

Statutes and Regulations

General Information

OCR's enforcement responsibilities are derived from civil rights requirements contained in the following several nondiscrimination statutes and regulations:

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in programs authorized under VAWA. ([42 U.S.C. § 13925\(b\)\(13\)](#)). See [U.S. Department of Justice Funded Grant Programs Generally Covered by the Nondiscrimination Grant Condition of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994](#) for a chart of covered programs.

The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex, in OJP, OVW, and COPS funded programs or activities. ([42 U.S.C. § 3789d](#) and [28 C.F.R. §42.201 et seq.](#)) See [U.S. Department of Justice Grant Programs Generally Covered by the Nondiscrimination Provision of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968](#) for a chart of covered programs.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex in OJP funded programs or activities ([42 U.S.C. § 5672\(b\)](#)). See [U.S. Department of Justice Grant Programs Generally Covered by the Nondiscrimination Provision of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974](#) for a chart of covered programs.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in OJP and COPS funded programs or activities. ([42 U.S.C. § 2000d](#) and [28 C.F.R. §42.101 et seq.](#))

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in OJP and COPS funded programs or activities. (29 U.S.C. § 794 and [28 C.F.R. § 42.501 et seq.](#))

Section 1407 of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability in VOCA funded programs or activities ([42 U.S.C. § 10604](#)). See [U.S. Department of Justice Grant Programs Generally Covered by the Nondiscrimination Provision of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984](#) for a chart of covered programs.

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as it relates to discrimination on the basis of disability in OJP or COPS funded programs or activities. ([42 U.S.C. § 12132](#) and [28 C.F.R. Pt. 35](#)).

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as it relates to discrimination on the basis of sex in OJP and COPS funded training or educational programs. ([20 U.S.C. § 1681](#) and [28 C.F.R. pt 54](#)).

The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 as it relates to services discrimination on the basis of age in OJP or COPS funded programs or activities. ([42 U.S.C. § 6102](#) and [28 C.F.R. § 42.700 et seq.](#))

Faith-Based Organizations

Executive Order 13279 issued in 2002 requires funding organizations to treat faith-based organizations (FBOs) the same as any other applicant or recipient of DOJ funding, neither favoring nor discriminating against FBOs in making and administering grant awards, and requires that FBOs be allowed to retain their independence, autonomy, expression, and religious character when competing for DOJ financial assistance used to support social service programs and participating in the social service programs supported with DOJ financial assistance.

The Executive Order and regulations also prohibit recipient FBOs from using Justice Department funding to engage in inherently religious activities, such as proselytizing, scripture study, or worship. Funded FBOs may engage in inherently religious activities; however, these activities must be separate in time or location from the federally assisted program. Moreover, funded FBOs must not compel program beneficiaries to participate in inherently religious activities. Funded faith-based organizations must also not discriminate on the basis of religion in the delivery of services or benefits. Detailed information is available online at <http://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SolicitationRequirements/CivilRightsRequirements.htm>.



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