as they work to understand the proposed changes and to prepare comments. Institutions interested in commenting on the proposed rule must do so within 60 days of the NPRM’s official publication in the Federal Register. Comments may be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Institutions with questions regarding the proposed Title IX rule are welcome to contact Aaron Lacey (alacey@thompsoncoburn.com), Scott Goldschmidt (sgoldschmidt@thompsoncoburn.com), or Stephanie Cohan (scohan@thompsoncoburn.com). Aaron, Scott, and Stephanie are all part of Thompson Coburn’s Higher Education Practice, and routinely advise postsecondary institutions on matters involving Title IX and other federal and state anti-discrimination laws.

Disclaimer

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**PART 106 – NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES
RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE****Subpart A - Introduction****§106.1 Purpose ~~and effective date.~~**

The purpose of this part is to effectuate ~~title~~**Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended by Pub. L. 93-568, 88 Stat. 1855 (except sections 904 and 906 of those Amendments)**, which is designed to eliminate (with certain exceptions) discrimination on the basis of sex in any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance, whether or not such program or activity is offered or sponsored by an educational institution as defined in this part. This part is also intended to effectuate section 844 of the Education Amendments of 1974, Pub. L. 93-380, 88 Stat. 484. ~~The effective date of this part shall be July 21, 1975.~~

§§§106.2 Definitions.

REDLINE NOTE: In its proposed rule, the Department consolidates all definitions to Section 106.2, and reorders the definitions so that they appear in alphabetical order. This is not the case in the current rule, which includes certain definitions relating to sexual misconduct in current Section 106.30, and does not alphabetize the definitions in current 106.2. In this updated comparison, we determined to place all definitions in Section 106.2 and to alphabetize the terms **prior** to creating this redline, which produces a more useful comparison document, as it makes much easier to discern which definitions have been revised or removed.

As used in this part, the term:

~~Actual knowledge means notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to a recipient's Title IX Coordinator or any official of the recipient who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the recipient, or to any employee of an elementary and secondary school. Imputation of knowledge based solely on vicarious liability or constructive notice is insufficient to constitute actual knowledge. This standard is not met when the only official of the recipient with actual knowledge is the respondent. The mere ability or obligation to report sexual harassment or to inform a student about how to report sexual harassment, or having been trained to do so, does not qualify an individual as one who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the recipient. "Notice" as used in this paragraph includes, but is not limited to, a report of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator as described in § 106.8(a).~~

~~(f)~~

Administrative law judge means a person appointed by the reviewing authority to preside over a hearing held under ~~this part~~ [§ 106.81](#).

~~(p)~~ *Administratively separate unit* means a school, department, or college of an educational institution (other than a local educational agency) admission to which is independent of admission to any other component of such institution.

~~(e)~~ *Admission* means selection for part-time, full-time, special, associate, transfer, exchange, or any other enrollment, membership, or matriculation in or at an education program or activity operated by a recipient.

~~(j)~~ *Applicant, as used in the definition of educational institution in this section and as used in § 106.4*, means one who submits an application, request, or plan required to be approved by a Department official, or by a recipient, as a condition to becoming a recipient.

~~(d)~~ *Assistant Secretary* means the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department.

Complainant means ~~an individual;~~ [\(1\) a student or employee](#) who is alleged to ~~be the victim of~~ [have been subjected to](#) conduct that could constitute ~~sexual harassment~~ [sex discrimination under Title IX; or \(2\) a person other than a student or employee who is alleged to have been subjected to conduct that could constitute sex discrimination under Title IX and who was participating or](#)

attempting to participate in the recipient's education program or activity when the alleged sex discrimination occurred.

~~Consent. The Assistant Secretary will not require recipients to adopt a particular definition of consent with respect to sexual assault, as referenced in this section.~~

~~(b)-~~

Complaint means an oral or written request to the recipient to initiate the recipient's grievance procedures as described in § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46.

Confidential employee means: (1) an employee of a recipient whose communications are privileged under Federal or State law associated with their role or duties for the institution; (2) an employee of a recipient whom the recipient has designated as a confidential resource for the purpose of providing services to persons in connection with sex discrimination—but if the employee also has a role or duty not associated with providing these services, the employee's status as confidential is limited to information received about sex discrimination in connection with providing these services; or (3) an employee of a postsecondary institution who is conducting an Institutional Review Board-approved human-subjects research study designed to gather information about sex discrimination—but the employee's confidential status is limited to information received while conducting the study.

Department means the Department of Education.

Disciplinary sanctions means consequences imposed on a respondent following a determination that the respondent violated the recipient's prohibition on sex discrimination.

~~(k)-~~ Educational institution means a local educational agency (LEA) as defined by section 1001(f)8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (20 U.S.C. 33817801(30)), a preschool, a private elementary or secondary school, or an applicant or recipient of the type defined by paragraph (l), (m), (n) that is an institution of graduate higher education, an institution of undergraduate higher education, an institution of professional education, or (o)an institution of this sectionvocational education.

~~Elementary and secondary school means a local educational agency (LEA), elementary school~~ as defined ~~in~~ by section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (20 U.S.C. 7801(19)), and a ~~preschool, public or a private elementary or secondary school~~ preschool.

~~(g)-~~ Federal financial assistance means any of the following, when authorized or extended under a law administered by the Department:

(1) A grant or loan of Federal financial assistance, including funds made available for:

(i) ~~(+)~~ The acquisition, construction, renovation, restoration, or repair of a building or facility or any portion thereof; and

(ii) ~~(ii)~~ Scholarships, loans, grants, wages or other funds extended to any entity for payment to or on behalf of students admitted to that entity, or extended directly to such students for payment to that entity.

(2) A grant of Federal real or personal property or any interest therein, including surplus property, and the proceeds of the sale or transfer of such property, if the Federal share of the fair market value of the property is not, upon such sale or transfer, properly accounted for to the Federal Government.

(3) Provision of the services of Federal personnel.

(4) Sale or lease of Federal property or any interest therein at nominal consideration, or at consideration reduced for the purpose of assisting the recipient or in recognition of public interest to be served thereby, or permission to use Federal property or any interest therein without consideration.

(5) Any other contract, agreement, or arrangement which has as one of its purposes the provision of assistance to any education program or activity, except a contract of insurance or guaranty.

~~Formal complaint means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that the recipient investigate the allegation of sexual harassment. At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the recipient with which the formal complaint is filed. A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by electronic mail, by using the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator under § 106.8(a), and by any additional method designated by the recipient. As used in this paragraph, the phrase "document filed by a complainant" means a document or electronic submission (such as by electronic mail or through an online portal provided for this purpose by the recipient) that contains the complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint. Where the Title IX Coordinator signs a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator is not a complainant or otherwise a party under this part or under § 106.45, and must comply with the requirements of this part, including § 106.45(b)(1)(iii).~~

~~(i)~~

Institution of graduate higher education means an institution which:

(1) ~~(1)~~ Offers academic study beyond the bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree, whether or not leading to a certificate of any higher degree in the liberal arts and sciences; or

(2) ~~(2)~~ Awards any degree in a professional field beyond the first professional degree (regardless of whether the first professional degree in such field is awarded by an institution of undergraduate higher education or professional education); or

(3) ~~(3)~~ Awards no degree and offers no further academic study, but operates ordinarily for the purpose of facilitating research by persons who have received the highest graduate degree in any field of study.

~~(m)~~ *Institution of undergraduate higher education* means:

(1) ~~(1)~~ An institution offering at least two but less than four years of college level study beyond the high school level, leading to a diploma or an associate degree, or wholly or principally creditable toward a baccalaureate degree; or

(2) ~~(2)~~ An institution offering academic study leading to a baccalaureate degree; or

(3) ~~(3)~~ An agency or body which certifies credentials or offers degrees, but which may or may not offer academic study.

~~(n)~~ *Institution of professional education* means an institution (except any institution of

undergraduate higher education) which offers a program of academic study that leads to a first professional degree in a field for which there is a national specialized accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary.

~~(o)~~ *Institution of vocational education* means a school or institution (except an institution of

professional or graduate or undergraduate higher education) which has as its primary purpose preparation of students to pursue a technical, skilled, or semiskilled occupation or trade, or to pursue study in a technical field, whether or not the school or institution offers certificates, diplomas, or degrees and whether or not it offers fulltime study.

Parental status, as used in §§ 106.21(c)(2)(i), 106.37(a)(3), 106.40(a), and 106.57(a)(1), means the status of a person who, with respect to another person who is under the age of 18 or who is 18 or older but is incapable of self-care because of a physical or mental disability, is:

(1) A biological parent;

(2) An adoptive parent;

(3) A foster parent;

(4) A stepparent;

(5) A legal custodian or guardian;

(6) In loco parentis with respect to such a person; or

(7) Actively seeking legal custody, guardianship, visitation, or adoption of such a person.

Peer retaliation means retaliation by a student against another student.

Postsecondary institution means an institution of graduate higher education ~~as defined in § 106.2(l)~~, an institution of undergraduate higher education ~~as defined in § 106.2(m)~~, an institution of professional education ~~as defined in § 106.2(n)~~, or an institution of vocational education ~~as defined in § 106.2(o)~~ that serves postsecondary school students.

Pregnancy or related conditions means:

(1) Pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or lactation;

(2) Medical conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or lactation; or

(3) Recovery from pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, lactation, or their

related medical conditions.

~~(h)~~ *Program or activity and program* means all of the operations of ~~—~~ =

~~(1)~~

(1) (i) A department, agency, special purpose district, or other instrumentality of a State or local government; or

(ii) The entity of a State or local government that distributes such assistance and each such department or agency (and each other State or local government entity) to which the assistance is extended, in the case of assistance to a State or local government;

~~(2)~~

(2) (i) A college, university, or other postsecondary institution, or a public system of higher education; or

(ii) A local educational agency (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 8801), system of vocational education, or other school system;

~~(3)~~

(3) (i) An entire corporation, partnership, other private organization, or an entire sole proprietorship ~~—~~

~~(A)~~ =

(A) If assistance is extended to such corporation, partnership, private organization, or sole proprietorship as a whole; or

(B) ~~(B)~~ Which is principally engaged in the business of providing education, health care, housing, social services, or parks and recreation; or

(ii) The entire plant or other comparable, geographically separate facility to which Federal financial assistance is extended, in the case of any other corporation, partnership, private organization, or sole proprietorship; or

(4) Any other entity that is established by two or more of the entities described in paragraph ~~(h)~~(1), (2), or (3) of this ~~section~~definition, any part of which is extended Federal financial assistance.

~~(i)~~*Recipient* means any State or political subdivision thereof, or any instrumentality of a State or political subdivision thereof, any public or private agency, institution, or organization, or other entity, or any person, to whom Federal financial assistance is extended directly or through another recipient and which operates an education program or activity which receives such assistance, including any subunit, successor, assignee, or transferee thereof.

Relevant means related to the allegations of sex discrimination under investigation as part of the grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46. Questions are relevant when they seek evidence that may aid in showing whether the alleged sex discrimination occurred, and evidence is relevant when it may aid a decisionmaker in determining whether the alleged sex discrimination occurred.

Remedies means measures provided, as appropriate, to a complainant or any other person the recipient identifies as having had equal access to the recipient's education program or activity limited or denied by sex discrimination. These measures are provided to restore or preserve that person's access to the recipient's education program or activity after a recipient determines that sex discrimination occurred.

Respondent means ~~an individual~~a person who ~~has been reported~~is alleged to ~~be have violated~~ the ~~perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment~~recipient's prohibition on sex discrimination.

Retaliation means intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person by a student, employee, person authorized by the recipient to provide aid, benefit, or service under the recipient's education program or activity, or recipient for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or this part, or because the person has reported information, made a complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this part, including in an informal resolution process under § 106.44(k), in grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, and in any other appropriate steps taken by a recipient in response to sex discrimination under § 106.44(f)(6).

~~(e)~~*Reviewing Authority* means that component of the Department delegated authority by the Secretary to appoint, and to review the decisions of, administrative law judges in cases arising under this part.

Secondary school means secondary school as defined by section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (20 U.S.C. 7801(45)), and an institution of vocational education that serves secondary school students.

~~(c)~~ Secretary means the Secretary of Education.

~~Sexual~~ Sex-based harassment prohibited by this part means sexual harassment, harassment on the bases described in § 106.10, and other conduct on the basis of sex that ~~satisfies one or more of the following~~ is:

(1) ~~(1)~~ Quid pro quo harassment. An employee ~~of, agent, or other person authorized by~~ the recipient to provide an aid, benefit, or service under the recipient's education program or activity explicitly or impliedly conditioning the provision of such an aid, benefit, or service ~~of the recipient on an individual~~ on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;

(2) ~~(2)~~ Hostile environment harassment. Unwelcome sex-based conduct ~~determined by a reasonable person to be so~~ that is sufficiently severe, or pervasive, that, based on the totality of the circumstances and evaluated subjectively and objectively ~~offensive that it effectively,~~ denies or limits a person ~~equal access to~~ s ability to participate in or benefit from the recipient's education program or activity (i.e., creates a hostile environment). Whether a hostile environment has been created is a fact-specific inquiry that includes consideration of the following:

(i) The degree to which the conduct affected the complainant's ability to access the recipient's education program or activity;

(ii) The type, frequency, and duration of the conduct;

(iii) The parties' ages, roles within the recipient's education program or activity, previous interactions, and other factors about each party that may be relevant to evaluating the effects of the alleged unwelcome conduct;

(iv) The location of the conduct, the context in which the conduct occurred, and the control the recipient has over the respondent; and

(v) Other sex-based harassment in the recipient's education program or activity; ~~or,~~

~~(3) "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8), or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30).~~

~~(f)~~

(3) Specific Offenses. (i) Sexual assault meaning an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

(ii) Dating violence meaning violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim;

(iii) Domestic violence meaning felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a person who:

(A) Is a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim under the family or domestic violence laws of the jurisdiction of the recipient, or a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim;

(B) Is cohabitating, or has cohabitated, with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;

(C) Shares a child in common with the victim; or

(D) Commits acts against a youth or adult victim who is protected from those acts under the family or domestic violence laws of the jurisdiction; or

(iv) Stalking meaning engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

(A) Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or

(B) Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Student means a person who has gained admission.

Student with a disability means a student who is an individual with a disability as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. 705(9)(B), (20)(B), or a child with a disability as defined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1401(3).

Supportive measures means non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services measures offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, without unreasonably burdening a party, and without fee or charge to the complainant or ~~the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed. Such measures are designed to:~~ (i) restore or preserve equal that party's access to the recipient's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including temporary measures that burden a respondent imposed for non-punitive and non-disciplinary reasons and that are designed to protect the safety of ~~all parties~~ the complainant or the recipient's educational environment, or deter ~~sexual~~ the respondent from engaging in sex-based harassment. ~~Supportive measures may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, campus escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work or housing locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus, and other similar measures. The recipient must maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to the complainant or respondent, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the recipient to provide the supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures; or (ii) provide support during the recipient's grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, or during the informal resolution process under § 106.44 (ak) .~~

Title IX means ~~title~~Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, ~~(Pub. L. 92-318, as amended by section 3 of Pub. L. 93-568, 88 Stat. 1855, except sections 904 and 906 thereof; 20 U.S.C. 1681, 1682, 1683, 1685, 1686.~~

~~(s) **Transition plan** means a plan subject to the approval of the Secretary pursuant to section 901(a)(2) of the Education Amendments of 1972, under which an educational institution operates in making the transition from being an educational institution which admits only students of one sex to being one which admits students of both sexes without discrimination, 1687, 1688), as amended.~~

§106.3 Remedial and affirmative action and self-evaluation.

(a) **Remedial action.** If the Assistant Secretary finds that a recipient has discriminated against persons on the basis of sex in an education program or activity under this part, or otherwise violated this part, such recipient must take such remedial action as the Assistant Secretary deems necessary to remedy the violation, consistent with 20 U.S.C. 1682.

(b) **Affirmative action.** In the absence of a finding of discrimination on the basis of sex in an education program or activity, a recipient may take affirmative action to overcome the effects of conditions which resulted in limited participation therein by persons of a particular sex. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to alter any affirmative action obligations which a recipient may have under Executive Order 11246.

~~(c) **Self-evaluation.** Each recipient education institution shall, within one year of the effective date of this part:~~

~~(1) Evaluate, in terms of the requirements of this part, its current policies and practices and the effects thereof concerning admission of students, treatment of students, and employment of both academic and non-academic personnel working in connection with the recipient's education program or activity;~~

~~(2) Modify any of these policies and practices which do not or may not meet the requirements of this part; and~~

~~(3) Take appropriate remedial steps to eliminate the effects of any discrimination which resulted or may have resulted from adherence to these policies and practices.~~

~~(d) **Availability of self-evaluation and related materials.** Recipients shall maintain on file for at least three years following completion of the evaluation required under paragraph (c) of this section, and shall provide to the Assistant Secretary upon request, a description of any modifications made pursuant to paragraph (c)(ii) of this section and of any remedial steps taken pursuant to paragraph (c)(iii) of this section.~~

§106.4 Assurance required.

(a) **General.** Every application for Federal financial assistance shall as condition of its approval contain or be accompanied by an assurance from the applicant or recipient, satisfactory to the Assistant Secretary, that the education program or activity operated by the applicant or recipient and to which this part applies will be operated in compliance with this part. An assurance of compliance with this part shall not be satisfactory to the Assistant Secretary if the applicant or recipient to whom such assurance applies fails to commit itself to take whatever remedial action is necessary in accordance with §106.3(a) to eliminate existing discrimination on the basis of sex or to eliminate the effects of past discrimination whether occurring prior or subsequent to the submission to the Assistant Secretary of such assurance.

(b) Duration of obligation.

(1) In the case of Federal financial assistance extended to provide real property or structures thereon, such assurance shall obligate the recipient or, in the case of a subsequent transfer, the transferee, for the period during which the real property or structures are used to provide an education program or activity.

(2) In the case of Federal financial assistance extended to provide personal property, such assurance shall obligate the recipient for the period during which it retains ownership or possession of the property.

(3) In all other cases such assurance shall obligate the recipient for the period during which Federal financial assistance is extended.

(c) **Form.** The Director will specify the form of the assurances required by paragraph (a) of this section and the extent to which such assurances will be required of the applicant's or recipient's subgrantees, contractors, subcontractors, transferees, or successors in interest.

§106.5 Transfers of property.

If a recipient sells or otherwise transfers property financed in whole or in part with Federal financial assistance to a transferee which operates any education program or activity, and the Federal share of the fair market value of the property is not upon such sale or transfer properly accounted for to the Federal Government both the transferor and the transferee shall be deemed to be recipients, subject to the provisions of subpart B of this part.

§106.6 Effect of other requirements and preservation of rights.

(a) **Effect of other Federal provisions.** The obligations imposed by this part are independent of, and do not alter, obligations not to discriminate on the basis of sex imposed by Executive Order 11246, as amended; sections 704 and 855 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 292d and 298b-2); Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e *et seq.*); the Equal Pay Act (29 U.S.C. 206 and 206(d)); and any other Act of Congress or Federal regulation.

(b) **Effect of State or local law or other requirements.** The obligation to comply with this part is not obviated or alleviated by any State or local law or other requirement ~~which~~. Nothing in this part

would ~~render any applicant or student ineligible, or limit the eligibility of any applicant or student, on the basis of sex, to practice any occupation or profession~~ preempt a State or local law that does not conflict with this part and that provides greater protections against sex discrimination.

(c) **Effect of rules or regulations of private organizations.** The obligation to comply with this part is not obviated or alleviated by any rule or regulation of any organization, club, athletic or other league, or association which would render any applicant or student ineligible to participate or limit the eligibility or participation of any applicant or student, on the basis of sex, in any education program or activity operated by a recipient and which receives Federal financial assistance.

(d) **Constitutional protections.** Nothing in this part requires a recipient to:

(1) Restrict any rights that would otherwise be protected from government action by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution;

(2) Deprive a person of any rights that would otherwise be protected from government action under the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution; or

(3) Restrict any other rights guaranteed against government action by the U.S. Constitution.

(e) **Effect of Section 444 of General Education Provisions Act (GEPA)/Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).** The obligation to comply with this part is not obviated or alleviated by the ~~FERPA statute~~ Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, or ~~FERPA~~ its implementing regulations, 34 CFR part 99.

(f) **Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.** Nothing in this part may be read in derogation of any individual's rights under title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq. or any regulations promulgated thereunder.

(g) **Exercise of rights by parents ~~or~~ guardians, or other authorized legal representatives.** Nothing in this part may be read in derogation of any legal right of a parent ~~or~~ guardian, or other authorized legal representative to act on behalf of a "complainant," "respondent," "party," or other ~~individual~~ person, subject to paragraph (e) of this section, including but not limited to ~~filing~~ making a ~~formal~~ complaint.

(h) ~~Preemptive effect. To the extent of a conflict between State or local law and title IX as implemented by §§ 106.30, 106.44, and 106.45, the obligation to comply with §§ 106.30, 106.44, and 106.45 is not obviated or alleviated by any State or local law~~ through the recipient's grievance procedures for complaints of sex discrimination.

§106.7 Effect of employment opportunities.

The obligation to comply with this part is not obviated or alleviated because employment opportunities in any occupation or profession are or may be more limited for members of one sex than for members of the other sex.

§106.8 Designation of coordinator, ~~dissemination~~adoption and publication of nondiscrimination policy,
and ~~adoption of~~ grievance procedures, notice of nondiscrimination, training, and recordkeeping.

(a) ~~(a)~~ Designation of ~~coordinator~~ Title IX Coordinator.

(1) Title IX Coordinator. Each recipient must designate and authorize at least one employee,
referred to herein as the Title IX Coordinator, to coordinate its efforts to comply with its
responsibilities under this part, ~~which employee must be referred.~~

(2) Delegation to designees. As appropriate, the recipient may assign one or more designees
to ~~as~~ carry out some of the “recipient’s responsibilities for compliance with this part, but
one Title IX Coordinator.” ~~The recipient must notify applicants for admission and~~
~~employment, students,~~ retain ultimate oversight over those responsibilities.

(b) Adoption and publication of nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures.

(1) Nondiscrimination policy. Each recipient must adopt and publish a policy stating that
the recipient does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any
education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and this part, including in
admission (unless subpart C of this part does not apply) and employment.

(2) Grievance procedures. A recipient must adopt and publish grievance procedures
consistent with the requirements of § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, that provide for the prompt
and equitable resolution of complaints made by students, employees, or third parties who are
participating or attempting to participate in the recipient’s education program or activity, or by the
Title IX Coordinator, alleging any action that would be prohibited by Title IX and this part.

(b) Notice of nondiscrimination. A recipient must provide a notice of nondiscrimination to
students; parents ~~or legal,~~ guardians, or other authorized legal representatives of elementary school
and secondary school students; employees; applicants for admission and employment; and all unions
~~or~~ and professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the
recipient;

(1) Contents of ~~the~~ notice of nondiscrimination. The notice of nondiscrimination must include
the following elements:

(iii) A statement that the recipient does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits
sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title
IX and this part, including in admission (unless subpart C of this part does not apply) and
employment;

(iv) A statement that inquiries about the application of Title IX and this part to the
recipient may be referred to the recipient’s Title IX Coordinator, to the Office for Civil Rights,
or to both;

(v) The name or title, office address, ~~electronic mail~~ email address, and telephone number of the ~~employee or employees designated as the~~ recipient's Title IX Coordinator pursuant to this paragraph. Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report. Such a report may be made at any time (including during non-business hours) by using the telephone number or electronic mail address, or by mail to the office address, listed for the Title IX Coordinator.;

~~(b) Dissemination of policy—~~

~~(1) Notification of policy.~~ Each recipient must notify persons entitled to a notification under paragraph (a) of this section that the recipient does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity that it operates, and that it is required by title IX and this part not to discriminate in such a manner. Such notification must state that the requirement not to discriminate in the education program or activity extends to admission (unless subpart C of this part does not apply) and employment, and that inquiries about the application of title IX and this part to such recipient may be referred to the recipient's Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary, or both.

~~(2) Publications~~

(vi) How to locate the recipient's nondiscrimination policy under paragraph (b)(1) of this section; and

(vii) How to report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX, how to make a complaint of sex discrimination under this part, and how to locate the recipient's grievance procedures under paragraph (b)(2) of this section, § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46.

(2) Publication of notice of nondiscrimination.

~~(i)~~

(i) Each recipient must prominently display the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator under paragraph (a) of this section and the policy described ~~include all elements of its notice of nondiscrimination set out~~ in paragraphs (b)(1)(i)-(v) of this section on its website, if any, and in each handbook or, catalog, announcement, bulletin, and application form that it makes available to persons entitled to a notification notice under paragraph (a) of this section, or which are otherwise used in connection with the recruitment of students or employees.

(ii) If necessary, due to the format or size of any publication under paragraph (c)(2) of this section, the recipient may instead comply with paragraph (c)(2) of this section by including in those publications a statement that the recipient prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or

activity that it operates and that individuals may report concerns or questions to the Title IX Coordinator, and providing the location of the notice on the recipient's website.

(viii) (ii) A recipient must not use or distribute a publication stating that the recipient treats applicants, students, or employees differently on the basis of sex, except as such treatment is permitted by ~~title~~Title IX or this part.

~~(c) **Adoption of grievance procedures.** A recipient must adopt and publish grievance procedures that provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that would be prohibited by this part and a grievance process that complies with § 106.45 for formal complaints as defined in § 106.30. A recipient must provide to persons entitled to a notification under paragraph (a) of this section notice of the recipient's grievance procedures and grievance process, including how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of sexual harassment, and how the recipient will respond.~~

~~(d) **Application outside the United States.** The requirements of paragraph (c) of this section apply only to sex discrimination occurring against a person in the United States.~~

(d) **Training.** The recipient must ensure that the persons described below receive training related to their responsibilities as follows. This training must not rely on sex stereotypes. (1) **All employees.** All employees must be trained on:

(i) The recipient's obligation to address sex discrimination in its education program or activity;

(ii) The scope of conduct that constitutes sex discrimination under this part, including the definition of sex-based harassment; and

(iii) All applicable notification and information requirements under §§ 106.40(b)(2) and 106.44.

(2) **Investigators, decisionmakers, and other persons who are responsible for implementing the recipient's grievance procedures or have the authority to modify or terminate supportive measures.** In addition to the training requirements in paragraph (d)(1) of this section, all investigators, decisionmakers, and other persons who are responsible for implementing the recipient's grievance procedures or have the authority to modify or terminate supportive measures under § 106.44(g)(4) must be trained on the following topics to the extent related to their responsibilities:

(i) The recipient's obligations under § 106.44;

(ii) The recipient's grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46;

(iv) How to serve impartially, including by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias; and

(v) The meaning and application of the term relevant in relation to questions and evidence, and the types of evidence that are impermissible regardless of relevance under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46.

(3) *Facilitators of informal resolution process.* In addition to the training requirements in paragraph (d)(1) of this section, all facilitators of an informal resolution process under § 106.44(k) must be trained on the rules and practices associated with the recipient's informal resolution process and on how to serve impartially, including by avoiding conflicts of interest and bias.

(4) *Title IX Coordinator and designees.* In addition to the training requirements in paragraphs (d)(1)-(3) of this section, the Title IX Coordinator and any designees under paragraph(a) of this section must be trained on their specific responsibilities under paragraph (a) of this section, § 106.40(b)(3), § 106.44(f), § 106.44(g), the recipient's recordkeeping system and the requirements of paragraph (f) of this section, and any other training necessary to coordinate the recipient's compliance with Title IX.

(e) *Students with disabilities.* If a complainant or respondent is an elementary or secondary student with a disability, the Title IX Coordinator must consult with the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team, 34 CFR 300.321, if any, or the group of persons responsible for the student's placement decision under 34 CFR 104.35(c) (Section 504 team), if any, to help ensure that the recipient complies with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794, throughout the recipient's implementation of grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46. If a complainant or respondent is a postsecondary student with a disability, the Title IX Coordinator may consult, as appropriate, with the individual or office that the recipient has designated to provide support to students with disabilities to help comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794.

(f) *Recordkeeping.* A recipient must maintain for a period of at least seven years:

(1) For each complaint of sex discrimination, records documenting the informal resolution process under § 106.44(k) or the grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, and the resulting outcome.

(2) For each incident of conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX of which the Title IX Coordinator was notified, records documenting the actions the recipient took to meet its obligations under § 106.44.

(3) All materials used to provide training under paragraph (d) of this section. A recipient must make these training materials publicly available on its website, or if the recipient does not maintain a website the recipient must make these materials available upon request for inspection by members of the public.

(4) All records documenting the actions the recipient took to meet its obligations under §§ 106.40 and 106.57.

§106.9 Severability.

If any provision of this subpart or its application to any person, act, or practice is held invalid, the remainder of the subpart or the application of its provisions to any person, act, or practice shall not be affected thereby.

Subpart B—Coverage

§106.10 Scope.

Discrimination on the basis of sex includes discrimination on the basis of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

§106.11 Application.

Except as provided in this subpart, this part ~~106~~ applies to every recipient and to ~~the~~all sex discrimination occurring under a recipient's education program or activity ~~operated by such recipient which receives Federal financial assistance in the United States. For purposes of this section, conduct that occurs under a recipient's education program or activity includes but is not limited to conduct that occurs in a building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by a postsecondary institution, and conduct that is subject to the recipient's disciplinary authority. A recipient has an obligation to address a sex-based hostile environment under its education program or activity, even if sex-based harassment contributing to the hostile environment occurred outside the recipient's education program or activity or outside the United States.~~

§106.12 Educational institutions controlled by religious organizations.

(a) **Application.** This part does not apply to an educational institution which is controlled by a religious organization to the extent application of this part would not be consistent with the religious tenets of such organization.

(b) **Assurance of exemption.** An educational institution that seeks assurance of the exemption set forth in paragraph (a) of this section may do so by submitting in writing to the Assistant Secretary a statement by the highest ranking official of the institution, identifying the provisions of this part that conflict with a specific tenet of the religious organization. An institution is not required to seek assurance from the Assistant Secretary in order to assert such an exemption. In the event the Department notifies an institution that it is under investigation for noncompliance with this part and the institution wishes to assert an exemption set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, the institution may at that time raise its exemption by submitting in writing to the Assistant Secretary a statement by the highest ranking official of the institution, identifying the provisions of this part which conflict with a specific tenet of the religious organization, whether or not the institution had previously sought assurance of an exemption from the Assistant Secretary.

§106.13 Military and merchant marine educational institutions.

This part does not apply to an educational institution whose primary purpose is the training of individuals for a military service of the United States or for the merchant marine.

§106.14 Membership practices of certain organizations.

(a) **Social fraternities and sororities.** This part does not apply to the membership practices of social fraternities and sororities which are exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, the active membership of which consists primarily of students in attendance at institutions of higher education.

(b) **YMCA, YWCA, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls.** This part does not apply to the membership practices of the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, the Girl Scouts, the Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls.

(c) **Voluntary youth service organizations.** This part does not apply to the membership practices of voluntary youth service organizations which are exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and the membership of which has been traditionally limited to members of one sex and principally to persons of less than nineteen years of age.

§106.15 Admissions.

(a) Admissions to educational institutions prior to June 24, 1973, are not covered by this part.

(b) **Administratively separate units.** For the purposes only of this section, ~~§§106.16 and 106.17,~~ and subpart C, each administratively separate unit shall be deemed to be an educational institution.

(c) **Application of subpart C.** Except as provided in paragraphs (d) and (e) of this section, subpart C applies to each recipient. A recipient to which subpart C applies shall not discriminate on the basis of sex in admission or recruitment in violation of that subpart.

(d) **Educational institutions.** Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section as to recipients which are educational institutions, subpart C applies only to institutions of vocational education, professional education, graduate higher education, and public institutions of undergraduate higher education.

(e) **Public institutions of undergraduate higher education.** Subpart C does not apply to any public institution of undergraduate higher education which traditionally and continually from its establishment has had a policy of admitting only students of one sex.

~~§106.16 Educational institutions eligible to submit transition plans.~~

~~(a) **Application.** This section applies to each educational institution to which subpart C applies which:~~

~~(1) Admitted only students of one sex as regular students as of June 23, 1972; or~~

~~(2) Admitted only students of one sex as regular students as of June 23, 1965, but thereafter admitted as regular students, students of the sex not admitted prior to June 23, 1965.~~

~~(b) **Provision for transition plans.** An educational institution to which this section applies shall not discriminate on the basis of sex in admission or recruitment in violation of subpart C unless it is carrying out a transition plan approved by the Secretary as described in §106.17, which plan provides for the~~

elimination of such discrimination by the earliest practicable date but in no event later than June 23, 1979.

~~§106.17 Transition plans.~~

~~(a) **Submission of plans.** An institution to which §106.16 applies and which is composed of more than one administratively separate unit may submit either a single transition plan applicable to all such units, or a separate transition plan applicable to each such unit.~~

~~(b) **Content of plans.** In order to be approved by the Secretary a transition plan shall:~~

~~(1) State the name, address, and Federal Interagency Committee on Education (FICE) Code of the educational institution submitting such plan, the administratively separate units to which the plan is applicable, and the name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom questions concerning the plan may be addressed. The person who submits the plan shall be the chief administrator or president of the institution, or another individual legally authorized to bind the institution to all actions set forth in the plan.~~

~~(2) State whether the educational institution or administratively separate unit admits students of both sexes, as regular students and, if so, when it began to do so.~~

~~(3) Identify and describe with respect to the educational institution or administratively separate unit any obstacles to admitting students without discrimination on the basis of sex.~~

~~(4) Describe in detail the steps necessary to eliminate as soon as practicable each obstacle so identified and indicate the schedule for taking these steps and the individual directly responsible for their implementation.~~

~~(5) Include estimates of the number of students, by sex, expected to apply for, be admitted to, and enter each class during the period covered by the plan.~~

~~(c) **Nondiscrimination.** No policy or practice of a recipient to which §106.16 applies shall result in treatment of applicants to or students of such recipient in violation of subpart C unless such treatment is necessitated by an obstacle identified in paragraph (b) (3) of this section and a schedule for eliminating that obstacle has been provided as required by paragraph (b) (4) of this section.~~

~~(d) **Effects of past exclusion.** To overcome the effects of past exclusion of students on the basis of sex, each educational institution to which §106.16 applies shall include in its transition plan, and shall implement, specific steps designed to encourage individuals of the previously excluded sex to apply for admission to such institution. Such steps shall include instituting recruitment which emphasizes the institution's commitment to enrolling students of the sex previously excluded.~~

~~§106.18~~

§106.16 Severability.

If any provision of this subpart or its application to any person, act, or practice is held invalid, the remainder of the subpart or the application of its provisions to any person, act, or practice shall not be affected thereby.

Subpart C—Discrimination on the Basis of Sex in Admission and Recruitment Prohibited

§106.21 ~~Admission~~Admissions.

(a) ~~General~~Status generally. No person shall, on the basis of sex, be denied admission, or be subjected to discrimination in admission, by any recipient to which this subpart applies, ~~except as provided in §§106.16 and 106.17.~~

(b) *Specific prohibitions.*

(1) In determining whether a person satisfies any policy or criterion for admission, or in making any offer of admission, a recipient to which this subpart applies shall not:

(i) Give preference to one person over another on the basis of sex, by ranking applicants separately on such basis, or otherwise;

(ii) Apply numerical limitations upon the number or proportion of persons of either sex who may be admitted; or

(iii) Otherwise treat one individual differently from another on the basis of sex.

(2) A recipient shall not administer or operate any test or other criterion for admission which has a disproportionately adverse effect on persons on the basis of sex unless the use of such test or criterion is shown to predict validly success in the education program or activity in question and alternative tests or criteria which do not have such a disproportionately adverse effect are shown to be unavailable.

(c) ~~Prohibitions relating to~~Parental, family, or marital or parental status; pregnancy or related conditions. In determining whether a person satisfies any policy or criterion for admission, or in making any offer of admission, a recipient to which this subpart applies:

~~(1) Shall~~

(1) Must treat pregnancy or related conditions or any temporary disability resulting therefrom in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disability or physical condition; and

(2) Must not:

(i) ~~Adopt or~~ apply any ~~rule policy, practice, or procedure~~ concerning the ~~actual or current,~~ potential, ~~or past~~ parental, family, or marital status of a student or applicant ~~which that~~ treats persons differently on the basis of sex;

(ii) ~~(2) Shall not discriminate~~ Discriminate against ~~or exclude~~ any person on the basis of ~~pregnancy, childbirth, termination of~~ current, potential, or past pregnancy, or ~~recovery therefrom~~ related conditions, or establish or follow any ~~rule or policy,~~ practice ~~which, or procedure that~~ so discriminates ~~or excludes~~; and

~~(3) Shall treat disabilities related to pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disability or physical condition; and~~

(iii) Make pre-admission inquiry as to the marital status of an applicant for admission.

(4) ~~Shall not make~~ Make pre-admission inquiry as to the marital status of an applicant for admission, including whether such applicant is “Miss” or “Mrs.” A recipient may ~~make pre-admission inquiry as to the sex of~~ ask an applicant ~~for admission~~ to self-identify their sex, but only if ~~such inquiry~~ this question is ~~made equally~~ asked of ~~such~~ all applicants ~~of both sexes~~ and if the ~~results of such inquiry are not used in connection with~~ response is not a basis for discrimination prohibited by this part.

§106.22 Preference in admission.

A recipient to which this subpart applies shall not give preference to applicants for admission, on the basis of attendance at any educational institution or other school or entity which admits as students only or predominantly members of one sex, if the giving of such preference has the effect of discriminating on the basis of sex in violation of this subpart.

§106.23 Recruitment.

(a) *Nondiscriminatory recruitment.* A recipient to which this subpart applies shall not discriminate on the basis of sex in the recruitment and admission of students. A recipient may be required to undertake additional recruitment efforts for one sex as remedial action pursuant to §106.3(a), and may choose to undertake such efforts as affirmative action pursuant to §106.3(b).

(b) *Recruitment at certain institutions.* A recipient to which this subpart applies shall not recruit primarily or exclusively at educational institutions, schools or entities which admit as students only or predominantly members of one sex, if such actions have the effect of discriminating on the basis of sex in violation of this subpart.

§106.24 Severability.

If any provision of this subpart or its application to any person, act, or practice is held invalid, the remainder of the subpart or the application of its provisions to any person, act, or practice shall not be affected thereby.

Subpart D—Discrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Prohibited

~~§106.30—Definitions.~~

NOTE TO REDLINE: The definitions of the following terms, which currently appear in Section 106.30, were moved to Section 106.2 prior to creating this redline, in order to facilitate a more useful comparison: Actual knowledge, Complainant, Consent, Formal complaint, Respondent, Sexual harassment, Supportive measures, Elementary and secondary school, Postsecondary institution. Revision or deletion of these terms can be viewed in Section 106.2.

§106.31 Education programs or activities.

~~(a)~~ *General.*

(1) Except as provided elsewhere in this part, no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any academic, extracurricular, research, occupational training, or other education program or activity operated by a recipient which receives Federal financial assistance.

(2) In the limited circumstances in which Title IX or this part permits different treatment or separation on the basis of sex, a recipient must not carry out such different treatment or separation in a manner that discriminates on the basis of sex by subjecting a person to more than de minimis harm, unless otherwise permitted by Title IX or this part. Adopting a policy or engaging in a practice that prevents a person from participating in an education program or activity consistent with the person's gender identity subjects a person to more than de minimis harm on the basis of sex.

(3) This subpart does not apply to actions of a recipient in connection with admission of its students to an education program or activity of ~~(1)~~ a recipient to which subpart C does not apply, or ~~(2)~~ an entity, not a recipient, to which subpart C would not apply if the entity were a recipient.

(b) Specific prohibitions. Except as provided in this subpart, in providing any aid, benefit, or service to a student, a recipient shall not, on the basis of sex:

(1) Treat one person differently from another in determining whether such person satisfies any requirement or condition for the provision of such aid, benefit, or service;

(2) Provide different aid, benefits, or services or provide aid, benefits, or services in a different manner;

(3) Deny any person any such aid, benefit, or service;

(4) Subject any person to separate or different rules of behavior, sanctions, or other treatment;

(5) Apply any rule concerning the domicile or residence of a student or applicant, including eligibility for in-state fees and tuition;

(6) Aid or perpetuate discrimination against any person by providing significant assistance to any agency, organization, or person which discriminates on the basis of sex in providing any aid, benefit or service to students or employees;

(7) Otherwise limit any person in the enjoyment of any right, privilege, advantage, or opportunity.

(c) *Assistance administered by a recipient educational institution to study at a foreign institution.* A recipient educational institution may administer or assist in the administration of scholarships, fellowships, or other awards established by foreign or domestic wills, trusts, or similar legal instruments, or by acts of foreign governments and restricted to members of one sex, which are designed to provide opportunities to study abroad, and which are awarded to students who are already matriculating at or who are graduates of the recipient institution; *Provided*, a recipient educational institution which administers or assists in the administration of such scholarships, fellowships, or other awards which are restricted to members of one sex provides, or otherwise makes available reasonable opportunities for similar studies for members of the other sex. Such opportunities may be derived from either domestic or foreign sources.

(d) *Aid, benefits or services not provided by recipient.*

(1) This paragraph applies to any recipient which requires participation by any applicant, student, or employee in any education program or activity not operated wholly by such recipient, or which facilitates, permits, or considers such participation as part of or equivalent to an education program or activity operated by such recipient, including participation in educational consortia and cooperative employment and student-teaching assignments.

(2) Such recipient:

(i) Shall develop and implement a procedure designed to assure itself that the operator or sponsor of such other education program or activity takes no action affecting any applicant, student, or employee of such recipient which this part would prohibit such recipient from taking; and

(ii) Shall not facilitate, require, permit, or consider such participation if such action occurs.

§106.32 Housing.

(a) **Generally.** A recipient shall not, on the basis of sex, apply different rules or regulations, impose different fees or requirements, or offer different services or benefits related to housing, except as provided in this section (including housing provided only to married students).

(b) *Housing provided by recipient.*

(1) A recipient may provide separate housing on the basis of sex.

(2) Housing provided by a recipient to students of one sex, when compared to that provided to students of the other sex, shall be as a whole:

(i) Proportionate in quantity to the number of students of that sex applying for such housing; and

(ii) Comparable in quality and cost to the student.

(c) *Other housing.*

(1) A recipient shall not, on the basis of sex, administer different policies or practices concerning occupancy by its students of housing other than provided by such recipient.

(2) A recipient which, through solicitation, listing, approval of housing, or otherwise, assists any agency, organization, or person in making housing available to any of its students, shall take such reasonable action as may be necessary to assure itself that such housing as is provided to students of one sex, when compared to that provided to students of the other sex, is as a whole:

(i) Proportionate in quantity and

(ii) Comparable in quality and cost to the student.

A recipient may render such assistance to any agency, organization, or person which provides all or part of such housing to students only of one sex.

§106.33 Comparable facilities.

A recipient may provide separate toilet, locker room, and shower facilities on the basis of sex, but such facilities provided for students of one sex shall be comparable to such facilities provided for students of the other sex.

§106.34 Access to classes and schools.

(a) ***General standard.*** Except as provided for in this section or otherwise in this part, a recipient shall not provide or otherwise carry out any of its education programs or activities separately on the basis of sex, or require or refuse participation therein by any of its students on the basis of sex.

(1) ***Contact sports in physical education classes.*** This section does not prohibit separation of students by sex within physical education classes or activities during participation in wrestling, boxing, rugby, ice hockey, football, basketball, and other sports the purpose or major activity of which involves bodily contact.

(2) **Ability grouping in physical education classes.** This section does not prohibit grouping of students in physical education classes and activities by ability as assessed by objective standards of individual performance developed and applied without regard to sex.

(3) **Human sexuality classes.** Classes or portions of classes in elementary and secondary schools that deal primarily with human sexuality may be conducted in separate sessions for boys and girls.

(4) **Choruses.** Recipients may make requirements based on vocal range or quality that may result in a chorus or choruses of one or predominantly one sex.

(b) **Classes and extracurricular activities—**

(1) **General standard.** Subject to the requirements in this paragraph, a recipient that operates a nonvocational coeducational elementary or secondary school may provide nonvocational single-sex classes or extracurricular activities, if—

(i) Each single-sex class or extracurricular activity is based on the recipient's important objective—

(A) To improve educational achievement of its students, through a recipient's overall established policy to provide diverse educational opportunities, provided that the single-sex nature of the class or extracurricular activity is substantially related to achieving that objective; or

(B) To meet the particular, identified educational needs of its students, provided that the single-sex nature of the class or extracurricular activity is substantially related to achieving that objective;

(ii) The recipient implements its objective in an evenhanded manner;

(iii) Student enrollment in a single-sex class or extracurricular activity is completely voluntary; and

(iv) The recipient provides to all other students, including students of the excluded sex, a substantially equal coeducational class or extracurricular activity in the same subject or activity.

(2) **Single-sex class or extracurricular activity for the excluded sex.** A recipient that provides a single-sex class or extracurricular activity, in order to comply with paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section, may be required to provide a substantially equal single-sex class or extracurricular activity for students of the excluded sex.

(3) **Substantially equal factors.** Factors the Department will consider, either individually or in the aggregate as appropriate, in determining whether classes or extracurricular activities are substantially equal include, but are not limited to, the following: the policies and criteria of admission, the educational benefits provided, including the quality, range, and content of curriculum and other services and the quality and availability of books, instructional materials, and technology, the

qualifications of faculty and staff, geographic accessibility, the quality, accessibility, and availability of facilities and resources provided to the class, and intangible features, such as reputation of faculty.

(4) *Periodic evaluations.*

(i) The recipient must conduct periodic evaluations to ensure that single-sex classes or extracurricular activities are based upon genuine justifications and do not rely on overly broad generalizations about the different talents, capacities, or preferences of either sex and that any single-sex classes or extracurricular activities are substantially related to the achievement of the important objective for the classes or extracurricular activities.

(ii) Evaluations for the purposes of paragraph (b)(4)(i) of this section must be conducted at least every two years.

(5) *Scope of coverage.* The provisions of paragraph (b)(1) through (4) of this section apply to classes and extracurricular activities provided by a recipient directly or through another entity, but the provisions of paragraph (b)(1) through (4) of this section do not apply to interscholastic, club, or intramural athletics, which are subject to the provisions of §§106.41 and 106.37(c) of this part.

(c) *Schools*—

(1) *General Standard.* Except as provided in paragraph (c)(2) of this section, a recipient that operates a public nonvocational elementary or secondary school that excludes from admission any students, on the basis of sex, must provide students of the excluded sex a substantially equal single-sex school or coeducational school.

(2) *Exception.* A nonvocational public charter school that is a single-school local educational agency under State law may be operated as a single-sex charter school without regard to the requirements in paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

(3) *Substantially equal factors.* Factors the Department will consider, either individually or in the aggregate as appropriate, in determining whether schools are substantially equal include, but are not limited to, the following: The policies and criteria of admission, the educational benefits provided, including the quality, range, and content of curriculum and other services and the quality and availability of books, instructional materials, and technology, the quality and range of extracurricular offerings, the qualifications of faculty and staff, geographic accessibility, the quality, accessibility, and availability of facilities and resources, and intangible features, such as reputation of faculty.

(4) *Definition.* For the purposes of paragraph (c)(1) through (3) of this section, the term “school” includes a “school within a school,” which means an administratively separate school located within another school.

§106.35 Access to institutions of vocational education.

A recipient shall not, on the basis of sex, exclude any person from admission to any institution of vocational education operated by that recipient.

§106.36 Counseling and use of appraisal and counseling materials.

(a) **Counseling.** A recipient shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex in the counseling or guidance of students or applicants for admission.

(b) **Use of appraisal and counseling materials.** A recipient which uses testing or other materials for appraising or counseling students shall not use different materials for students on the basis of their sex or use materials which permit or require different treatment of students on such basis unless such different materials cover the same occupations and interest areas and the use of such different materials is shown to be essential to eliminate sex bias. Recipients shall develop and use internal procedures for ensuring that such materials do not discriminate on the basis of sex. Where the use of a counseling test or other instrument results in a substantially disproportionate number of members of one sex in any particular course of study or classification, the recipient shall take such action as is necessary to assure itself that such disproportion is not the result of discrimination in the instrument or its application.

(c) **Disproportion in classes.** Where a recipient finds that a particular class contains a substantially disproportionate number of individuals of one sex, the recipient shall take such action as is necessary to assure itself that such disproportion is not the result of discrimination on the basis of sex in counseling or appraisal materials or by counselors.

§106.37 Financial assistance.

(a) **General.** Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, in providing financial assistance to any of its students, a recipient shall not:

(1) On the basis of sex, provide different amount or types of such assistance, limit eligibility for such assistance which is of any particular type or source, apply different criteria, or otherwise discriminate;

(2) Through solicitation, listing, approval, provision of facilities or other services, assist any foundation, trust, agency, organization, or person which provides assistance to any of such recipient's students in a manner which discriminates on the basis of sex; or

(3) Apply any rule or assist in application of any rule concerning eligibility for such assistance which treats persons of one sex differently from persons of the other sex with regard to marital or parental status.

(b) **Financial aid established by certain legal instruments.**

(1) A recipient may administer or assist in the administration of scholarships, fellowships, or other forms of financial assistance established pursuant to domestic or foreign wills, trusts, bequests, or similar legal instruments or by acts of a foreign government which requires that awards be made to members of a particular sex specified therein; *Provided*, That the overall effect of the award of such sex-restricted scholarships, fellowships, and other forms of financial assistance does not discriminate on the basis of sex.

(2) To ensure nondiscriminatory awards of assistance as required in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, recipients shall develop and use procedures under which:

(i) Students are selected for award of financial assistance on the basis of nondiscriminatory criteria and not on the basis of availability of funds restricted to members of a particular sex;

(ii) An appropriate sex-restricted scholarship, fellowship, or other form of financial assistance is allocated to each student selected under paragraph (b)(2)(i) of this section; and

(iii) No student is denied the award for which he or she was selected under paragraph (b)(2)(i) of this section because of the absence of a scholarship, fellowship, or other form of financial assistance designated for a member of that student's sex.

(c) *Athletic scholarships.*

(1) To the extent that a recipient awards athletic scholarships or grants-in-aid, it must provide reasonable opportunities for such awards for members of each sex in proportion to the number of students of each sex participating in interscholastic or intercollegiate athletics.

(2) Separate athletic scholarships or grants-in-aid for members of each sex may be provided as part of separate athletic teams for members of each sex to the extent consistent with this paragraph and §106.41.

§106.38 Employment assistance to students.

(a) ***Assistance by recipient in making available outside employment.*** A recipient which assists any agency, organization or person in making employment available to any of its students:

(1) Shall assure itself that such employment is made available without discrimination on the basis of sex; and

(2) Shall not render such services to any agency, organization, or person which discriminates on the basis of sex in its employment practices.

(b) ***Employment of students by recipients.*** A recipient which employs any of its students shall not do so in a manner which violates subpart E of this part.

§106.39 Health and insurance benefits and services.

In providing a medical, hospital, accident, or life insurance benefit, service, policy, or plan to any of its students, a recipient shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, or provide such benefit, service, policy, or plan in a manner which would violate Subpart E of this part if it were provided to employees of the recipient. This section shall not prohibit a recipient from providing any benefit or service which may be used by a different proportion of students of one sex than of the other, including family planning services. However, any recipient which provides full coverage health service shall provide gynecological care.

§106.40 ~~Marital~~Parental, family, or parental~~marital~~ status; pregnancy or related conditions.

(a) **Status generally.** A recipient shall not adopt or apply any ~~rule~~policy, practice, or procedure concerning a student's ~~actual or~~current, potential, or past parental, family, or marital status which treats students differently on the basis of sex.

(b) **Pregnancy and related conditions.**

(1) **Nondiscrimination.** A recipient shall not discriminate ~~against any student, or exclude any student from~~in its education program or activity, ~~including any class or extracurricular activity,~~ against any student based on the ~~basis of such~~ student's current, potential, or past pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy or recovery therefrom, ~~unless the student requests voluntarily~~ or related conditions. A recipient may permit a student based on pregnancy or related conditions to participate voluntarily in a separate portion of ~~the program or activity of the recipient.~~

~~(2) A recipient may require such a student to obtain the certification of a physician that the student is physically and emotionally able to continue participation so long as such a certification is required of all students for other physical or emotional conditions requiring the attention of a physician.~~

~~(3) A recipient which operates a portion of its education program or activity separately for pregnant students, admittance to which is completely voluntary on the part of the student as provided in paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall ensure~~ provided the recipient ensures that the separate portion is comparable to that offered to ~~non-~~students who are not pregnant ~~students~~and do not have related conditions.

~~(4) A recipient shall treat pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy and recovery~~ 2) Requirement for recipient to provide information. A recipient must ensure that when any employee is informed of a student's pregnancy or related conditions by the student or a person who has a legal right to act on behalf of the student, the employee promptly informs that person of how the person may notify the Title IX Coordinator of the student's pregnancy or related conditions for assistance and provides contact information for the Title IX Coordinator, unless the employee reasonably believes the Title IX Coordinator has already been notified.

(3) Specific actions to prevent discrimination and ensure equal access. Once a student, or a person who has a legal right to act on behalf of the student, notifies the Title IX Coordinator of the student's pregnancy or related conditions, the Title IX Coordinator must promptly:

(i) Inform the student, and if applicable the person who notified the Title IX Coordinator of the recipient's obligations to:

(A) Prohibit sex discrimination under this part, including sex-based harassment;

(B) Provide the student with the option of reasonable modifications to the recipient's policies, practices, or procedures because of pregnancy or related conditions, under paragraphs (b)(3)(ii) and (b)(4) of this section;

(C) Allow access, on a voluntary basis, to any separate and comparable portion of the recipient's education program or activity under paragraph (b)(1) of this section;

(D) Allow a voluntary leave of absence under paragraph (b)(3)(iii) of this section;

(E) Ensure the availability of lactation space under paragraph (b)(3)(iv) of this section;
and

(F) Maintain grievance procedures that provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints of sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46.

(ii) Provide the student with voluntary reasonable modifications to the recipient's policies, practices, or procedures because of pregnancy or related conditions, under paragraph (b)(4) of this section.

(iii) Allow the student a voluntary leave of absence from the recipient's education program or activity to cover, at minimum, the period of time deemed medically necessary by the student's physician or other licensed healthcare provider. To the extent that a recipient maintains a leave policy for students that allows a greater period of time than the medically necessary period, the recipient must permit the student to take leave under that policy instead if the student so chooses. Upon the student's return to the recipient's education program or activity, the student must be reinstated to the academic status and, as practicable, to the extracurricular status that the student held when the leave began.

(iv) Ensure the availability of a lactation space, which must be a space other than a bathroom, that is clean, shielded from view, free from intrusion from others, and may be used by a student for expressing breast milk or breastfeeding as needed.

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(4) Reasonable modifications for students because of pregnancy or related conditions.

Reasonable modifications to the recipient's policies, practices, or procedures for a student because of pregnancy or related conditions, for purposes of this section:

(i) Must be provided on an individualized and voluntary basis depending on the student's needs when necessary to prevent discrimination and ensure equal access to the recipient's education program or activity, unless the recipient can demonstrate that making the modification would fundamentally alter the recipient's education program or activity. A fundamental alteration is a change that is so significant that it alters the essential nature of the recipient's education program or activity;

(ii) Must be effectively implemented, coordinated, and documented by the Title IX Coordinator; and

(iii) May include but are not limited to breaks during class to attend to related health needs, expressing breast milk, or breastfeeding; intermittent absences to attend medical appointments; access to online or other homebound education; changes in schedule or course sequence; extension of time for coursework and rescheduling of tests and examinations; counseling; changes in physical space or supplies (for example, access to a larger desk or a footrest); elevator access; or other appropriate changes to policies, practices, or procedures.

(5) Comparable treatment to temporary disabilities or conditions. To the extent not otherwise addressed in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, a recipient must treat pregnancy or related conditions or any temporary disability resulting therefrom in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disability or physical condition with respect to any medical or hospital benefit, service, plan, or policy which such the recipient administers, operates, offers, or participates in with respect to students admitted to the recipient's educational education program or activity.

~~(5) In the case of a recipient which does not maintain a leave policy for its students, or in the case of a student who does not otherwise qualify for leave under such a policy, a recipient shall treat pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy and recovery therefrom as a justification for a leave of absence for so long a period of time as is deemed medically necessary by the student's physician, at the conclusion of which the student shall be reinstated to the status which she held when the leave began.~~

(6) Certification to participate. A recipient may not require a student who is pregnant, or has related conditions to provide certification from a physician or licensed healthcare provider that the student is physically able to participate in the recipient's class, program, or extracurricular activity unless:

(i) . The certified level of physical ability or health is necessary for participation in the class, program, or extracurricular activity;

(ii) The recipient requires such certification of all students participating in the class, program, or extracurricular activity; and

(iii) The information obtained is not used as a basis for discrimination prohibited by this part.

§106.41 Athletics.

(a) **General.** No person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, be treated differently from another person or otherwise be discriminated against in any interscholastic, intercollegiate, club or intramural athletics offered by a recipient, and no recipient shall provide any such athletics separately on such basis.

(b) **Separate teams.** Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section, a recipient may operate or sponsor separate teams for members of each sex where selection for such teams is based upon competitive skill or the activity involved is a contact sport. However, where a recipient operates or sponsors a team in a particular sport for members of one sex but operates or sponsors no such team for members of the other sex, and athletic opportunities for members of that sex have previously been limited, members of the excluded sex must be allowed to try-out for the team offered unless the sport involved is a contact sport. For the purposes of this part, contact sports include boxing, wrestling, rugby, ice hockey, football, basketball and other sports the purpose or major activity of which involves bodily contact.

(c) **Equal opportunity.** A recipient which operates or sponsors interscholastic, intercollegiate, club or intramural athletics shall provide equal athletic opportunity for members of both sexes. In determining whether equal opportunities are available the Director will consider, among other factors:

- (1) Whether the selection of sports and levels of competition effectively accommodate the interests and abilities of members of both sexes;
- (2) The provision of equipment and supplies;
- (3) Scheduling of games and practice time;
- (4) Travel and per diem allowance;
- (5) Opportunity to receive coaching and academic tutoring;
- (6) Assignment and compensation of coaches and tutors;
- (7) Provision of locker rooms, practice and competitive facilities;
- (8) Provision of medical and training facilities and services;
- (9) Provision of housing and dining facilities and services;

(10) Publicity.

Unequal aggregate expenditures for members of each sex or unequal expenditures for male and female teams if a recipient operates or sponsors separate teams will not constitute noncompliance with this section, but the Assistant Secretary may consider the failure to provide necessary funds for teams for one sex in assessing equality of opportunity for members of each sex.

~~(d) **Adjustment period.** A recipient which operates or sponsors interscholastic, intercollegiate, club or intramural athletics at the elementary school level shall comply fully with this section as expeditiously as possible but in no event later than one year from the effective date of this regulation. A recipient which operates or sponsors interscholastic, intercollegiate, club or intramural athletics at the secondary or post-secondary school level shall comply fully with this section as expeditiously as possible but in no event later than three years from the effective date of this regulation.~~

§106.42 Textbooks and curricular material.

Nothing in this regulation shall be interpreted as requiring or prohibiting or abridging in any way the use of particular textbooks or curricular materials.

§106.43 Standards for measuring skill or progress in physical education classes.

If use of a single standard of measuring skill or progress in physical education classes has an adverse effect on members of one sex, the recipient shall use appropriate standards that do not have that effect.

§106.44 ~~Recipient's response to sexual harassment.~~

Action by a recipient to operate its education program or activity free from sex discrimination.

(a) ~~**General response to sexual harassment.**~~ A recipient ~~with actual knowledge of sexual harassment~~ must take prompt and effective action to end any sex discrimination that has occurred in ~~an~~ its education program or activity ~~of the recipient against a person in the United States, must respond promptly in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent. A recipient is deliberately indifferent only if its response to sexual harassment is clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances. For the purposes of this section, §§ 106.30, and 106.45, "education program or activity" includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the recipient exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs, and also includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by a postsecondary institution. A recipient's response must treat complainants, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects. To ensure that it can satisfy this obligation, a recipient must comply with this section.~~

(b) Monitoring. A recipient must:

(1) Require its Title IX Coordinator to monitor the recipient's education program or activity for barriers to reporting information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX; and

(2) Take steps reasonably calculated to address such barriers.

(c) Notification requirements.

(1) An elementary school or secondary school recipient must require all of its employees who are not confidential employees to notify the Title IX Coordinator when the employee has information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX.

(2) All other recipients must, at a minimum, require:

(i) Any employee who is not a confidential employee and who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the recipient to notify the Title IX Coordinator when the employee has information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX;

(ii) Any employee who is not a confidential employee and who has responsibility for administrative leadership, teaching, or advising in the recipient's education program or activity to notify the Title IX Coordinator when the employee has information about a student being subjected to conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX;

(iii) Any employee who is not a confidential employee and who has responsibility for administrative leadership, teaching, or advising in the recipient's education program or activity and has information about an employee being subjected to conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX to either:

(A) Notify the Title IX Coordinator when the employee has information about an employee being subjected to conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX; or

(B) Provide the contact information of the Title IX Coordinator and information about how to report sex discrimination to any person who provides the employee with the information; and

(iv) All other employees who are not confidential employees, if any, to either:

(A) Notify the Title IX Coordinator when the employee has information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX; or

(B) Provide the contact information of the Title IX Coordinator and information about how to report sex discrimination to any person who provides the employee with information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX.

(3) A postsecondary institution must make a fact-specific inquiry to determine whether the requirements of paragraph (c)(2) of this section apply to a person who is both a student and an employee of the postsecondary institution. In making this determination, a postsecondary institution must, at a minimum, consider whether the person's primary relationship with the postsecondary institution is to receive an education and whether the person learns of conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX in the postsecondary institution's education program or activity while performing employment-related work.

(4) The requirements of paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section do not apply when the only employee with information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX is the employee-complainant.

(d) Confidential employee requirements.

(1) A recipient must notify all participants in the recipient's education program or activity of the identity of any confidential employee.

(2) A recipient must require a confidential employee to explain their confidential status to any person who informs the confidential employee of conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX and must provide that person with contact information for the recipient's Title IX Coordinator and explain how to report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX.

(e) Public awareness events. When a postsecondary institution's Title IX Coordinator is notified of information about conduct that may constitute sex-based harassment under Title IX that was provided by a person during a public event held on the postsecondary institution's campus or through an online platform sponsored by a postsecondary institution to raise awareness about sex-based harassment associated with a postsecondary institution's education program or activity, the postsecondary institution is not obligated to act in response to this information under this section, § 106.45, or § 106.46, unless the information reveals an immediate and serious threat to the health or safety of students or other persons in the postsecondary institution's community. However,

in all cases the postsecondary institution must use this information to inform its efforts to prevent sex-based harassment, including by providing tailored training to address alleged sex-based harassment in a particular part of its education program or activity or at a specific location when information indicates there may be multiple incidents of sex-based harassment.

(f) *Title IX Coordinator requirements.* A recipient must require its Title IX Coordinator to take the following steps upon being notified of conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX:

(1) Treat the complainant and ~~respondents~~respondent equitably ~~by offering~~;

(2) (i) Notify the complainant of the grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46; and

(iii) If a complaint is made, notify the respondent of the applicable grievance procedures and notify the parties of the informal resolution process under this section if available and appropriate;

(3) Offer and coordinate supportive measures ~~as defined in § 106.30~~ under paragraph (g) of this section, as appropriate, to ~~at~~ the complainant, and ~~by following a~~respondent to restore or preserve that party's access to the recipient's education program or activity;

(4) In response to a complaint, initiate the grievance procedures or informal resolution process, under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46;

(5) In the absence of a complaint or informal resolution process, determine whether to initiate a complaint of sex discrimination that complies with the grievance procedures under § 106.45- before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions, and if applicable § 106.46, if necessary to address conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX in the recipient's education program or activity; and

(6) Take other ~~actions that are not supportive measures as defined in § 106.30, against a respondent. The~~appropriate prompt and effective steps to ensure that sex discrimination does not continue or recur within the recipient's education program or activity, in addition to remedies provided to an individual complainant.

(g) *Supportive measures.* Upon being notified of conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX, a Title IX Coordinator must ~~promptly contact the complainant to discuss the availability of~~offer supportive measures, ~~as defined in § 106.30, consider~~appropriate, to the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, ~~inform the complainant of the availability~~ or respondent to the extent necessary to restore or preserve that party's access to the recipient's education program or activity. For allegations of sex discrimination, other than sex-based harassment or retaliation, a recipient's provision of supportive measures would not require the recipient, its employee, or other person authorized to provide aid, benefit or services on the recipient's behalf to alter the allegedly discriminatory conduct for the purpose of ~~providing a~~ supportive ~~measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint, and explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint. The Department may not deem a recipient to have satisfied the recipient's duty to not be deliberately~~

~~indifferent under this part based on the recipient's restriction of rights protected under the U.S. Constitution, including the First Amendment, Fifth Amendment, and Fourteenth Amendment.~~

~~(b) *Response to a formal complaint.*~~

~~(1) In response to a formal complaint, a recipient must follow a grievance process that complies with § 106.45. With or without a formal complaint, a recipient must comply with § 106.44(a).~~

~~(2) The Assistant Secretary will not deem a recipient's determination regarding responsibility to be evidence of deliberate indifference by the recipient, or otherwise evidence of discrimination under title IX by the recipient, solely because the Assistant Secretary would have reached a different determination based on an independent weighing of the evidence.~~

~~(c) measure.~~

(1) Supportive measures may vary depending on what the recipient deems to be available and reasonable. These measures may include but are not limited to: counseling; extensions of deadlines and other course-related adjustments; campus escort services; increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus; restrictions on contact between the parties; leaves of absence; voluntary or involuntary changes in class, work, housing, or extracurricular or any other activity, regardless of whether there is or is not a comparable alternative; and training and education programs related to sex-based harassment.

(2) Supportive measures that burden a respondent may be imposed only during the pendency of a recipient's grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, and must be terminated at the conclusion of those grievance procedures. These measures must be no more restrictive of the respondent than is necessary to restore or preserve the complainant's access to the recipient's education program or activity. A recipient may not impose such measures for punitive or disciplinary reasons.

(3) For supportive measures other than those that burden a respondent, a recipient may, as appropriate, modify or terminate supportive measures at the conclusion of the grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, or at the conclusion of the informal resolution process under paragraph (k) of this section, or the recipient may continue them beyond that point.

(4) A recipient must provide a complainant or respondent affected by a decision to provide, deny, modify, or terminate supportive measures with a timely opportunity to seek modification or reversal of the recipient's decision by an appropriate, impartial employee. The impartial employee must be someone other than the employee who made the decision being challenged and must have authority to modify or reverse the decision, if appropriate. A recipient must make a fact-specific inquiry to determine what constitutes a timely opportunity for seeking modification or reversal of a supportive measure. If the supportive measure burdens the respondent, the initial opportunity to seek modification or reversal of the recipient's decision must be provided before the measure is imposed or, if necessary under the circumstances, as soon as possible after the measure has taken effect. A recipient must also provide a complainant

or respondent affected by a supportive measure with the opportunity to seek additional modification or termination of such supportive measure if circumstances change materially.

(5) A recipient must ensure that it does not disclose information about any supportive measures to persons other than the complainant or respondent unless necessary to provide the supportive measure. A recipient may inform a party of supportive measures provided to or imposed on another party only if necessary to restore or preserve that party's access to the education program or activity.

(6) Under paragraph (f)(3) of this section, the Title IX Coordinator is responsible for offering and coordinating supportive measures.

(7) (i) If the complainant or respondent is an elementary or secondary student with a disability, the Title IX Coordinator must consult with the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team, 34 CFR 300.321, if any, or the group of persons responsible for the student's placement decision under 34 CFR 104.35(c) (Section 504 team), if any, to help ensure the recipient complies with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794, in the implementation of supportive measures.

(ii) If the complainant or respondent is a postsecondary student with a disability, the Title IX Coordinator may consult, as appropriate, with the individual or office that the recipient has designated to provide supports to students with disabilities to help ensure that the recipient complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794, in the implementation of supportive measures.

(h) Emergency removal. Nothing in this part precludes a recipient from removing a respondent from the recipient's education program or activity on an emergency basis, provided that the recipient undertakes an individualized safety and risk analysis, determines that an immediate and serious threat to the ~~physical~~ health or safety of ~~any student~~ students, employees, or other ~~individual~~ persons arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies removal, and provides the respondent with notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal. This provision may not be construed to modify any rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794, or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act 42 U.S.C. 12131-12134.

(i) (d) Administrative leave. Nothing in this subpart precludes a recipient from placing a ~~non-student~~ an employee respondent on administrative leave from employment responsibilities during the ~~pendency of a~~ recipient's grievance ~~process that complies with § 106.45~~ procedures. This provision may not be construed to modify any rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ~~or,~~ 29 U.S.C. 794, or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12131-12134.

(j) Recipient prohibitions. When conducting an informal resolution process under paragraph (k) of this section, implementing grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, or requiring a Title IX Coordinator to take other appropriate steps under paragraph (f)(6) of this section,

a recipient must not disclose the identity of a party, witness, or other participant except in the following circumstances:

(1) When the party, witness, or other participant has provided prior written consent to disclose their identity;

(2) When permitted under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C 1232g, or its implementing regulations, 34 CFR part 99;

(3) As required by law; or

(4) To carry out the purposes of this part, including action taken to address conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX in the recipient's education program or activity. (k) Discretion to offer informal resolution in some circumstances.

(1) At any time prior to determining whether sex discrimination occurred under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, a recipient may offer to a complainant and respondent an informal resolution process, unless there are allegations that an employee engaged in sex discrimination toward a student or such a process would conflict with Federal, State or local law. A recipient that provides the parties an informal resolution process must, to the extent necessary, also require its Title IX Coordinator to take other appropriate prompt and effective steps to ensure that sex discrimination does not continue or recur within the recipient's education program or activity.

(i) A recipient has discretion to determine whether it is appropriate to offer an informal resolution process when it receives information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination under Title IX or a complaint of sex discrimination is made, and may decline to offer informal resolution despite one or more of the parties' wishes.

(ii) Circumstances when a recipient may decline to allow informal resolution include but are not limited to when the recipient determines that the alleged conduct would present a future risk of harm to others.

(2) A recipient must not require or pressure the parties to participate in an informal resolution process. The recipient must obtain the parties' voluntary consent to the informal resolution process and must not require waiver of the right to an investigation and adjudication of a complaint as a condition of enrollment or continuing enrollment, or employment or continuing employment, or exercise of any other right.

(3) Before initiation of an informal resolution process, the recipient must provide to the parties notice that explains:

(i) The allegations;

(ii) The requirements of the informal resolution process;

(iii) That, prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and to initiate or resume the recipient's grievance procedures;

(iv) That the parties' agreement to a resolution at the conclusion of the informal resolution process would preclude the parties from initiating or resuming grievance procedures arising from the same allegations;

(v) The potential terms that may be requested or offered in an informal resolution agreement;

(vi) Which records will be maintained and could be shared;

(vii) That if the recipient initiates or resumes its grievance procedures under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, the recipient or a party must not access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use information, including records, obtained solely through an informal resolution process as part of the investigation or determination of the outcome of the complaint; and

(viii) That, when applicable, and if the recipient resumes its grievance procedures, the informal resolution facilitator could serve as a witness for purposes other than providing information obtained solely through the informal resolution process.

(4) The facilitator for the informal resolution process must not be the same person as the investigator or the decisionmaker in the recipient's grievance procedures. Any person designated by a recipient to facilitate an informal resolution process must not have a conflict of interest or bias for or

against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent. Any person facilitating informal resolution must receive training under § 106.8(d)(3).

(5) Potential terms that may be included in an informal resolution agreement include but are not limited to:

(i) Restrictions on contact; and

(ii) Restrictions on the respondent's participation in one or more of the recipient's programs or activities or attendance at specific events, including restrictions the recipient could have imposed as remedies or disciplinary sanctions had the recipient determined that sex discrimination occurred under the recipient's grievance procedures.

§106.45 ~~Grievance process~~procedures for ~~formal~~the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints of ~~sexual harassment.~~

~~(a) Discrimination on the basis of sex. A recipient's treatment of a complainant or a respondent in response to a formal complaint of sexual harassment may constitute sex discrimination on the basis of sex under title IX.~~

~~(b) Grievance process~~ (1) General. For ~~the purpose~~purposes of addressing ~~formal~~ complaints of ~~sexual harassment~~sex discrimination, a recipient's prompt and equitable grievance ~~process~~procedures must ~~comply with~~be in writing and include provisions that incorporate the requirements of this section. ~~Any provisions, rules, or practices other than those required by this section that a recipient adopts as part of its grievance process for handling formal complaints of sexual harassment as defined in § 106.30, must apply equally to both parties. The requirements related to a respondent apply only to sex discrimination complaints alleging that a person violated the recipient's prohibition on sex discrimination. When a sex discrimination complaint alleges that a recipient's policy or practice discriminates on the basis of sex, the recipient is not considered a respondent.~~

(a) (2) Complaint. The following persons have a right to make a complaint of sex discrimination, including complaints of sex-based harassment, requesting that the recipient initiate its grievance procedures:

(i) A complainant;

(ii) A person who has a right to make a complaint on behalf of a complainant under § 106.6(g);

(iii) The Title IX Coordinator;

(iv) With respect to complaints of sex discrimination other than sex-based harassment, any student or employee; or third party participating or attempting to participate in the recipient's education program or activity when the alleged sex discrimination occurred.

~~(1b)~~ Basic requirements for grievance ~~process~~ procedures. A recipient's grievance ~~process~~ procedures must—:

~~(1)~~ (i) Treat complainants and respondents equitably ~~by providing remedies to a complainant where a determination of responsibility for sexual harassment has been made against the respondent, and by following a grievance process that complies with this section before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures as defined in § 106.30, against a respondent. Remedies must be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity. Such remedies may include the same individualized services described in § 106.30 as "supportive measures"; however, remedies need not be non-disciplinary or non-punitive and need not avoid burdening the respondent;~~

~~(ii) Require an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence — including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence — and provide that credibility determinations may not be based on a person's status as a complainant, respondent, or witness;~~

~~(iii)~~

~~(2)~~ Require that any individual person designated ~~by a recipient~~ as a Title IX Coordinator, investigator, ~~decision-maker, or any person designated by a recipient to facilitate an informal resolution process,~~ or decisionmaker not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent. ~~A recipient must ensure that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, receive training on the definition of sexual harassment in § 106.30, the scope of the recipient's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable, and how to serve impartially, including by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias. A recipient must ensure that decision-makers receive training on any technology to be used at a live hearing and on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, as set forth in paragraph (b)(6) of this section. A recipient also must ensure that investigators receive training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence, as set forth in paragraph (b)(5)(vii) of this section.~~

Any materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, must not rely on sex stereotypes and must promote impartial investigations and adjudications of formal complaints of sexual harassment. The decisionmaker may be the same person as the Title IX Coordinator or investigator;

(3) ~~(iv)~~ Include a presumption that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination ~~regarding responsibility~~ whether sex discrimination occurred is made at the conclusion of the recipient's grievance process procedures for complaints of sex discrimination;

(4) ~~(v)~~ Establish reasonably prompt ~~time frames~~ timeframes for ~~conclusion~~ the major stages of the grievance ~~process~~ procedures, including ~~reasonably prompt time frames for filing and resolving appeals and informal resolution processes if the recipient offers informal resolution processes, and~~ a process that allows for the ~~temporary delay of the grievance process or the limited~~ reasonable extension of ~~time frames~~ timeframes on a case-by-case basis for good cause with ~~written~~ notice to the ~~complainant and~~ parties that includes the ~~respondent of~~ reason for the delay or extension and the reasons for the action. Good cause may include considerations such as the absence of a party, a party's advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities. Major stages include, for example, evaluation (i.e., the recipient's determination of whether to dismiss or investigate a complaint of sex discrimination); investigation; determination; and appeal, if any;

~~(vi) Describe the range of possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies or list the possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies that the recipient may implement following any determination of responsibility;~~

~~(vii) State whether the standard of evidence to be used to determine responsibility is the preponderance of the evidence standard or the clear and convincing evidence standard, apply the same standard of evidence for formal complaints against students as for formal complaints against employees, including faculty, and apply the same standard of evidence to all formal complaints of sexual harassment;~~

~~(viii) Include the procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal;~~

~~(ix) Describe the range of supportive measures available to complainants and respondents; and~~

~~(x) Not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information~~

(5) Take reasonable steps to protect the privacy of the parties and witnesses during the pendency of a recipient's grievance procedures, provided that the steps do not restrict the ability of the parties to obtain and present evidence, including by speaking to witnesses, subject to § 106.71; consult with a family member, confidential resource, or advisor; prepare for a hearing, if one is offered; or otherwise defend their interests;

(6) Require an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence, consistent with the definition of relevant in § 106.2—including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence—and provide that credibility determinations must not be based on a person's status as a complainant, respondent, or witness; and

(7) Exclude the following types of evidence, and questions seeking that evidence, as impermissible (i.e., must not be accessed, considered, disclosed, or otherwise used), regardless of whether they are relevant:

(i) Evidence that is protected under a ~~legally~~ privilege as recognized ~~privilege~~ by Federal or State law, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege.

~~(2) voluntarily in a manner permitted in the recipient's jurisdiction;~~

(ii) A party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional in connection with the provision of treatment to the party, unless the recipient obtains that party's voluntary, written consent for use in the recipient's grievance procedures; and

(iii) Evidence that relates to the complainant's sexual interests or prior sexual conduct, unless evidence about the complainant's prior sexual conduct is offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the alleged conduct or is offered to prove consent with evidence concerning specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual conduct with the respondent. The fact of prior consensual sexual conduct between the complainant and respondent does not demonstrate or imply the complainant's consent to the alleged sex-based harassment or preclude determination that sex-based harassment occurred.

(c) Notice of allegations—

~~(i)~~ Upon receipt/initiation of a formal complaint/the recipient's grievance procedures, a recipient must provide ~~the following written~~-notice of the allegations to the parties ~~whose~~ identities are known.

(1) The notice must include:

(i) ~~(A) Notice of the~~ recipient's grievance ~~process that complies with~~ **procedures under** this section, **including and if applicable § 106.46, and** any informal resolution process ~~under § 106.44~~ **(B) Notice of;**

(ii) **Sufficient information available at the time to allow the parties to respond to** the allegations ~~of sexual harassment potentially constituting sexual harassment as defined in § 106.30, including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview.~~ Sufficient ~~details include~~ **information includes** the identities of the parties involved in the incident, ~~if known,~~ the conduct ~~allegedly constituting sexual harassment~~ **alleged to constitute sex discrimination** under ~~§ 106.30~~ **Title IX**, and the date and location of the alleged incident, ~~if known.~~ ~~The written notice must include a statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.~~ The written notice ~~must inform the parties that they may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, under paragraph (b)(5)(iv) of this section, and may inspect and review evidence under paragraph (b)(5)(vi) of this section.~~ The written notice must inform the parties ~~of any provision in the recipient's code of conduct that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process~~ **to the extent that information is available to the recipient; and**

(iii) **A statement that retaliation is prohibited.**

~~(i)~~ **(2)** If, in the course of an investigation, the recipient decides to investigate **additional** allegations about the **respondent's conduct toward the complainant or respondent** that are not included in the notice provided ~~pursuant to~~ **under** paragraph ~~(b)(2)(i) of this section or that are~~ **included in a complaint that is consolidated under paragraph (B)** of this section, the recipient must provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are known.

~~(3d) Dismissal of a formal complaint—~~

~~(i) The recipient must investigate the allegations in a formal complaint. If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment as defined in § 106.30 even if proved, did not occur~~

(1) A recipient may dismiss a complaint of sex discrimination made through its grievance procedures under this section, and if applicable § 106.46, for any of the following reasons:

(i) **The recipient is unable to identify the respondent after taking reasonable steps to do so;**

~~(ii) The respondent is not participating in the recipient's education program or activity, ~~or did and is not occur against a person in the United States, then the recipient must dismiss the formal complaint with regard to that conduct for purposes of sexual harassment under title IX or this part; such a dismissal does not preclude action under another provision of the recipient's code of conduct.~~~~

~~(ii) The recipient may dismiss the formal complaint or any allegations therein, if at any time during the investigation or hearing: a complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein; the respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the recipient; or specific circumstances prevent the recipient from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.~~

~~(iii) employed by the recipient;~~

(iii) The complainant voluntarily withdraws any or all of the allegations in the complaint and the recipient determines that without the complainant's withdrawn allegations, the conduct that remains alleged in the complaint, if any, would not constitute sex discrimination under Title IX even if proven; or

(iv) The recipient determines the conduct alleged in the complaint, even if proven, would not constitute sex discrimination under Title IX. Prior to dismissing the complaint under this paragraph, the recipient must make reasonable efforts to clarify the allegations with the complainant.

~~(2) Upon a dismissal ~~required or permitted pursuant to paragraph (b)(3)(i) or (b)(3)(ii) of this section, the,~~ a recipient must promptly ~~send written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) therefor simultaneously to the parties.~~~~

(4) notify the complainant of the basis for the dismissal. If the dismissal occurs after the respondent has been notified of the allegations, then the recipient must also notify the respondent of the dismissal and the basis for the dismissal promptly following notification to the complainant, or simultaneously if notification is in writing.

(3) A recipient must notify all parties that a dismissal may be appealed, provide any party with an opportunity to appeal its dismissal of a complaint, and must:

(i) Notify the parties when an appeal is filed and implement appeal procedures equally for the parties;

(ii) Ensure that the decisionmaker for the appeal did not take part in an investigation of the allegations or dismissal of the complaint;

(iii) Ensure that the decisionmaker for the appeal has been trained as set out in § 106.8(d)(2);

(iv) Provide the parties a reasonable and equal opportunity to make a statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome; and

(v) Notify all parties of the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result.

(4) A recipient that dismisses a complaint must, at a minimum:

(i) Offer supportive measures to the complainant as appropriate under § 106.44(g);

(ii) For dismissals under paragraphs (1)(iii) or (1)(iv) of this section in which the respondent has been notified of the allegations, offer supportive measures to the respondent as appropriate under § 106.44(g); and

(iii) Require its Title IX Coordinator to take other appropriate prompt and effective steps to ensure that sex discrimination does not continue or recur within the recipient's education program or activity under § 106.44(f)(6).

(e) Consolidation of ~~formal~~ complaints. A recipient may consolidate ~~formal~~ complaints ~~as to allegations of sexual harassment~~ of sex discrimination against more than one respondent, or by more than one complainant against one or more respondents, or by one party against ~~the other~~ another party, ~~where~~ when the allegations of ~~sexual harassment~~ sex discrimination arise out of the same facts or circumstances. ~~Where a grievance process involves~~ If one of the complaints to be consolidated is a complaint of sex-based harassment involving a student complainant or student respondent at a postsecondary institution, the grievance procedures for investigating and resolving the consolidated complaint must comply with the requirements of this section and § 106.46. When more than one complainant or more than one respondent is involved, references in this section ~~to the singular~~ “and in § 106.46 to a party,” “complainant,” or “respondent” include the plural, as applicable.

~~(5) Investigation of a formal complaint.~~ When investigating a formal complaint and throughout the grievance process, a recipient must—

~~(i) Ensure that the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rest on the recipient and not on the parties provided that the recipient cannot access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in the professional's or paraprofessional's capacity, or assisting in that capacity, and which are made and maintained in connection with the provision of treatment to the party, unless the recipient obtains that party's voluntary, written consent to do so for a grievance process under this section (if a party is not an "eligible student," as defined in 34 CFR 99.3, then the recipient must obtain the voluntary, written consent of a "parent," as defined in 34 CFR 99.3)~~

(f) *Complaint investigation.* A recipient must provide for adequate, reliable, and impartial investigation of complaints. To do so, the recipient must:

(1) Ensure that the burden is on the recipient—not on the parties—to conduct an investigation that gathers sufficient evidence to determine whether sex discrimination occurred;

~~(i2)~~ Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present ~~witnesses, including relevant~~ fact ~~and expert~~ witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence;

~~(iii) Not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;~~

~~(iv) Provide the parties with the same opportunities to have others present during any grievance proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and not limit the choice or presence of advisor for either the complainant or respondent in any meeting or grievance proceeding; however, the recipient may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the proceedings, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties;~~

~~(v) Provide~~**3) Review all evidence gathered through the investigation and determine what evidence is relevant and what evidence is impermissible regardless of relevance, consistent with § 106.2 and with paragraph (b)(7) of this section; and**

(4) Provide each party with a description of the evidence that is relevant to the allegations of sex discrimination and not otherwise impermissible, as well as a reasonable opportunity to respond.

(g) *Evaluating allegations and assessing credibility.* A recipient must provide a process that enables the decisionmaker to adequately assess the credibility of the parties and witnesses to the

extent credibility is both in dispute and relevant to evaluating one or more allegations of sex discrimination.

(h) *Determination of whether sex discrimination occurred.* Following an investigation and evaluation process under paragraphs (f) and (g) of this section, the recipient must:

(1) Use the preponderance of the evidence standard of proof to determine whether sex discrimination occurred, unless the recipient uses the clear and convincing evidence standard of proof in all other comparable proceedings, including proceedings relating to other discrimination complaints, in which case the recipient may elect to use that standard of proof in determining whether sex discrimination occurred. Both standards of proof require the decisionmaker to evaluate relevant evidence for its persuasiveness; if the decisionmaker is not persuaded under the applicable standard by the evidence that sex discrimination occurred, whatever the quantity of the evidence is, the decisionmaker should not determine that sex discrimination occurred.

(2) Notify the parties of the outcome of the complaint, including the determination of whether sex discrimination occurred under Title IX, and the procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal, if applicable;

(3) If there is a determination that sex discrimination occurred, as appropriate, require the Title IX Coordinator to provide and implement remedies to a complainant or other person the recipient identifies as having had equal access to the recipient's education program or activity limited or denied by sex discrimination, and require the Title IX Coordinator to take other appropriate prompt and effective steps to ensure that sex discrimination does not continue or recur within the recipient's education program or activity under § 106.44(f)(6);

(4) Comply with this section, and if applicable § 106.46, before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions against a respondent; and

(5) Not discipline a party, witness, or others participating in a recipient's grievance procedures for making a false statement or for engaging in consensual sexual conduct based solely on the recipient's determination of whether sex discrimination occurred.

(i) *Additional provisions.* If a recipient adopts additional provisions as part of its grievance procedures for handling complaints of sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, such additional provisions must apply equally to the parties.

(j) *Informal resolution.* In lieu of resolving a complaint through the recipient's grievance procedures, the parties may instead elect to participate in an informal resolution process under § 106.44(k) if provided by the recipient consistent with that paragraph

(k) *Provisions limited to sex-based harassment complaints.* For complaints alleging sex-based harassment, the grievance procedures must:

(1) Describe the range of supportive measures available to complainants and respondents under § 106.44(g); and

(2) Describe the range of, or list, the possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies that the recipient may impose following a determination that sex-based harassment occurred.

§106.46 *Grievance procedures for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints of sex-based harassment involving student complainants or student respondents at postsecondary institutions.*

(a) *General.* A postsecondary institution's prompt and equitable written grievance procedures for complaints of sex-based harassment involving a student complainant or student respondent must include provisions that incorporate the requirements of § 106.45 and this section.

(b) *Student employees.* When a complainant or respondent is both a student and an employee of a postsecondary institution, the postsecondary institution must make a fact-specific inquiry to determine whether the requirements of this section apply. In making this determination, a postsecondary institution must, at a minimum, consider whether the party's primary relationship with the postsecondary institution is to receive an education and whether the alleged sex-based harassment occurred while the party was performing employment-related work.

(c) *Written notice of allegations.*

(1) Upon the initiation of the postsecondary institution's sex-based harassment grievance procedures under this section, a postsecondary institution must provide written notice to the parties, whose identities are known, of:

(i) All information required under § 106.45(c); and

(ii) Allegations potentially constituting sex-based harassment, including the information required under § 106.45(c)(1)(ii), with sufficient time for the parties to prepare a response before any initial interview.

(2) The written notice must also inform the parties that:

(i) The respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination of whether sex-based harassment occurred is made at the conclusion of the grievance procedures under this section and that prior to the determination, the parties will have an opportunity to present relevant evidence to a trained, impartial decisionmaker;

(ii) They may have an advisor of their choice to serve in the role set out in paragraph (e)(2) of this section, and that the advisor may be, but is not required to be, an attorney;

(iii) They are entitled to receive access to relevant evidence or to an investigative report that accurately summarizes this evidence as set out in paragraph (e)(6) of this section; and

(iv) If applicable, any provision in the postsecondary institution's code of conduct prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance procedure.

(3) To the extent the postsecondary institution has legitimate concerns for the safety of any person as a result of providing this notice, the postsecondary institution may reasonably delay providing written notice of the allegations in order to address the safety concern appropriately. Legitimate concerns must be based on individualized safety and risk analysis and not on mere speculation or stereotypes.

(d) Dismissal of a complaint. When dismissing a complaint alleging sex-based harassment and involving a student complainant or a student respondent, a postsecondary institution must:

(1) Provide the parties, simultaneously, with written notice of the dismissal and the basis for the dismissal, if dismissing a complaint under any of the bases in § 106.45(d)(1); and

(2) Obtain the complainant's withdrawal in writing if dismissing a complaint based on the complainant's voluntary withdrawal of the complaint or allegations under § 106.45(d)(1)(iii).

(e) Complaint investigation. When investigating a complaint alleging sex-based harassment and throughout the postsecondary institution's grievance procedures for complaints of sex-based harassment involving a student complainant or a student respondent, a postsecondary institution:

(1) Must provide, to a party whose participation is invited or expected, written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of all ~~hearings~~meetings, investigative interviews, or ~~other meetings~~hearings with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate;

~~(vi) Provide both parties an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint, including the evidence upon which the recipient does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence whether obtained from a party or other source, so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to conclusion of the investigation. Prior to completion of the investigative report, the recipient must send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy, and the parties must have at least 10 days to submit a written response, which the investigator will consider prior~~

(2) Must provide the parties with the same opportunities to be accompanied to any meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and not limit the choice or presence of the advisor for the complainant or respondent in any meeting or grievance proceeding; however, the postsecondary institution may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the grievance procedures, as long as the restrictions apply equally to the parties;

(3) Must provide the parties with the same opportunities, if any, to have persons other than the advisor of the parties' choice present during any meeting or proceeding;

(4) Has discretion to determine whether the parties may present expert witnesses as long as the determination applies equally to the parties;

(5) Must allow for the reasonable extension of timeframes on a case-by-case basis for good cause with written notice to the parties that includes the reason for the delay; and

(6) Must provide each party and the party's advisor, if any, with equitable access to the evidence that is relevant to the allegations of sex-based harassment and not otherwise impermissible, consistent with §§ 106.2 and 106.45(b)(7), in the following manner:

(i) A postsecondary institution must provide either equitable access to the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence, or to completion of the same written investigative report. ~~The recipient must make all such evidence subject to the parties' inspection and review available at any hearing to give each party equal~~ that accurately summarizes this evidence. If the postsecondary institution provides an investigative report, it must further provide the parties with equitable access to the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence upon the request of any party;

(ii) A postsecondary institution must provide the parties with a reasonable opportunity to review and respond to the evidence as provided under paragraph (6)(i) of this section prior to the determination of whether sex-based harassment occurred. If a postsecondary institution conducts a live hearing as part of its grievance procedures, it must provide this opportunity to review the evidence in advance of the live hearing; it is at the postsecondary institution's discretion whether to provide this opportunity to ~~refer~~ respond prior to such evidence the live hearing, during the live hearing, including for purposes of cross-examination or both prior to and during the live hearing;

(iii) A postsecondary institution must take reasonable steps to prevent and address the parties' and their advisors' unauthorized disclosure of information and evidence obtained solely through the sex-based harassment grievance procedures; and

~~(vii) Create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and, at least 10 days prior to a hearing (if a hearing is required under this section or otherwise provided) or other time of determination regarding responsibility, send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the investigative report in an electronic format or a hard copy, for their review and written response.~~

~~(6) Hearings.~~

~~(i) For postsecondary institutions, the recipient's grievance process must provide for a live hearing. At the~~

(iv) Compliance with paragraph (e)(6) of this section satisfies the requirements of § 106.45(f)(4).

(f) Evaluating allegations and assessing credibility.

(1) Process for evaluating allegations and assessing credibility. A postsecondary institution must provide a process as specified in this subpart that enables the decisionmaker to adequately assess the credibility of the parties and witnesses to the extent credibility is both in dispute and relevant to evaluating one or more allegations of sex-based harassment. This assessment of credibility includes either:

(i) Allowing the decisionmaker to ask the parties and witnesses, during individual meetings with the parties or at a live hearing, relevant and not otherwise impermissible questions under §§ 106.2 and 106.45(b)(7) and follow-up questions, including questions challenging credibility, before determining whether sex-based harassment occurred and allowing each party to propose to the decisionmaker or investigator relevant and not otherwise impermissible questions under §§ 106.2 and 106.45(b)(7) and follow-up questions, including questions challenging credibility, that the party wants asked of any party or witness and have those questions asked during individual meetings with the parties or at a live hearing under paragraph (g) of this section subject to the requirements in paragraph (f)(3) of this section; or

(ii) When a postsecondary institution chooses to conduct a live hearing, ~~the decision maker(s) must permit~~ allowing each party's advisor to ask ~~the other~~ any party and any witnesses all relevant and not otherwise impermissible questions under §§ 106.2 and 106.45(b)(7) and follow-up questions, including ~~those questions~~ challenging credibility. ~~Such cross-examination at the live hearing, subject to the requirements under paragraph (f)(3) of this section. Such questioning~~ must never be conducted ~~directly, orally, and in real time by~~ by a party personally. If a postsecondary institution permits advisor-conducted questioning and a party does not have an advisor who can ask questions on their behalf, the postsecondary institution must provide the party's with an advisor of the postsecondary institution's choice ~~and never by a party personally, notwithstanding the discretion of,~~ without charge to the party, for the recipient under paragraph (b)(5)(iv) purpose of advisor-conducting questioning. The advisor may be, but is not required to be, an attorney.

(2) Compliance with § 106.45(g). Compliance with paragraph (f)(1)(i) or (f)(1)(ii) of this section ~~to otherwise restrict the extent to which advisors may participate in the proceedings. At the request of either party, the recipient must provide~~ satisfies the requirements of § 106.45(g).

(3) Procedures for the live hearing decisionmaker to ~~occur with~~ evaluate the parties located in separate rooms with technology enabling the decision maker(s) and parties to simultaneously see and hear the party or the witness answering questions. Only relevant cross-examination and other limitations on questions may be asked of a party or witness. Before a complainant, respondent, or witness answers a cross-examination or other question, the decision maker(s). The decisionmaker must ~~first~~ determine whether ~~the~~ a proposed question is relevant and not otherwise impermissible under §§ 106.2 and 106.45(b)(7), prior to the question being posed, and must explain any decision to exclude a question as not relevant. If a decisionmaker determines that a party ~~does not have an advisor present at the live hearing, the recipient's question is relevant and not otherwise impermissible, then it~~ must provide without fee or charge to that party, an advisor of the recipient's choice, who ~~may be, but is not required to be, an attorney,~~ to conduct cross-examination on behalf of that party. Questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the conduct alleged by the complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent be asked except that a postsecondary

institution must not permit questions that are unclear or harassing of the party being questioned. A postsecondary institution may also impose other reasonable rules regarding decorum, provided they apply equally to the parties.

(4) Refusal to respond to questions related to credibility. If a party ~~or witness~~ does not ~~submit~~respond to ~~cross-examination at the live hearing, the decision-maker(s)~~questions related to their credibility, the decisionmaker must not rely on any statement of that party ~~or witness in reaching a determination regarding responsibility; provided, however, that the decision-maker(s) cannot~~that supports that party's position. The decisionmaker must not draw an inference about ~~the determination regarding responsibility~~whether sex-based harassment occurred based solely on a party's ~~or witness's absence from the live hearing or's~~ refusal to ~~answer cross-examination or~~otherrespond questions related to their credibility.

(g) Live hearings pursuant to this paragraph may be conductedhearing procedures. A postsecondary institution's sex-based harassment grievance procedures may, but need not, provide for a live hearing. If a postsecondary institution chooses to conduct a live hearing, it may conduct the live hearing with all~~the~~ parties physically present in the same geographic location ~~or, but~~ at the recipient's postsecondary institution's discretion, ~~any or all parties, witnesses, and other participants may appear at~~upon the request of either party, it will conduct the live hearing ~~virtually, with the parties physically present in separate locations~~ with technology enabling ~~participants~~the decisionmaker and parties to simultaneously ~~to~~ see and hear ~~each other. Recipients~~the party or the witness while that person is speaking or communicating in another format. A postsecondary institution must create an audio or audiovisual recording, or transcript, of any live hearing and make it available to the parties for inspection and review.

~~(ii) For recipients that are elementary and secondary schools, and other recipients that are not postsecondary institutions, the recipient's grievance process may, but need not, provide for a hearing. With or without a hearing, after the recipient has sent the investigative report to the parties pursuant to paragraph (b)(5)(vii) of this section and before reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the decision-maker(s) must afford each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness, provide each party with the answers, and allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party. With or without a hearing, questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the conduct alleged by the complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent. The decision-maker(s) must explain to the party proposing the questions any decision to exclude a question as not relevant.~~

~~(7) Determination regarding responsibility.~~

~~(i) The decision-maker(s), who cannot be the same person(s) as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator(s), must issue a written determination regarding responsibility. To reach this determination, the recipient must apply the standard of evidence described in paragraph (b)(1)(vii) of this section.~~

(iih) Written determination of whether sex-based harassment occurred. The postsecondary institution must provide the determination whether sex-based harassment occurred in writing to the parties simultaneously.

(1) The written determination must include—:

~~(A) Identification of the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment as defined in § 106.30;~~

~~(B) A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the formal complaint through the determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, methods used to gather other evidence, and hearings held;~~

~~(C) Findings of fact supporting the~~

(i) A description of the alleged sex-based harassment;

(ii) Information about the policies and procedures that the postsecondary institution used to evaluate the allegations;

(iii) The decisionmaker's evaluation of the relevant evidence and determination;

(D) Conclusions regarding the application of the recipient's code of conduct to the facts of whether sex-based harassment occurred;

(iv) (E) A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility. When the decisionmaker finds that sex-based harassment occurred, any disciplinary sanctions the recipient imposes postsecondary institution will impose on the respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity other than the imposition of disciplinary sanctions will be provided by the recipient postsecondary institution to the complainant and, to the extent appropriate, other students identified by the postsecondary institution to be experiencing the effects of the sex-based harassment; and

(v) (F) The recipient postsecondary institution's procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal.

~~(iii2) The recipient must provide the written determination to the parties simultaneously. The determination regarding responsibility becomes final either on the date that the recipient postsecondary institution provides the parties with the written determination of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is filed, or if an appeal is not filed, the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely.~~

~~(iv) The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation of any remedies.~~

~~(8)~~

(i) Appeals.

(i1) A recipient postsecondary institution must offer ~~both the~~ parties an appeal from a determination ~~regarding responsibility that sex-based harassment occurred~~, and from a recipient postsecondary institution's dismissal of a ~~formal~~ complaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:

(i) ~~(A)~~ Procedural irregularity that ~~affected~~ would change the ~~outcome of~~ determination of whether sex-based harassment occurred in the matter;

(ii) ~~(B)~~ New evidence that would change the outcome of the matter and that was not reasonably available at the time the determination ~~regarding responsibility of whether sex-based harassment occurred~~ or dismissal was made, ~~that could affect the outcome of the matter~~; and

(iii) ~~(C)~~ The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that ~~affected~~ would change the outcome of the matter.

(i2) A recipient postsecondary institution may offer an appeal equally to ~~both the~~ parties on additional bases, as long as the additional bases are available to all parties.

~~(iii3)~~ As to all appeals, the ~~recipient must~~:

~~(A) Notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed and implement appeal procedures equally for both parties;~~

~~(B) Ensure that the decision-maker(s) for the appeal is not the same person as the decision-maker(s) that reached the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator(s), or the Title IX Coordinator;~~

~~(C) Ensure that the decision-maker(s) for the appeal complies with the standards set forth in paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section;~~

~~(D) Give both parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome;~~

~~(E) Issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result; and~~

~~(F) Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties~~ postsecondary institution must comply with the requirements in § 106.45(d)(3)(i), (iv), and (v) in writing.

(9i) Informal resolution. ~~A recipient may not require as a condition of enrollment or continuing enrollment, or employment or continuing employment, or enjoyment of any other right, waiver of the right to an investigation and adjudication of formal complaints of sexual harassment consistent with this section. Similarly, a recipient may not require the parties to participate in an informal resolution process~~ If a postsecondary institution offers or provides the parties to the grievance procedures under § 106.45 and under this section ~~and may not offer~~ with an informal resolution process ~~unless a formal complaint is filed. However, at any time prior to reaching a~~

determination regarding responsibility the recipient may facilitate an informal resolution process, such as mediation, that does not involve a full investigation and adjudication, provided that the recipient —

under § 106.44(ik) — Provides to the parties a written notice disclosing: the allegations, the requirements of the informal resolution process including the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations, provided, however, that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the grievance process with respect to the formal complaint, and any consequences resulting from participating, the postsecondary institution must inform the parties in writing of the offer and their rights and responsibilities in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared;

(ii) Obtains the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process; and

(iii) Does not offer or facilitate an informal resolution process to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.

~~(10) Recordkeeping—~~

~~(i) A recipient must maintain for a period of seven years records of —~~

~~(A) Each sexual harassment investigation including any determination regarding responsibility and any audio or audiovisual recording or transcript required under paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this section, any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent, and any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity;~~

~~(B) Any appeal and the result therefrom;~~

~~(C) Any informal resolution and the result therefrom; and~~

~~(D) All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process. A recipient must make these training materials publicly available on its website, or if the recipient does not maintain a website the recipient must make these materials available upon request for inspection by members of the public.~~

~~(ii) For each response required under § 106.44, a recipient must create, and maintain for a period of seven years, records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment. In each instance, the recipient must document the basis for its conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent, and document that it has taken measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity. If a recipient does not provide a complainant with supportive measures, then the recipient must document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances. The documentation of certain bases or measures~~

~~does not limit the recipient in the future from providing additional explanations or detailing additional measures taken~~ and otherwise comply with the provisions of § 106.44(k)(3) in writing.

§106.47 Assistant Secretary review of sex-based harassment complaints.

The Assistant Secretary will not deem a recipient to have violated this part solely because the Assistant Secretary would have reached a different determination than a recipient reached under § 106.45, and if applicable § 106.46, based on an independent weighing of the evidence in sex-based harassment complaints.

~~§106.46~~§106.48 **Severability.**

If any provision of this subpart or its application to any person, act, or practice is held invalid, the remainder of the subpart or the application of its provisions to any person, act, or practice shall not be affected thereby.

Subpart E—Discrimination on the Basis of Sex in Employment in Education Programs or Activities Prohibited

§106.51 Employment.

(a) **General.**

(1) No person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in employment, or recruitment, consideration, or selection therefor, whether full-time or part-time, under any education program or activity operated by a recipient which receives Federal financial assistance.

(2) A recipient shall make all employment decisions in any education program or activity operated by such recipient in a nondiscriminatory manner and shall not limit, segregate, or classify applicants or employees in any way which could adversely affect any applicant's or employee's employment opportunities or status because of sex.

(3) A recipient shall not enter into any contractual or other relationship which directly or indirectly has the effect of subjecting employees or students to discrimination prohibited by this subpart, including relationships with employment and referral agencies, with labor unions, and with organizations providing or administering fringe benefits to employees of the recipient.

(4) A recipient shall not grant preferences to applicants for employment on the basis of attendance at any educational institution or entity which admits as students only or predominantly members of one sex, if the giving of such preferences has the effect of discriminating on the basis of sex in violation of this part.

(b) **Application.** The provisions of this subpart apply to:

(1) Recruitment, advertising, and the process of application for employment;

(2) Hiring, upgrading, promotion, consideration for and award of tenure, demotion, transfer, layoff, termination, application of nepotism policies, right of return from layoff, and rehiring;

(3) Rates of pay or any other form of compensation, and changes in compensation;

(4) Job assignments, classifications and structure, including position descriptions, lines of progression, and seniority lists;

(5) The terms of any collective bargaining agreement;

(6) Granting and return from leaves of absence, leave for pregnancy, ~~childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy~~ or related conditions, leave for persons of either sex to care for children or dependents, or any other leave;

(7) Fringe benefits available by virtue of employment, whether or not administered by the recipient;

(8) Selection and financial support for training, including apprenticeship, professional meetings, conferences, and other related activities, selection for tuition assistance, selection for sabbaticals and leaves of absence to pursue training;

(9) Employer-sponsored activities, including those that are social or recreational; and

(10) Any other term, condition, or privilege of employment.

§106.52 Employment criteria.

A recipient shall not administer or operate any test or other criterion for any employment opportunity which has a disproportionately adverse effect on persons on the basis of sex unless:

(a) Use of such test or other criterion is shown to predict validly successful performance in the position in question; and

(b) Alternative tests or criteria for such purpose, which do not have such disproportionately adverse effect, are shown to be unavailable.

§106.53 Recruitment.

(a) ***Nondiscriminatory recruitment and hiring.*** A recipient shall not discriminate on the basis of sex in the recruitment and hiring of employees. Where a recipient has been found to be presently discriminating on the basis of sex in the recruitment or hiring of employees, or has been found to have in the past so discriminated, the recipient shall recruit members of the sex so discriminated against so as to overcome the effects of such past or present discrimination.

(b) ***Recruitment patterns.*** A recipient shall not recruit primarily or exclusively at entities which furnish as applicants only or predominantly members of one sex if such actions have the effect of discriminating on the basis of sex in violation of this subpart.

§106.54 Compensation.

A recipient shall not make or enforce any policy or practice which, on the basis of sex:

(a) Makes distinctions in rates of pay or other compensation;

(b) Results in the payment of wages to employees of one sex at a rate less than that paid to employees of the opposite sex for equal work on jobs the performance of which requires equal skill, effort, and responsibility, and which are performed under similar working conditions.

§106.55 Job classification and structure.

A recipient shall not:

(a) Classify a job as being for males or for females;

(b) Maintain or establish separate lines of progression, seniority lists, career ladders, or tenure systems based on sex; or

(c) Maintain or establish separate lines of progression, seniority systems, career ladders, or tenure systems for similar jobs, position descriptions, or job requirements which classify persons on the basis of sex, unless sex is a bona-fide occupational qualification for the positions in question as set forth in §106.61.

§106.56 Fringe benefits.

(a) ***Fringe benefits defined.*** For purposes of this part, *fringe benefits* means: Any medical, hospital, accident, life insurance or retirement benefit, service, policy or plan, any profit-sharing or bonus plan, leave, and any other benefit or service of employment not subject to the provision of §106.54.

(b) ***Prohibitions.*** A recipient shall not:

(1) Discriminate on the basis of sex with regard to making fringe benefits available to employees or make fringe benefits available to spouses, families, or dependents of employees differently upon the basis of the employee's sex;

(2) Administer, operate, offer, or participate in a fringe benefit plan which does not provide either for equal periodic benefits for members of each sex, or for equal contributions to the plan by such recipient for members of each sex; or

(3) Administer, operate, offer, or participate in a pension or retirement plan which establishes different optional or compulsory retirement ages based on sex or which otherwise discriminates in benefits on the basis of sex.

§106.57 ~~Marital~~Parental, family, or ~~parental~~marital status; pregnancy or related conditions.

(a) ~~General~~**Status Generally.** A recipient shall not apply any policy, practice, or procedure, or take any employment action on the basis of sex:

(1) Concerning the current, potential ~~marital, or past~~ parental, ~~or~~ family, or marital status of an employee or applicant for employment which treats persons differently on the basis of sex; or

(2) Which is based upon whether an employee or applicant for employment is the head of household or principal wage earner in such employee's or applicant's family unit.

(b) **Pregnancy or related conditions.** A recipient shall not discriminate against or exclude from employment any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of ~~pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom~~ current, potential, or past pregnancy related conditions.

(c) ~~Pregnancy as a~~ **Comparable treatment to temporary disability disabilities or conditions.** A recipient shall treat pregnancy, ~~childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, and recovery therefrom and~~ or related conditions or any temporary disability resulting therefrom as any other temporary disability for all job related purposes, including commencement, duration and extensions of leave, payment of disability income, accrual of seniority and any other benefit or service, and reinstatement, and under any fringe benefit offered to employees by virtue of employment.

(d) **Pregnancy leave.** In the case of a recipient which does not maintain a leave policy for its employees, or in the case of an employee with insufficient leave or accrued employment time to qualify for leave under such a policy, a recipient shall treat pregnancy, ~~childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy and recovery therefrom~~ or related conditions as a justification for a voluntary leave of absence without pay for a reasonable period of time, at the conclusion of which the employee shall be reinstated to the status which she held when the leave began or to a comparable position, without decrease in rate of compensation or loss of promotional opportunities, or any other right or privilege of employment.

(e) Lactation time and space.

(1) A recipient must provide reasonable break time for an employee to express breast milk or breastfeed as needed.

(2) A recipient must ensure the availability of a lactation space, which must be a space other than a bathroom that is clean, shielded from view, free from intrusion from others, and may be used by an employee for expressing breast milk or breastfeeding as needed.

§106.58 Effect of State or local law or other requirements.

(a) **Prohibitory requirements.** The obligation to comply with this subpart is not obviated or alleviated by the existence of any State or local law or other requirement which imposes prohibitions or limits upon employment of members of one sex which are not imposed upon members of the other sex.

(b) **Benefits.** A recipient which provides any compensation, service, or benefit to members of one sex pursuant to a State or local law or other requirement shall provide the same compensation, service, or benefit to members of the other sex.

§106.59 Advertising.

A recipient shall not in any advertising related to employment indicate preference, limitation, specification, or discrimination based on sex unless sex is a *bona-fide* occupational qualification for the particular job in question.

§106.60 Pre-employment inquiries.

(a) **Marital status.** A recipient ~~shall~~must not make pre-employment inquiry as to the marital status of an applicant for employment, including whether such applicant is “Miss or Mrs.”

(b) **Sex.** A recipient may ~~make pre-employment inquiry as to the sex of~~ask an applicant for employment to self-identify their sex, but only if ~~such inquiry~~this question is ~~made equally~~asked of ~~such~~all applicants ~~of both sexes~~ and if the ~~results of such inquiry are~~response is not used ~~in connection with~~as a basis for discrimination prohibited by this part.

§106.61 Sex as a bona-fide occupational qualification.

A recipient may take action otherwise prohibited by this subpart provided it is shown that sex is a bona-fide occupational qualification for that action, such that consideration of sex with regard to such action is essential to successful operation of the employment function concerned. A recipient shall not take action pursuant to this section which is based upon alleged comparative employment characteristics or stereotyped characterizations of one or the other sex, or upon preference based on sex of the recipient, employees, students, or other persons, but nothing contained in this section shall prevent a recipient from considering an employee's sex in relation to employment in a locker room or toilet facility used only by members of one sex.

§106.62 Severability.

If any provision of this subpart or its application to any person, act, or practice is held invalid, the remainder of the subpart or the application of its provisions to any person, act, or practice shall not be affected thereby.

Subpart F—Retaliation

§106.71 Retaliation.

~~(a) **Retaliation prohibited.** No recipient or other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by title IX or this part, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this part. Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination, including charges~~

A recipient must prohibit retaliation in its education program or activity. When a recipient receives information about conduct that may constitute retaliation, the recipient is obligated to comply with § 106.44. A recipient must initiate its grievance procedures upon receiving a complaint alleging retaliation under § 106.45. As set out in § 106.45(e), if the complaint is consolidated with a complaint of sex-based harassment involving a student complainant or student respondent at a postsecondary institution, the grievance procedures initiated by the consolidated complaint must comply with the requirements of §§ 106.45 and 106.46. Prohibited retaliation includes but is not limited to:

(a) Initiating a disciplinary process against ~~an individual~~ a person for a code of conduct ~~violations~~ violation that ~~do~~ does not involve sex discrimination ~~or sexual harassment~~, but ~~arise~~ arises out of the same facts ~~or~~ and circumstances as a ~~report or~~ complaint of ~~or information reported about~~ possible sex discrimination, ~~or a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment~~, for the purpose of interfering with the exercise of any right or privilege secured by ~~title~~ Title IX or this part, ~~constitutes~~ retaliation. ~~The recipient must keep confidential the identity of any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination, including any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment, any complainant, any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination, any respondent, and any witness, except as may be permitted by the FERPA statute, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, or FERPA regulations, 34 CFR part 99, or as required by law, or to carry out the purposes of 34 CFR part 106, including the conduct of any investigation, hearing, or judicial proceeding arising thereunder. Complaints alleging retaliation may be filed according to the grievance procedures for sex discrimination required to be adopted under § 106.8(c); or~~

~~(b) Specific circumstances.~~

~~(1) The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute retaliation prohibited under paragraph (a) of this section.~~

~~(2) Charging an individual with a code of conduct violation for making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a grievance proceeding under this part does not constitute retaliation prohibited under paragraph (a) of this section, provided, however, that a determination regarding responsibility, alone, is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a materially false statement in bad faith.~~

(b) Peer retaliation.

§106.72 Severability.

If any provision of this subpart or its application to any person, act, or practice is held invalid, the remainder of the subpart or the application of its provisions to any person, act, or practice shall not be affected thereby.

Subpart G—Procedures

§106.81 Procedures.

The procedural provisions applicable to title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 are hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference. These procedures may be found at 34 CFR 100.6-100.11 and 34 CFR part 101. ~~The definitions in § 106.30 do not apply to 34 CFR 100.6-100.11 and 34 CFR part 101.~~

§106.82 Severability.

If any provision of this subpart or its application to any person, act, or practice is held invalid, the remainder of the subpart or the application of its provisions to any person, act, or practice shall not be affected thereby.

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