

Affirmative Action Plan for the Recruitment, Hiring, Advancement, and Retention of Persons with Disabilities

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To capture agencies' affirmative action plan for persons with disabilities (PWD) and persons with targeted disabilities (PWTD), EEOC regulations (29 C.F.R. § 1614.203(e)) and MD-715 require agencies to describe how their affirmative action plan will improve the recruitment, hiring, advancement, and retention of applicants and employees with disabilities.

Section I: Efforts to Reach Regulatory Goals

EEOC regulations (29 CFR §1614.203(d)(7)) require agencies to establish specific numerical goals for increasing the participation of persons with disabilities and persons with targeted disabilities in the federal government.

1. Using the goal of 12% as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD by grade level cluster in the permanent workforce? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

- a. Cluster GS-1 to GS-10 (PWD) Answer: No
- b. Cluster GS-11 to SES (PWD) Answer: No

* For GS employees, please use two clusters: GS-1 to GS-10 and GS-11 to SES, as set forth in 29 C.F.R. § 1614.203(d)(7). For all other pay plans, please use the approximate grade clusters that are above or below GS-11 Step 1 in the Washington, DC metropolitan region.

2. Using the goal of 2% as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD by grade level cluster in the permanent workforce? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

- a. Cluster GS-1 to GS-10 (PWTD) Answer: No
- b. Cluster GS-11 to SES (PWTD) Answer: No

Grade Level Cluster (GS or Alternate Pay Planb)	Total	Reportable Disability Total	Reportable Disability Percentage (Numerical Goal 12 Percent)	Targeted Disability Total	Targeted Disability Percentage (Numerical Goal 2 Percent)
Grades GS-11 to SES	666	111	16.67	16	2.40
Grades GS-1 to GS-10	52	10	19.23	4	7.69

3. Describe how the agency has communicated the numerical goals to the hiring managers and/or recruiters.

The numerical goals are shared with hiring managers and/or recruiters directly and during the State of the Agency briefings.

Section II: Model Disability Program

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. § 1614.203(d)(1), agencies must ensure sufficient staff, training and resources to recruit and hire persons with disabilities and persons with targeted disabilities, administer the reasonable accommodation program and special emphasis program, and oversee any other disability hiring and advancement program the agency has in place.

A. PLAN TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT & COMPETENT STAFFING FOR THE DISABILITY PROGRAM

1. Has the agency designated sufficient qualified personnel to implement its disability program during the reporting period? If "no", describe the agency's plan to improve the staffing for the upcoming year.

Answer: Yes

2. Identify all staff responsible for implementing the agency's disability employment program by the office, staff employment status, and responsible official.

Disability Program Task	Total Full Time	Total Part Time	Total Collateral Duty	Responsible Official (Name, Title, Office Email)
Processing applications from PWD and PWTD	1	0	0	Earl Andrews Branch Chief
Processing reasonable accommodation requests from applicants and employees	1	0	0	Margarita Calderón Disability Program Manager
Answering questions from the public about hiring authorities that take disability into account	1	0	0	Earl Andrews Branch Chief
Special Emphasis Program for PWD and PWTD	0	0	0	N/A
Section 508 Compliance	1	0	0	Katherine Otts 508 Compliance Compliance Officer
Architectural Barriers Act Compliance	1	0	0	Barry Carlisle Safety Occupational Health Manager

3. Has the agency provided disability program staff with sufficient training to carry out their responsibilities during the reporting period? If "yes", describe the training that disability program staff have received. If "no", describe the training planned for the upcoming year.

Answer: Yes

Yes, disability training such as reasonable accommodations and sensitivity training has been conducted.

B. PLAN TO ENSURE SUFFICIENT FUNDING FOR THE DISABILITY PROGRAM

Has the agency provided sufficient funding and other resources to successfully implement the disability program during the reporting period? If "no", describe the agency's plan to ensure all aspects of the disability program have sufficient funding and other resources.

Answer: Yes

Section III: Program Deficiencies In The Disability Program

Section IV: Plan to Recruit and Hire Individuals with Disabilities

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. §1614.203(d)(1)(i) and (ii), agencies must establish a plan to increase the recruitment and hiring of individuals with disabilities. The questions below are designed to identify outcomes of the agency's recruitment program plan for PWD and PWTD.

A. PLAN TO IDENTIFY JOB APPLICATIONS WITH DISABILITIES

1. Describe the programs and resources the agency uses to identify job applicants with disabilities, including individuals with targeted disabilities.

Demographic questions are asked when applicants apply to all positions within the agency, but these questions are voluntary. Many applicants do not opt to self-identify. Upon on-boarding, the SF-256 is requested as well. The Selective Placement Program Coordinator Database. HR POC (SPPC) recruits and hires job applicants with disabilities. SPPC continues to cultivate relationships with several organizations in an effort to develop and expand "best practices" for recruitment, hiring, and retention of PWD.

2. Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. §1614.203(a)(3), describe the agency's use of hiring authorities that take disability into account (e.g., Schedule A) to recruit PWD and PWTD for positions in the permanent workforce.

Schedule A, Veterans Preference and the Veterans Non Paid Work Experience Program

3. When individuals apply for a position under a hiring authority that takes disability into account (e.g., Schedule A), explain how the agency (1) determines if the individual is eligible for appointment under such authority; and, (2) forwards the individual's application to the relevant hiring officials with an explanation of how and when the individual may be appointed.

HR reviews and verifies the appropriate documentation. Once the documentation has been confirmed a certification of eligibility is sent to the selecting official. Perspective applicants may also reach out to SPPC who will: A) verify eligibility under Schedule A B) search for current open announcements C) reach out to agency hiring officials/HR POC to determine if there any upcoming announcements D) forward applicant information to those hiring officials, and E) add to database for Schedule A candidates

4. Has the agency provided training to all hiring managers on the use of hiring authorities that take disability into account (e.g., Schedule A)? If "yes", describe the type(s) of training and frequency. If "no", describe the agency's plan to provide this training.

Answer: Yes

Hiring managers are trained annually via face to face meetings, oral presentations, and e-training.

B. PLAN TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Describe the agency's efforts to establish and maintain contacts with organizations that assist PWD, including PWTD, in securing and maintaining employment.

NSF will continue to partner and collaborate with various organizations (veteran and non-veteran) in outreach efforts such as career fairs.

C. PROGRESSION TOWARDS GOALS (RECRUITMENT AND HIRING)

1. Using the goals of 12% for PWD and 2% for PWTD as the benchmarks, do triggers exist for PWD and/or PWTD among the new hires in the permanent workforce? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) below.

a. New Hires for Permanent Workforce (PWD)

Answer: No

b. New Hires for Permanent Workforce (PWTD)

Answer: No

New Hires	Total (Number)	Reportable Disability Permanent Workforce (Percentage)	Reportable Disability Temporary Workforce (Percentage)	Targeted Disability Permanent Workforce (Percentage)	Targeted Disability Temporary Workforce (Percentage)
% of Total Applicants	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
% of Qualified Applicants	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
% of New Hires	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

2. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, do triggers exist for PWD and/or PWTD among the new hires for any of the mission-critical occupations (MCO)? If "yes", please describe the triggers below. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

- a. New Hires for MCO (PWD) Answer: No
b. New Hires for MCO (PWTD) Answer: No

New Hires to Mission-Critical Occupations	Total (Number)	Reportable Disability New Hires (Percentage)	Targetable Disability New Hires (Percentage)
Numerical Goal	--	12%	2%

3. Using the relevant applicant pool as the benchmark, do triggers exist for PWD and/or PWTD among the qualified internal applicants for any of the mission-critical occupations (MCO)? If "yes", please describe the triggers below. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

- a. Qualified Applicants for MCO (PWD) Answer: No
b. Qualified Applicants for MCO (PWTD) Answer: No

4. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, do triggers exist for PWD and/or PWTD among employees promoted to any of the mission-critical occupations (MCO)? If "yes", please describe the triggers below. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

- a. Promotions for MCO (PWD) Answer: No
b. Promotions for MCO (PWTD) Answer: No

Section V: Plan to Ensure Advancement Opportunities for Employees with Disabilities

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. §1614.203(d)(1)(iii), agencies are required to provide sufficient advancement opportunities for employees with disabilities. Such activities might include specialized training and mentoring programs, career development opportunities, awards programs, promotions, and similar programs that address advancement. In this section, agencies should identify, and provide data on programs designed to ensure advancement opportunities for employees with disabilities.

A. ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM PLAN

Describe the agency's plan to ensure PWD, including PWTD, have sufficient opportunities for advancement.

NSF plans to continue to offer multiple development programs for all staff leading to opportunities for advancement.

B. CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Please describe the career development opportunities that the agency provides to its employees.

Informal Mentoring Program Pathway/Internship Program Federal Coaching Program.

2. In the table below, please provide the data for career development opportunities that require competition and/or supervisory recommendation/approval to participate.

Career Development Opportunities	Total Participants Applicants (Percentage)	Total Participants Selectees (Percentage)	PWD Applicants (Percentage)	PWD Selectees (Percentage)	PWTD Applicants (Percentage)	PWTD Selectees (Percentage)
Internship Programs	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Fellowship Programs	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Detail Programs	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Other Career Development Programs	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Coaching Programs	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Training Programs	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Mentoring Programs	184	184	9.78	9.78	3.26	3.26

3. Do triggers exist for PWD among the applicants and/or selectees for any of the career development programs? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for the applicants and the applicant pool for selectees.) If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. Applicants (PWD)

Answer: No

b. Selections (PWD)

Answer: No

4. Do triggers exist for PWTD among the applicants and/or selectees for any of the career development programs? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for the applicants and the applicant pool for selectees.) If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. Applicants (PWTD)

Answer: No

b. Selections (PWTD)

Answer: No

C. AWARDS

1. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD and/or PWTD for any level of the time-off awards, bonuses, or other incentives? If "yes", please describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

a. Awards, Bonuses, & Incentives (PWD)

Answer: No

b. Awards, Bonuses, & Incentives (PWTD)

Answer: No

Time-Off Awards	Total (Number)	Reportable Disability (Percentage)	Without Reportable Disability (Percentage)	Targeted Disability (Percentage)	Without Targeted Disability (Percentage)
Time-Off Awards 1 - 10 hours: Awards Given	52.00	15.38	84.62	0.00	100.00
Time-Off Awards 1 - 10 Hours: Total Hours	412.00	15.53	84.47	0.00	100.00
Time-Off Awards 1 - 10 Hours: Average Hours	7.92	8.00	7.91	0.00	7.92
Time-Off Awards 11 - 20 hours: Awards Given	61.00	13.11	86.89	1.64	98.36
Time-Off Awards 11 - 20 Hours: Total Hours	964.00	12.86	87.14	1.66	98.34
Time-Off Awards 11 - 20 Hours: Average Hours	15.80	15.50	15.85	16.00	15.80
Time-Off Awards 21 - 30 hours: Awards Given	29.00	13.79	86.21	0.00	100.00
Time-Off Awards 21 - 30 Hours: Total Hours	695.00	13.81	86.19	0.00	100.00
Time-Off Awards 21 - 30 Hours: Average Hours	23.97	24.00	23.96	0.00	23.97
Time-Off Awards 31 - 40 hours: Awards Given	25.00	8.00	92.00	4.00	96.00
Time-Off Awards 31 - 40 Hours: Total Hours	1000.00	8.00	92.00	4.00	96.00
Time-Off Awards 31 - 40 Hours: Average Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
Time-Off Awards 41 or more Hours: Awards Given	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Time-Off Awards 41 or more Hours: Total Hours	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Time-Off Awards 41 or more Hours: Average Hours	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Cash Awards	Total (Number)	Reportable Disability (Percentage)	Without Reportable Disability (Percentage)	Targeted Disability (Percentage)	Without Targeted Disability (Percentage)
Cash Awards \$500 and Under: Awards Given	291.00	16.49	83.51	3.78	96.22
Cash Awards \$500 and Under: Total Amount	2472771.00	10.65	89.35	3.16	96.84
Cash Awards \$500 and Under: Average Amount	8497.49	5486.08	9092.34	7110.55	8551.98
Cash Awards: \$501 - \$999: Awards Given	353.00	14.45	85.55	3.68	96.32
Cash Awards: \$501 - \$999: Total Amount	261623.00	14.97	85.03	3.67	96.33
Cash Awards: \$501 - \$999: Average Amount	741.14	767.80	736.64	739.08	741.22
Cash Awards: \$1000 - \$1999: Awards Given	653.00	15.62	84.38	3.98	96.02
Cash Awards: \$1000 - \$1999: Total Amount	770746.00	15.73	84.27	3.03	96.97
Cash Awards: \$1000 - \$1999: Average Amount	1180.32	1188.83	1178.74	898.12	1192.02
Cash Awards: \$2000 - \$2999: Awards Given	444.00	16.22	83.78	4.05	95.95
Cash Awards: \$2000 - \$2999: Total Amount	1022798.00	16.11	83.89	3.63	96.37
Cash Awards: \$2000 - \$2999: Average Amount	2303.60	2289.00	2306.42	2064.17	2313.72
Cash Awards: \$3000 - \$3999: Awards Given	536.00	16.23	83.77	4.48	95.52
Cash Awards: \$3000 - \$3999: Total Amount	1828650.00	16.49	83.51	3.65	96.35
Cash Awards: \$3000 - \$3999: Average Amount	3411.66	3465.17	3401.29	2781.67	3441.19
Cash Awards: \$4000 - \$4999: Awards Given	653.00	9.65	90.35	1.38	98.62
Cash Awards: \$4000 - \$4999: Total Amount	2977212.00	9.63	90.37	0.93	99.08
Cash Awards: \$4000 - \$4999: Average Amount	4559.28	4551.11	4560.16	3060.00	4580.24
Cash Awards: \$5000 or more: Awards Given	162.00	12.35	87.65	3.09	96.91
Cash Awards: \$5000 or more: Total Amount	2472771.00	10.65	89.35	3.16	96.84
Cash Awards: \$5000 or more: Average Amount	15264.02	13166.60	15559.43	15643.20	15251.94

2. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD and/or PWTB for quality step increases or performance-based pay increases? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) below.

a. Awards, Bonuses, & Incentives (PWTB)

Answer: No

b. Pay Increases (PWTB)

Answer: No

Other Awards	Total (Number)	Reportable Disability (Percentage)	Without Reportable Disability (Percentage)	Targeted Disability (Percentage)	Without Targeted Disability (Percentage)
Total Performance Based Pay Increases Awarded	149.00	10.74	89.26	2.01	97.99

3. If the agency has other types of employee recognition programs, are PWD and/or PWTD recognized disproportionately less than employees without disabilities? (The appropriate benchmark is the inclusion rate.) If "yes", describe the employee recognition program and relevant data in the text box.

a. Other Types of Recognition (PWD) Answer: No

b. Other Types of Recognition (PWTD) Answer: No

D. PROMOTIONS

1. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWD among the qualified internal applicants and/or selectees for promotions to the senior grade levels? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for qualified internal applicants and the qualified applicant pool for selectees.) For non-GS pay plans, please use the approximate senior grade levels. If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. SES

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No

ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No

b. Grade GS-15

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No

ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No

c. Grade GS-14

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No

ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No

d. Grade GS-13

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No

ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No

2. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the qualified internal applicants and/or selectees for promotions to the senior grade levels? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for qualified internal applicants and the qualified applicant pool for selectees.) For non-GS pay plans, please use the approximate senior grade levels. If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. SES

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No

ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No

b. Grade GS-15

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No

ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No

c. Grade GS-14

- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No
- d. Grade GS-13
- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No
3. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD among the new hires to the senior grade levels? For non-GS pay plans, please use the approximate senior grade levels. If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.
- a. New Hires to SES (PWD) Answer: No
- b. New Hires to GS-15 (PWD) Answer: No
- c. New Hires to GS-14 (PWD) Answer: No
- d. New Hires to GS-13 (PWD) Answer: No
4. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the new hires to the senior grade levels? For non-GS pay plans, please use the approximate senior grade levels. If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.
- a. New Hires to SES (PWTD) Answer: No
- b. New Hires to GS-15 (PWTD) Answer: No
- c. New Hires to GS-14 (PWTD) Answer: No
- d. New Hires to GS-13 (PWTD) Answer: No
5. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWD among the qualified internal applicants and/or selectees for promotions to supervisory positions? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for qualified internal applicants and the qualified applicant pool for selectees.) If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.
- a. Executives
- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer: No
- ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer: No
- b. Managers
- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer: No
- ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer: No
- c. Supervisors
- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer: No
- ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer: No
6. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the qualified internal applicants and/or selectees for promotions to supervisory positions? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for qualified internal applicants and the qualified applicant pool for selectees.) If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.
- a. Executives
- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No
- b. Managers

- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No

- c. Supervisors
 - i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer: No
 - ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer: No

- 7. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD among the selectees for new hires to supervisory positions? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.
 - a. New Hires for Executives (PWD) Answer: No
 - b. New Hires for Managers (PWD) Answer: No
 - c. New Hires for Supervisors (PWD) Answer: No

- 8. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the selectees for new hires to supervisory positions? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.
 - a. New Hires for Executives (PWTD) Answer: No
 - b. New Hires for Managers (PWTD) Answer: No
 - c. New Hires for Supervisors (PWTD) Answer: No

Section VI: Plan to Improve Retention of Persons with Disabilities

To be model employer for persons with disabilities, agencies must have policies and programs in place to retain employees with disabilities. In this section, agencies should: (1) analyze workforce separation data to identify barriers retaining employees with disabilities; (2) describe efforts to ensure accessibility of technology and facilities; and (3) provide information on the reasonable accommodation program and workplace assistance services.

A. VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY SEPARATIONS

1. In this reporting period, did the agency convert all eligible Schedule A employees with a disability into the competitive service after two years of satisfactory service (5 C.F.R. § 213.3102(u)(6)(i))? If "no", please explain why the agency did not convert all eligible Schedule A employees.

Answer: No

Schedule A employees were hired during the reporting period. However, there were no conversions during this period.

2. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, did the percentage of PWD among voluntary and involuntary separations exceed that of persons without disabilities? If "yes", describe the trigger below.

a. Voluntary Separations (PWD)

Answer: No

b. Involuntary Separations (PWD)

Answer: No

Separations	Total (Number)	Reportable Disabilities (Percentage)	Without Reportable Disabilities (Percentage)
Permanent Workforce: Reduction in Force	0	0.00	0.00
Permanent Workforce: Removal	5	1.12	0.29
Permanent Workforce: Resignation	139	11.73	11.28
Permanent Workforce: Retirement	146	7.26	12.72
Permanent Workforce: Other Separations	28	2.79	2.20
Permanent Workforce: Total Separations	318	22.91	26.48

3. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, did the percentage of PWTD among voluntary and involuntary separations exceed that of persons without targeted disabilities? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

a. Voluntary Separations (PWTD)

Answer: No

b. Involuntary Separations (PWTD)

Answer: No

Separations	Total (Number)	Targeted Disabilities (Percentage)	Without Targeted Disabilities (Percentage)
Permanent Workforce: Reduction in Force	0	0.00	0.00
Permanent Workforce: Removal	5	0.00	0.42
Permanent Workforce: Resignation	139	13.33	11.30
Permanent Workforce: Retirement	146	20.00	11.72
Permanent Workforce: Other Separations	28	10.00	2.09
Permanent Workforce: Total Separations	318	43.33	25.52

4. If a trigger exists involving the separation rate of PWD and/or PWTD, please explain why they left the agency using exit interview results and other data sources.

N/A

B. ACCESSIBILITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND FACILITIES

Pursuant to 29 CFR §1614.203(d)(4), federal agencies are required to inform applicants and employees of their rights under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794(b), concerning the accessibility of agency technology, and the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 4151-4157), concerning the accessibility of agency facilities. In addition, agencies are required to inform individuals where to file complaints if other agencies are responsible for a violation.

1. Please provide the internet address on the agency's public website for its notice explaining employees' and applicants' rights under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, including a description of how to file a complaint.

<https://www.nsf.gov/policies/access.jsp>

2. Please provide the internet address on the agency's public website for its notice explaining employees' and applicants' rights under the Architectural Barriers Act, including a description of how to file a complaint.

<https://www.nsf.gov/policies/access.jsp>

3. Describe any programs, policies, or practices that the agency has undertaken, or plans on undertaking over the next fiscal year, designed to improve accessibility of agency facilities and/or technology.

Reasonable accommodation policy was modified on April 12, 2023. Currently the agency is modifying the reasonable accommodation policy for relevant updates.

C. REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION PROGRAM

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. § 1614.203(d)(3), agencies must adopt, post on their public website, and make available to all job applicants and employees, reasonable accommodation procedures.

1. Please provide the average time frame for processing initial requests for reasonable accommodations during the reporting period. (Please do not include previously approved requests with repetitive accommodations, such as interpreting services.)

29 days average time frame for processing initial request.

2. Describe the effectiveness of the policies, procedures, or practices to implement the agency's reasonable accommodation program. Some examples of an effective program include timely processing requests, timely providing approved accommodations, conducting training for managers and supervisors, and monitoring accommodation requests for trends.

Effectiveness of policies, procedures, or practices to implement reasonable accommodations are listed below: 1. Timely processing results 2. Timely providing approved accommodations 3. Monitoring accommodation requests for trends 4. Conducting training for managers and supervisors.

D. PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES ALLOWING EMPLOYEES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORKPLACE

Pursuant to 29 CFR §1614.203(d)(5), federal agencies, as an aspect of affirmative action, are required to provide personal assistance services (PAS) to employees who need them because of a targeted disability, unless doing so would impose an undue hardship on the agency.

1. Describe the effectiveness of the policies, procedures, or practices to implement the PAS requirement. Some examples of an effective program include timely processing requests for PAS, timely providing approved services, conducting training for managers and supervisors, and monitoring PAS requests for trends.

Effectiveness of policies, procedures, or practices to implement reasonable accommodations are listed below: 1. Timely processing results 2. Timely providing approved accommodations 3. Monitoring accommodation requests for trends 4. Conducting training for managers and supervisors

Section VII: EEO Complaint and Findings Data

A. EEO COMPLAINT DATA INVOLVING HARASSMENT

1. During the last fiscal year, did a higher percentage of PWD file a formal EEO complaint alleging harassment, as compared to the governmentwide average?

Answer: No

2. During the last fiscal year, did any complaints alleging harassment based on disability status result in a finding of discrimination or a settlement agreement?

Answer: No

3. If the agency had one or more findings of discrimination alleging harassment based on disability status during the last fiscal year, please describe the corrective measures taken by the agency.

B. EEO COMPLAINT DATA INVOLVING REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

1. During the last fiscal year, did a higher percentage of PWD file a formal EEO complaint alleging failure to provide a reasonable accommodation as compared to the government-wide average?

Answer: No

2. During the last fiscal year, did any complaints alleging failure to provide reasonable accommodation result in a finding of discrimination or a settlement agreement?

Answer: No

3. If the agency had one or more findings of discrimination involving the failure to provide a reasonable accommodation during the last fiscal year please describe the corrective measures taken by the agency.

Section VIII: Identification and Removal of Barriers

Element D of MD-715 requires agencies to conduct a barrier analysis when a trigger suggests that a policy, procedure, or practice may be impeding the employment opportunities of a protected EEO group.

1. Has the agency identified any barriers (policies, procedures, and/or practices) that affect employment opportunities for PWD and/or PWTD?

Answer: No

2. Has the agency established a plan to correct the barrier(s) involving PWD and/or PWTD?

Answer: N/A

3. Identify each trigger and plan to remove the barrier(s), including the identified barrier(s), objective(s), responsible official(s), planned activities, and, where applicable, accomplishments

4. Please explain the factor(s) that prevented the agency from timely completing any of the planned activities. Provide a succinct statement of the agency policy, procedure or practice that has been determined to be the barrier of the undesired condition.

N/A

5. For the planned activities that were completed, please describe the actual impact of those activities toward eliminating the barrier(s).

N/A

6. If the planned activities did not correct the trigger(s) and/or barrier(s), please describe how the agency intends to improve the plan for the next fiscal year.

N/A