

Harassment Discrimination Retaliation Policy

Providence Portland Medical Center (“facility”)

Department: Human Resources

Approved by: Chief Human Resources Officer

Date Last Reviewed: 11/1/2024

Date Last Revised: 10/1/2020

Date Adopted: 12/1/2014

Policy Name: Harassment Discrimination Retaliation

Scope: All workforce members

Purpose: In keeping with our mission and values, this policy establishes expectations for the work environment and standards for behaviors of all workforce members.

Terms:

Workforce member means employees, caregivers, volunteers, trainees, interns, medical staff, students, independent contractors, vendors and all other individuals working at the facility whether or not they are paid by or under the direct control of the facility.

Harassment may involve but is not limited to inappropriate behavior including comments, slurs, jokes, gestures, innuendoes, physical contact, graphics, writings and pranks based on a legally protected characteristic such as those listed below. Harassment may involve a co-worker, a core leader, a customer or a vendor. Inappropriate behavior that is related to one of those protected characteristics rises to the level of harassment when any of the following occurs:

- Submission to the harassment is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment
- Submission to or rejection of the harassment is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting the individual
- The harassment has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual’s work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment

Sexual harassment is a form of harassment that may include but is not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other visual, verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

Discrimination is when a workforce member is subjected to an employment decision based on a protected characteristic, as defined by local, state, or federal law, including but not limited to race, color, religious creed (including religious dress and grooming practices), national origin (including certain language use restrictions), ancestry, disability (mental and physical including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (including cancer and genetic characteristics), genetic information, marital status, age, sex (which includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding and related medical conditions), gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, and military and veteran status.

Retaliation is when a workforce member is subjected to an employment decision as a result of engaging in a protected activity, such as a good-faith report of discrimination harassment or illegal activity.

Policy: The facility strives to provide a positive work atmosphere that reflects our core values. Workforce members are expected to demonstrate behaviors that create a supportive and inclusive work environment, and share responsibility for maintaining a positive workplace. The facility strictly prohibits unlawful harassment or discrimination, and expects everyone in our workplaces to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with this philosophy. As such, core leaders, co-workers, third parties and other individuals with whom workforce members come into contact must not engage in harassing or discriminatory conduct. These standards of conduct apply in any situation where a workforce member is engaged in activities on behalf of the facility, including off-site activities such as attendance at seminars, business travel and any business-related entertainment or social function. Allegations of unacceptable behavior will be taken seriously and investigated.

Procedures:

1. Workforce members should immediately report any concerns regarding sexual or other harassment or discrimination promptly to their core leader. If the core leader is unavailable or the workforce member believes it would be inappropriate to contact that person, the workforce member should immediately contact another core leader or the human resources leader or designee.
2. Core leaders must take appropriate action in response to all incidents or reported concerns. A co-worker or core leader who becomes aware of possible sexual or other harassment or discrimination or retaliation must promptly inform human resources so that the facility may try to resolve the claim.
3. Reported concerns regarding potential harassment will be investigated to eliminate inappropriate conduct. Appropriate corrective action will be taken, as necessary, based on the outcome of the investigation. Confidentiality of the person reporting harassment will be maintained to the extent possible. Individuals who report a concern in good faith or who cooperate in an investigation will not be subject to retaliation.
4. Any workforce member who violates the expectations of this policy will be subject to corrective action, which may include termination of employment. Violations of the standards in this policy by any vendor, supplier or other non-employee will be handled appropriately.
5. Incidents of unlawful discrimination or sexual assault should be documented by both the workforce member and core leader.

Additional Information:

1. There is a five (5) year statute of limitation in Oregon for bringing a claim of discrimination or sexual assault.
2. Aggrieved workforce members may not be required or coerced to sign a non-disparagement agreement or no re-hire agreement. However, they may voluntarily request to sign a non-disclosure agreement with a seven (7) day revocation period.

Help: For questions about this policy, please contact [Caregiver Relations](#).

The statements of this policy document are not to be construed as a contract or covenant of employment. They are not promises of specific treatment in specific situations and are subject to change at the sole discretion of the facility.

This policy does not modify the express terms of any collective bargaining agreement. In the event of a conflict between this policy and the terms of a collective bargaining agreement, the collective bargaining agreement will prevail.