

EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN (AAP)

for

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

JANUARY 1, 2021 - DECEMBER 31, 2021

PART I: AAP FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN

**PART II: AAP FOR PROTECTED VETERANS
AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO AAP

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INTRODUCTION TO PARTS I AND II

BACKGROUND

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is a member of The Texas A&M University System, one of the largest systems of public higher education in the nation. Texas A&M University-San Antonio was established in 2009.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is a federal government supply and service contractor subject to the affirmative action requirements of Executive Order 11246, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Vietnam Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Section 4212. Because Texas A&M University-San Antonio has \$50,000 or more in annual contracts with the federal government and employs 50 or more employees, we are required to prepare annual written Affirmative Action Plans (AAP's) for minorities and women, for protected veterans, and for individuals with disabilities for our organization. Failure to comply with these laws and their implementing regulations, which are enforced by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), can result in debarment of the (university or agency) from future contracts and subcontracts.

Affirmative action is a term that encompasses any measure adopted by an employer to correct or to compensate for past or present discrimination or to prevent discrimination from occurring in the future. Affirmative action goes beyond the simple termination of a discriminatory practice.

As stipulated in federal regulations, a prerequisite to the development of a satisfactory affirmative action plan is the evaluation of opportunities for protected group members, as well as an identification and analysis of problem areas inherent in their employment. Also, where a statistical analysis reveals a numeric disparity between incumbency and availability, an adequate AAP details specific affirmative action steps to guarantee equal employment opportunity. These steps are keyed to the problems and needs of protected group members. For minorities and women, such steps include the development of hiring and promotion goals to rectify the disparity between incumbency and availability. For protected veterans and individuals with disabilities, such steps will include a thorough review of the university's outreach efforts to determine the effectiveness of such efforts in closing the hiring and/or utilization gaps. It is toward this end that the following AAP of Texas A&M University-San Antonio was developed.

APPLICABLE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Texas A&M University-San Antonio's AAP for minorities and women (Part I) has been prepared according to Executive Order 11246, as amended, and Title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60-1 (Equal Employment Opportunity Duties of Government Contractors), Part 60-2 (Affirmative Action Programs of Government Non-Construction Contractors; also known as "Revised Order No. 4"), and Part 60-20 (Sex Discrimination Guidelines for Government Contractors).

Texas A&M University-San Antonio has developed separately an affirmative action plan for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities (Part II), prepared in accordance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 503, as amended, and Title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60-741(Affirmative Action Program for Individuals with Disabilities), the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Section 4212, as amended, and Title 41 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60-300 (Affirmative Action Program for Protected Veterans).

Under [Section 503](#), a business with a federal contract of more than \$15,000 is required to treat qualified individuals with disabilities without discrimination on the basis of their physical or mental disability in all employment practices, and to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment individuals with disabilities. If the company has at least 50 employees and a single contract of \$50,000 or more, then it must also develop a Section 503 AAP, as described in [41 CFR 60-741, Subpart C](#). Section 503 applies to businesses with federal construction contracts, but not to businesses with federally assisted construction contracts.

Under [VEVRAA](#), a business with a federal contract of \$150,000 or more is required to treat qualified individuals without discrimination based on their status as a protected veteran in all employment practices, and to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment protected veterans. If the company has at least 50 employees and a single contract of \$150,000 or more, then it must also develop a VEVRAA AAP, as described in [41 CFR 60-300, Subpart C](#). VEVRAA applies to businesses with federal construction contracts, but not to businesses with federally assisted construction contracts.

COVERED GROUPS UNDER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Coverage under affirmative action laws and regulations applies to:

Women and minorities who are recognized as belonging to or identifying with the following race or ethnic groups: Blacks/African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians/Pacific Islanders, and American Indians/Alaskan Natives.

Any veteran who is entitled to compensation (or who but for the receipt of military retired pay would be entitled to compensation) under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or who was discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability.

Recently separated veterans: any veteran currently within three-years of discharge or release from active duty.

Veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. military during a war or campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge is awarded.

Veterans who, while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces, participated in a United States military operation for which an Armed Forces service medal was awarded pursuant to Executive Order 12985.

An individual with a disability: 1) a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of his/her major life activities; (2) has a record of such impairment, or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

PROGRAM TERMINOLOGY

The terms, "comparison of incumbency to availability," "deficiency," and "problem area," appearing in this AAP, are terms Texas A&M University-San Antonio is required by government regulations to use. The criteria used in relation to these terms are those specified by the government. These terms have no independent legal or factual significance whatsoever. Although Texas A&M University-San Antonio will use the terms in total good faith in connection with its AAP, such use does not necessarily signify that it agrees that these terms are properly applied to any particular factual situation and is not an admission of non-compliance with EEO laws, regulations, and objectives.

The comparison of incumbency to availability contained herein is required by Government regulations to be based on certain statistical comparisons. Geographic areas and sources of statistics used herein for these comparisons were used in compliance with Government regulations, as interpreted by Government representatives. The use of certain geographic areas and sources of statistics does not indicate Texas A&M University-San Antonio's agreement that the geographic areas are appropriate in all instances of use or that the sources of statistics are the most relevant. The use of such geographic areas and statistics may have no significance outside the context of this AAP. Such statistics and geographic areas will be used, however, in total good faith with respect to this AAP.

The grouping of job titles into a given job group does not suggest that Texas A&M University-San Antonio believes the jobs so grouped are of comparable worth.

Whenever the term "goal" is used, it is expressly intended that it does "not provide the contractor with a justification to extend a preference to any individual, select an individual, or adversely affect an individual's employment status, on the basis of that person's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin" as stated in Title 41 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60-2.16(e)(2).

This AAP is not intended to create any contractual or other rights in any person or entity.

RELIANCE ON EEOC'S GUIDELINES

Although Texas A&M University-San Antonio does not believe any violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act exists, it has developed this AAP in accordance with and in reliance upon the EEOC's Guidelines on Affirmative Action, Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1608.

REPORTING PERIOD

This AAP is designed to cover the following reporting period,

- AAP implementation period: 1/1/2021 – 12/31/2021
- Transaction period: 1/1/2020 – 12/31/2020

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR PARTS I AND II

This AAP has been designed to bring women and men, members of minority groups, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities into all levels and segments of Texas A&M University-San Antonio's workforce in proportion to their representation in the qualified relevant labor market.

The AAP, therefore, is a detailed, results-oriented set of procedures which, when carried out, results in full compliance with equal employment opportunity requirements through the equal treatment of all people.

The manner in which this is to be accomplished becomes technical and somewhat complicated. There are several reasons for this. First, Texas A&M University-San Antonio is subject to and must address a variety of State and Federal laws and guidelines dealing with equal employment opportunity and affirmative action. These guidelines and requirements are in themselves somewhat technical and complex. In addition, relevant court decisions, which are often useful in interpreting, but sometimes conflict with, these requirements and guidelines, must be taken into account when developing and implementing the AAP. Furthermore, in determining Texas A&M University-San Antonio's current equal employment opportunity and affirmative action position and its desired future achievements, numbers, percentages, statistics, and numerous calculations and computations must come into play.

The technical, legal, and mathematical aspects of the AAP, however, all have one common purpose—to allow us to properly identify three key concepts:

1. Where we stand now,
2. Where we must go,
3. How best to get there.

These three concepts are the Affirmative Action Plan.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

PART I: AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN

FOR

JANUARY 1, 2021 - DECEMBER 31, 2021

PART I

AAP FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN

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PART I: AAP FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN

CHAPTER 1: ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.11

Workforce Analysis/Lines of Progression

Texas A&M University-San Antonio conducted a workforce analysis to identify employees by sex and race/ethnicity in each job title. The data was collected from payroll records dated 12/31/2020.

Job titles are listed by organizational unit. Job titles are listed from lowest to highest paid. The list includes all job titles, including departmental supervision, exempt, and nonexempt titles.

For each job title, Texas A&M University-San Antonio identified the total number of employees, the number of male and female employees, the total number of minority employees, the male and female minority employees, the total number of employees who are White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and Two or More races, and the male and female employees within each of these race/ethnic groups.

Lines of Progression

Developed in conjunction with the workforce analysis is information on Texas A&M University-San Antonio's lines of progression. Lines of progression (career ladders/career paths) identify the job titles through which an employee can move to the top of a line. For each line of progression, applicable departments are identified. These are the departments which employ persons in the job titles in the specified line of progression. Some lines of progression are limited to only one department, while others are found throughout several departments.

The lines of progression provide useful information regarding patterns of vertical and horizontal movement throughout our workforce. These patterns will be evaluated to ascertain whether they provide to our employees the optimum career mobility and opportunities for advancement.

See the *Workforce Analysis/Lines of Progression* for the results per organizational unit.

CHAPTER 2: JOB GROUP ANALYSIS

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.12

Although the workforce analysis was conducted individually for every job title, after it was completed, job titles were grouped for the comparison of incumbency to availability and for setting goals. There were several reasons for grouping jobs.

Many job titles are so similar in content that handling them individually in the AAP is not necessary. Grouping together these very similar titles is appropriate for the comparison of incumbency to availability. For many job titles, the availability data that can be collected is limited, and the same data must be used for several related jobs. Therefore, grouping these related titles together is logical. Also, many job titles have so few incumbents in them that identifying disparities between incumbency and availability by job title is meaningless—as problem areas would be identified in terms of fractions of people. By grouping several similar titles and increasing the number of employees involved, a meaningful comparison can be conducted; any identified problem areas are more likely to be in terms of whole people. Consequently, goals established to correct problem areas are also more likely to be in terms of whole people.

The three reasons for grouping job titles all discuss "similar" or "related" jobs. That is the most critical guideline in creating job groups. Above all, the job titles placed into a job group must be more similar or related to each other than the job titles in other job groups.

Job groups must have enough incumbents to permit meaningful comparisons of incumbency to availability and goal setting. No minimum size has been established for this purpose, however, since it is dependent not only on the size of the job group, but also on the size of the availability percentage and the number of minorities or women already employed in the job group.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio did not combine job titles with different content, wages, or opportunities if doing so would have obscured problem areas (e.g., job groups which combine jobs in which minorities or women are concentrated with jobs in which they are underrepresented).

CHAPTER 3: PLACEMENT OF INCUMBENTS IN JOB GROUPS
41 C.F.R. § 60-2.13

Each job group appears on a Job Group Report with a job group name and number. The report lists each job title in the job group. For each job title, the worksheet provides the following information: EEO reporting category, job title, employee headcounts for each job title, and overall percentages by sex and race/ethnicity as of 12/31/2020.

See the *Job Group Analysis* for the listing of the job titles and the associated race and sex headcounts per job group.

CHAPTER 4: DETERMINING AVAILABILITY

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.14

"Availability" is an estimate of the proportion of each sex and race/ethnic group available and qualified for employment at Texas A&M University-San Antonio for a given job group in the relevant labor market during the life of the AAP. Availability indicates the approximate level at which each race/ethnic and sex group could reasonably be expected to be represented in a job group if Texas A&M University-San Antonio's employment decisions are being made without regard to sex, race, or ethnic origin. Availability estimates, therefore, are a way of translating equal employment opportunity into concrete numerical terms. Correct comparisons of incumbency to availability, worthwhile and attainable goals, and real increases in employment for problem area groups depend on competent and accurate availability analyses. With valid availability data, we can compare the percentages of those who could reasonably be expected to be employed versus our current employment (from the workforce analysis), identify problem areas, and establish percentage goals to correct the problems.

Steps in Comparison of Incumbency to Availability

Identify Availability Factors

The following availability factors are required of federal government contractors for consideration when developing availability estimates for each job group:

1. External Factor: The external requisite skills data comes from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) Census of Population data.
 - A. Local labor area: See the *Zip Code Analysis*
 - B. Reasonable labor area: National
2. Internal Factor: The percentage of minorities or women among those promotable, transferable, and trainable within the contractor's organization. See the *Internal Availability Analysis* for more detail.

Assign Internal and External Factor Weights: Weights were assigned to each factor for each job group. A combination of historical data and experience were used to determine the weights. Weights were never assigned in an effort to hide or reduce problem areas.

Identify Final Availability: Weights were multiplied by the component-specific data to produce weighted data for each component. Weighted data for each component was summed. This produced a final availability estimate for each sex and race/ethnic group, as well as for minorities in the aggregate.¹

See the *Availability Analysis* for the availability breakdown for each job group.

¹ In most cases, the final availability report (and most other technical reports in this AAP) only includes data/information for females and minorities in the aggregate.

CHAPTER 5: COMPARING INCUMBENCY TO AVAILABILITY
41 C.F.R. § 60-2.15

Once final availability estimates were made for each job group, Texas A&M University-San Antonio compared the percentage of incumbents in each job group to their corresponding availability. A comparison was made between the percentage employed as of 12/31/2020 and that group's final availability.

See the *Comparison of Incumbency to Availability* for the results per job group.

CHAPTER 6: PLACEMENT GOALS

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.16

Texas A&M University-San Antonio has established an annual percentage placement goal whenever it found that minority or female representation within a job group was less than would reasonably be expected given their availability. In each case, the goal was set at the availability figure derived for women and/or minorities, as appropriate for that job group. These goals take into account the availability of basically qualified persons in the relevant labor area. They also take into account anticipated employment opportunities with our organization. Goals are not rigid and inflexible quotas which must be met, but are instead targets reasonably attainable by means of applying every good faith effort to make all aspects of the entire AAP work. These goals will be reached primarily through recruiting and advertising to increase the pool of qualified minority and female applicants and through implementation of our action-oriented programs (see Chapter 9). Selections will occur only from among qualified applicants. Goals do not require the hiring of a person when there are no vacancies or the hiring of a person who is less likely to do well on the job ("less qualified") over a person more likely to do well on the job ("better qualified"), under valid selection procedures. Goals do not require that Texas A&M University-San Antonio hire a specified number of minorities or women.

A goal is a guidepost against which Texas A&M University-San Antonio, a community group, or a compliance agency can measure progress in remedying identified underutilization in Texas A&M University-San Antonio's workforce. By setting realistic goals, Texas A&M University-San Antonio should be able to meet the goals, assuming we conduct effective recruitment and advertising efforts to ensure an adequate pool of qualified minority and/or female applicants.

See the *Placement Goals* report for each job group and the *Goals Progress Report* for progress made since the previous AAP.

CHAPTER 7: DESIGNATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.17(A)

As part of its efforts to ensure equal employment opportunity to all individuals, Texas A&M University-San Antonio has designated specific responsibilities to various staff to ensure the AAP focuses on all components of the employment system. To that end, the President, the Chief Human Resources Officer, and those employed as supervisors and managers have undertaken the responsibilities described below.

President

The primary responsibility and accountability for implementing the AAP rests with the President. This person is responsible, through the Chief Human Resources Officer, for adherence to Texas A&M University-San Antonio's policy of equal employment opportunity and affirmative action. This role includes, but is not limited to, the following duties:

1. Designate appropriate personnel with the responsibility for overseeing, administering, implementing, and monitoring Texas A&M University-San Antonio's AAP. Ensure that these personnel are identified in writing by name and job title.
2. Ensure that those designated personnel responsible for all AAP components are given the necessary authority and top management support and staffing to successfully implement their assigned responsibilities.
3. Impart the personal direction that ensures total involvement and commitment to equal employment opportunity programs through Texas A&M University-San Antonio's AAP.

Chief Human Resources Officer

The Chief Human Resources Officer is responsible for overall supervision of the AAP and ensures, through the department managers and supervisors, that all relevant policies and procedures are adhered to. Successful implementation of this program is a basis for evaluating the Chief Human Resources Officer's effective work performance. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Ensure that Texas A&M University-San Antonio adheres to the stated policy of equal employment opportunity, and monitor the application of equal employment opportunity policies.
2. Ensure that the AAP is reviewed and updated annually in accordance with Texas A&M University-San Antonio's stated policy.
3. Participate in periodic discussions with management, supervision, and all other appropriate personnel to ensure AAP and equal employment opportunity policies are being followed.

4. Review the qualifications of all employees to ensure equitable opportunity, based on job-related employment practices, is given to all for transfers and promotions.
5. Periodically analyze applicant flow to determine the mix of persons applying for employment by race/ethnic origin and sex.
6. Ensure that recruitment advertising is placed in locations that attract a diversified applicant pool.
7. Review all job descriptions and specifications to ensure they are free of discriminatory provisions and artificial barriers. Ensure that all requirements are job-related, that they are realistic, and that they reflect the actual work requirements of the essential job duties.
8. Provide direction to Texas A&M University-San Antonio's employees, as necessary, to carry out all actions required to meet its equal employment opportunity and affirmative action commitments.
9. Review, report on, and update Texas A&M University-San Antonio's AAP at least on an annual basis in accordance with stated policy.
10. Responsible for the design and effective implementation of the AAP at all establishments.
11. Develop, implement, and maintain audit and reporting systems to measure effectiveness of equal employment opportunity programs, including those that will indicate the need for remedial action and determine the degree to which goals and objectives have been obtained.
12. Advise management in the modification and development of Texas A&M University-San Antonio's policies to ensure the enhancement of equal employment opportunity for all employees and potential employees within existing equal employment opportunity guidelines.
13. Conduct periodic audits to ensure all required posters and those advertising Texas A&M University-San Antonio's equal employment opportunity policies and AAP are displayed and that Texas A&M University-San Antonio's equal employment opportunity and AAP policies are being thoroughly communicated.
14. Assist in review and revision of all policies, procedures, and rules to ensure they are not in violation of federal or state laws and regulations.

Managers and Supervisors

In their direct day-to-day contact with Texas A&M University-San Antonio's employees, managers and supervisors have assumed certain responsibilities to help ensure compliance with

equal employment opportunity programs and effective implementation of the AAP. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Aggressively adhere to Texas A&M University-San Antonio's equal employment opportunity and affirmative action policy.
 - A. Support and assist the Chief Human Resources Officer, in developing, maintaining, and successfully implementing the AAP.
2. Ensure that all interviews, offers of employment and/or wage commitments are consistent with Texas A&M University-San Antonio's policy.
3. Implement the internal promotion and transfer of all employees under their supervision consistent with AAP goals and objectives.
4. Assist in identifying problem areas and provide needed information for establishing and meeting department affirmative action goals and objectives.

CHAPTER 8: IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEM AREAS
41 C.F.R. § 60-2.17(B)

Terminology

The phrases “comparison of incumbency to availability,” and “problem area” appearing in this chapter are terms Texas A&M University-San Antonio is required by government regulations to use. The criteria used in relation to these terms are those specified by the government. These terms have no independent legal or factual significance. Although Texas A&M University-San Antonio will use the terms in good faith in connection with its AAP, such use does not necessarily signify the company agrees that these terms are properly applied to any particular factual situation and is not an admission of non-compliance with EEO laws, regulations, and objectives. Whenever the term “goal” is used, it is expressly intended that it “should not be used to discriminate against any applicant or employee because of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin,” as stated in Title 41 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60-2.16(e).

In addition to comparing incumbency to availability within job groups, Texas A&M University-San Antonio has conducted studies to identify problem areas in each of its selection procedures (i.e., hires, promotions, and terminations). Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to monitor and update these studies during each AAP year. In each case where potential problem areas have been identified, affirmative actions, as appropriate, will be taken consistent with any of the action-oriented programs described in Chapter 9 of this AAP.

Goals are established within each of the job groups at no less than the current availability data for the job group.

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.17(b)(1): Workforce by Organizational Unit and Job Group

An analysis of minority and female distribution within each organizational unit was accomplished by a thorough investigation of the *Workforce analysis*.

An analysis of minority and female utilization within each job group was accomplished by a thorough investigation of the *Comparison of Incumbency to Availability* reports.

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.17(b)(2): Personnel Activity

Applicant flow, hires, promotions, and terminations were analyzed by job group. An analysis of selection disparities in personnel activity between men/women and whites/minorities was accomplished by a thorough examination of transaction data. See the *Summary of Personnel Transactions Report* for each job group.

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.17(b)(3): Compensation Systems

Compensation analyses were conducted by comparing the salaries for men v. women, and whites v. minorities in each job title.

CHAPTER 9: ACTION-ORIENTED PROGRAMS

41 C.F.R. § 60-2.17(C)

Texas A&M University-San Antonio tailors our action-oriented programs each year to ensure they are specific to the problem identified.

Action-Oriented Program (AOPs):

The action-oriented programs designed to address the underutilization of women and minorities, the utilization goal set for individuals with disabilities, and the hiring benchmark for the protected veterans are listed below. These action-oriented programs will be carried-out throughout the AAP year. Evaluation of these AOPS will be conducted at least annually. The Chief Human Resources Officer, with the help of the managers, will be responsible in ensuring that the following are implemented.

Women at Work (W@W) – The purpose of this program is to create a forum for those focused on advancing the potential of women by generating resources, disseminating research, sharing network opportunities and fostering the development of women in their careers. This program hosts on-campus events twice a month. W@W is open to all employees of Texas A&M University-San Antonio. W@W offers a variety of programming, training and resources related to women professional development.

President’s Commission on Equity - President Cynthia Teniente-Matson created the President’s Commission on Equity (PCOE) in February 2017 and charged it with leadership to build “a culture of excellence that values equity and inclusion.” Adopting an equity-minded approach will ensure that each member of the A&M-SA family has an opportunity to succeed. The commission hosts a series of events including lectures, films, discussions and charrettes to build the culture of excellence on our campus.

Graystone Group Advertising – Through the Office of the Provost, Graystone Group database of recruitment media includes hundreds of print and Internet sources to target faculty position minority candidates. Graystone Group has broad based diversity options within academia and a full array of discipline specific sources to target individual groups to help demonstrate Texas A&M University-San Antonio’s commitment to diversity.

Military Embracing Campus – Located in the Patriots' Casa, the Office of Military Affairs provides academic, life, and career skills support for student veterans, military personnel and their military families enrolled at our university. The Casa's dual purpose is to help ensure our students in the military community and their families achieve their academic objectives and are equipped for post-graduation success.

In addition, Texas A&M University-San Antonio will also undertake the following action-oriented programs pursuant to its recruitment and selection procedures.

Recruitment:

1. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to place advertisements for all job opportunities on the Texas Workforce Commissions website for a minimum of five days, its own website, and The Texas A&M University System's website.
2. Additional advertisements will continue to be placed on specialty websites and in national job posting resources when appropriate.
3. Advertisements and the Texas A&M University-San Antonio website will always carry the Equal Employment Opportunity clause.
4. Minority, female and veteran protected applicants will be considered for all positions for which they are qualified.
5. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will participate in job fairs if there are sufficient numbers of opening to warrant participation, including military focused recruiting events.
6. As appropriate, Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to include minority and female representation in publications and website.

Job Specifications/Selection Process:

1. Develop position descriptions that accurately reflect position functions.
2. Develop job or worker specifications that contain academic, experience, and skill requirements that do not constitute inadvertent discrimination. Develop specifications that are free from bias with regard to sex, age, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, veteran and socio-economic status.
3. Approved position descriptions with minimum qualifications will be made available to all supervisors and interview committee members involved in the recruiting, screening and selection. Copies may also be made available to recruiting sources.
4. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to use only position specifications that include job-related criteria.
5. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to carefully select and counsel all personnel involved in the recruiting, screening, selection, promotion and related processes to eliminate bias in all personnel actions.
6. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to require all interview committee members be trained in effective hiring practices.

7. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to require a hiring matrix for all recruitments to ensure all applicants are treated equally and fairly and to ensure consistency in interviewing candidates.

Job Advancement:

1. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to post job opportunities for which external candidates are considered.
2. All employees are actively encouraged to participate in employer-sponsored social and recreational activities.
3. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to use its annual performance management process for all employees.
4. Employees can choose training courses through the TrainTraq and include them in their career development plan.

CHAPTER 10: INTERNAL AUDIT AND REPORTING
41 C.F.R. § 60-2.17(D)

Inherent in the AAP is the need for periodic self-assessment of problems encountered, corrective action taken, and progress made. Self-evaluation requires complex record keeping systems on applicants, employees, and components of the AAP itself. Periodic reports from the Chief Human Resources Officer, are required.

The objective of all record keeping systems is to assess the results of past actions and identify trends, the appropriateness of goals and objectives, the appropriateness and relevancy of identified solutions to problems, and the adequacy of the plan as a whole. In addition, a further objective is to identify the proper corrective actions to be made to appropriate components.

In order to fully achieve the objectives of such a record keeping system, the results of it must lead to follow-up through feedback to managers, supervisors, and staff; through reallocation of resources; through modifications to plans and the record keeping system itself; and/or through appropriate recognition of personal achievements as well as punitive actions for discriminatory acts.

The records that are maintained are the basis for updating the affirmative action plan, including revising the availability data and establishing annual percentage goals. The internal audit and reporting system is used as the basis for evaluating systemic, results-oriented programs and affirmative action efforts.

The Texas A&M University-San Antonio auditing and reporting system periodically measures the effectiveness of its total affirmative action program. The Chief Human Resources Officer:

1. Monitors records of all personnel activity, including placements, transfers, promotions, terminations, and compensation, at all levels to ensure the nondiscriminatory policy is carried out;
2. Requires internal reporting on a scheduled basis as to the degree to which equal employment opportunity and organizational objectives are attained;
3. Reviews report results with appropriate levels of management; and
4. Advises top management of program effectiveness.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

**PART II: AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN FOR PROTECTED VETERANS AND
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

FOR

JANUARY 1, 2021 - DECEMBER 31, 2021

PART II

AAP FOR PROTECTED VETERANS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

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CHAPTER A: POLICY STATEMENT
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(A); 60-741.44(A)

It is the policy of Texas A&M University-San Antonio and my personal commitment that equal employment opportunity be provided in the employment and advancement of all persons regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, status as a protected veteran or individual with a disability including at the executive level. Texas A&M University-San Antonio does not and will not discriminate against any applicant or employee regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, status as a protected veteran and/or individual with a disability for any position for which the applicant or employee is qualified. In addition, Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to taking affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified protected veteran employees. Such affirmative action will apply to all employment practices, including, but not limited to, hiring, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship and on-the-job training. Decisions related to personnel policies and practices will be made on the basis of an individual's capacity to perform a particular job and the feasibility of any necessary job accommodation. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations for any physical and mental limitations of individuals with disabilities and disabled veterans.

Employees and applicants will not be subjected to harassment, intimidation, threats, coercion or discrimination because they have engaged in or may engage in any activity protected by state, federal or local anti-discrimination laws including the following activities:

- (1) Filing a complaint;
- (2) Assisting or participating in an investigation, compliance evaluation, hearing, or any other activity related to the administration of the affirmative action provisions of the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended (VEVRAA), or any other federal, state or local law requiring equal opportunity for disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, active wartime or campaign badge veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans; Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Section 503); or any other federal, state or local law requiring equal opportunity for disabled persons;
- (3) Opposing any act or practice made unlawful by VEVRAA or its implementing regulations or any other federal, state or local law requiring equal opportunity for disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, active wartime or campaign badge veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans; Section 503 or its implementing regulations; or any other federal, state or local law requiring equal opportunity for disabled persons; or
- (4) Exercising any other right protected by VEVRAA or Section 503 or their implementing regulations.

Our obligations in this area stem from not only adherence to various state and federal regulations, but also from our commitment as an employer in this community to provide job opportunities to all persons regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, status as a protected veteran or an individual with disability. As President/CEO, Texas A&M University-San Antonio's EEO and affirmative action obligations include my full support.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio will also continually implement and update audit and reporting systems that measure the effectiveness of the AAP, identify the need for remedial actions, determine if objectives were attained, and determine if opportunities to participate in employer-sponsored activities were extended to all employees and applicants.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is also committed to abiding with the Pay Transparency Nondiscrimination Provisions and therefore, will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against employees or applicants because they have inquired about, discussed, or disclosed their own pay or the pay of another employee or applicant. Texas A&M University-San Antonio's employees who have access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as part of their essential job functions are informed and trained to not disclose the pay of other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to compensation information, unless the disclosure is (a) a response to a formal complaint or charge; (b) in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or (c) consistent with Texas A&M University-San Antonio's legal duty to furnish the information.

If you have any questions regarding our equal employment opportunity or harassment policies or complaint procedures, you may contact the Chief Human Resources Officer, at (210) 784-2058. Parts of the Affirmative Action Plan may be reviewed, as appropriate, by making an appointment with the Chief Human Resources Officer.

Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson
President/CEO

CHAPTER B: REVIEW OF PERSONNEL PROCESSES
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(B); 60-741.44(B)

To ensure that all personnel activities are conducted in a job-related manner which provides and promotes equal employment opportunity for all known protected veterans and employees and applicants with disabilities, reviews are periodically made of our examination and selection methods to identify barriers to employment, training, and promotion.

- 1) Texas A&M University-San Antonio periodically conducts a review of its employment processes to ensure thorough and systematic consideration of the job qualifications of 1) known protected veteran applicants and employees and 2) applicants and employees with disabilities for job vacancies filled either by external hiring or internal promotions/transfers, as well as for all training opportunities available. In order to determine whether an individual is qualified for a particular job, the content of the job is closely examined, as well as the job qualifications of known protected veterans and individuals with disabilities, both applicants and employees. In determining the qualifications of a protected veteran, consideration is given only to that portion of the military record, including discharge papers, relevant to the job qualifications for which the veteran is being considered.
- 2) Texas A&M University-San Antonio ensures that its personnel processes do not stereotype individuals with disabilities or protected veterans in a manner which limits their access to jobs for which they are qualified.
- 3) Texas A&M University-San Antonio ensures that applicants and employees with disabilities have equal access to its personnel processes, including those implemented through information and communication technologies.
- 4) Texas A&M University-San Antonio provides reasonable accommodations for applicants and employees with disabilities, unless such accommodations will cause undue hardship, to ensure that equal employment opportunity is extended in the operation of its personnel processes.
- 5) Texas A&M University-San Antonio ensures that its information and communications systems are accessible to all employees and applicants with disabilities, even in the absence of a specific request for accommodation.

CHAPTER C: PHYSICAL AND MENTAL QUALIFICATIONS
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(C); 60-741.44(C)

To ensure that all physical and mental qualifications and requirements are job-related, reviews are periodically made of these qualifications and requirements as they relate to employment, training, and promotion.

The physical and mental job requirements are reviewed to determine whether or not they are job-related and consistent with business necessity and safe performance on the job.

Schedule for Review: Any previously reviewed classification will be reviewed again if there is a change in working conditions that affects the job's physical or mental requirements (e.g., new requirements, new equipment, etc.).

**CHAPTER D: REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION TO PHYSICAL AND MENTAL
LIMITATIONS**

41 C.F.R §§ 60-300.44(D); 60-741.44(D)

Texas A&M University-San Antonio will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations for the physical and mental limitations of applicants and employees with disabilities or who are disabled veterans unless it can demonstrate that the accommodations would impose an undue hardship on the operation of business. Texas A&M University-San Antonio ensures that qualified applicants and employees with disabilities, who are unable to fully utilize the system, are provided equal opportunities to apply and be considered for all jobs. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will also confidentially review performance issues involving employees with known disabilities to determine whether a reasonable accommodation is needed when: 1) the employee is having significant difficulty with job performance, and 2) it is reasonable to conclude that the problem is related to the known disability.

Employees may also contact the following at any time to formally request an accommodation:

Phone: (210) 784-2058

CHAPTER E: HARASSMENT
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(E); 60-741.44(E)

Texas A&M University-San Antonio has developed and implemented a set of procedures to ensure that its employees with disabilities and protected veterans are not harassed due to those conditions. A copy of the discrimination, sexual harassment, and related retaliation policy, which includes the prohibition of harassment of individuals with disabilities or protected veterans, is available for distribution to new as well as to existing employees.

**CHAPTER F: EXTERNAL DISSEMINATION OF POLICY, OUTREACH AND
POSITIVE RECRUITMENT
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(F); 60-741.44(F)**

Based upon Texas A&M University-San Antonio's review of its personnel policies as described in Chapter B, the following activities will be implemented or continued to further enhance our affirmative action efforts. All activities are the responsibility of the Chief Human Resources Officer.

- 1) As appropriate, include workers with disabilities when employees are pictured in consumer, promotional, or help wanted advertising.
- 2) Inform all recruiting sources of our affirmative action policy for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities.
- 3) List with the Texas Workforce Commission all job openings for which external applicants will be considered.
- 4) When feasible, participate in veterans "job fairs" and work study programs with Veterans' Administration rehabilitation facilities and schools which specialize in training or educating protected veterans.
- 5) An employee who is a person with a disability is entitled to a leave of absence for up to ten working days each fiscal year to be trained in the use of an assistance dog.

CHAPTER G: INTERNAL DISSEMINATION OF POLICY
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(G); 60-741.44(G)

In order to gain positive support and understanding for the affirmative action program for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities, Texas A&M University-San Antonio will implement or continue to implement the following internal dissemination procedures, all of which are the responsibility of the Chief Human Resources Officer. The following procedures are designed to foster support and understanding from our executive staff, management, supervisors, and other employees in an effort to encourage all employees to take the necessary actions to aid us in meeting our obligations.

- 1) The President of Texas A&M University-San Antonio distributes written communication of reaffirmation of commitment to affirmative action annually to all employees. This memorandum is also available on the Texas A&M University-San Antonio website.
- 2) **Military Embracing Campus** – Located in the Patriots' Casa, the Office of Military Affairs provides academic, life, and career skills support for student veterans, military personnel and their military families enrolled at our university. The Casa's dual purpose is to help ensure our students in the military community and their families achieve their academic objectives and are equipped for post-graduation success.
- 3) Post our equal opportunity policy on our website.
- 4) Post the narrative sections of our affirmative action plans on our website.
- 5) Conduct special meetings with executive, management, and supervisory personnel to explain the intent of the policy and individual responsibility for effective implementation, making clear the President's commitment and support.
- 6) Train all employees involved in the recruitment, selection, promotion, and other related employment functions on affirmative action requirements for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities.
- 6) When employees are featured in employee handbooks or similar publications for employees, include employees with disabilities.
- 7) State and Federal EEO posters are placed at all Texas A&M University-San Antonio locations.

CHAPTER H: AUDIT AND REPORTING SYSTEM
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(H); 60-741.44(H)

Texas A&M University-San Antonio has developed and currently implements an audit and reporting system that addresses the following:

- 1) Measures the effectiveness of our overall affirmative action program and whether we are in compliance with specific obligations.
- 2) Indicates the need for remedial action. Any corrective actions will be the responsibility of the Chief Human Resources Officer.
- 3) Measures the degree to which our affirmative action objectives are being met.
- 4) Identifies any undue hurdles for individuals with disabilities and protected veterans with regard to employer sponsored educational, training, recreational, and social activities. This will also include, but is not limited to, reviewing the on-line and electronic application system to determine its accessibility, and ensuring that procedures to request for accommodations are prominently displayed and that individuals with disabilities can readily obtain the needed accommodation.

CHAPTER I: RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(I); 60-741.44(I)

As part of its efforts to ensure equal employment opportunity to protected veterans and individuals with disabilities, Texas A&M University-San Antonio has designated specific responsibilities to various staff to ensure the AAP focuses on all components of the employment system. To that end, the President/CEO, Chief Human Resources Officer, and those employed as supervisors and managers have undertaken the responsibilities described below.

President/CEO

The President/CEO is responsible for providing top management support for the AAP. The President/CEO issues a memo annually to reaffirm our equal employment opportunity policy and to make known to all employees and applicants the commitment of senior management to EEO and affirmative action. Additional responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Designating appropriate personnel the responsibility for overseeing, administering, implementing, and monitoring the AAP. Ensuring that these personnel are identified in writing by name and job title.
- 2) Ensuring that designated personnel responsible for all AAP components are given the necessary authority and top management support and staffing to successfully implement their assigned responsibilities.
- 3) Imparting the personal direction that ensures total involvement and commitment to equal employment opportunity programs through Texas A&M University-San Antonio's AAP.

Chief Human Resources Officer

The Chief Human Resources Officer, is responsible for overall supervision of the AAP and ensures, through department managers and supervisors, that all relevant policies and procedures are adhered to. Successful implementation of this program is a basis for evaluating the Chief Human Resources Officer's effective work performance. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Presenting all needed recommendations and procedural changes concerning EEO and affirmative action to senior management and ensuring that senior management is kept informed of affirmative action compliance status.
- 2) Maintaining widespread management support and cooperation for the AAP.
- 3) Collaborating with senior management on EEO and AAP issues.
- 4) Assisting line management in arriving at solutions to EEO/AA problems.

- 5) Reviewing results of audit and reporting systems to assess the effectiveness of the affirmative action programs and to direct corrective actions where necessary.
- 6) Ensuring that the AAP is updated annually.
- 7) Providing guidance to managers and supervisors in taking proper action to prevent employees from being harassed in any way, through one-on-one contact, training, and disciplinary action.
- 8) Ensuring that relevant staff (i.e., managers and supervisors) are aware that their work performance is being evaluated in part on the basis of their equal employment opportunity efforts and results.
- 9) Reviewing the qualifications of all employees to ensure equitable opportunity, based on job-related employment practices, is given to all for transfers and promotions.
- 10) Conducting periodic audits of: 1) training programs and hiring and promotion patterns to remove impediments to the attainment of AAP goals and objectives, and 2) employer sponsored educational, training, recreational, and social activities to ensure that all employees are encouraged to participate in accordance with non-discrimination policies. Determine whether known protected veterans and employees with disabilities have had the opportunity to participate in all employer-sponsored educational, training, recreation and social activities.
- 11) Reviewing all job descriptions and specifications to ensure they are free of discriminatory provisions and artificial barriers. Ensuring that all requirements are job-related, that they are realistic, and that they reflect the actual work requirements of the essential job duties.
- 12) Providing direction to employees, as necessary, to carry out all actions required to meet equal employment opportunity and affirmative action commitments.
- 13) Designing and effectively implementing the AAP at all locations.
- 14) Developing, implementing, and maintaining audit and reporting systems to measure the effectiveness of equal employment opportunity programs, including those that will
 - a) Indicate need for remedial action,
 - b) Determine the degree to which goals and objectives have been achieved.
- 15) Advising management on the modification and development of procedures to ensure equal employment opportunity for all employees and potential employees within existing equal employment opportunity guidelines.

- 16) Identifying problem areas and establishing procedures, goals and objectives to solve these problems.
- 17) Conducting periodic audits to ensure that all required posters and equal employment opportunity policies are displayed properly.
- 18) Conducting audits to ensure that the Invitation to Self-Identify (pre- and post-offer) for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities, is being utilized appropriately.
- 19) Ensuring that employees are re-surveyed regarding their disability status every five (5) years, and sending out reminders to employees, at least once during the five (5) year intervals, that they may voluntarily update their disability status at any time.
- 20) Assisting line management in arriving at solutions to equal opportunity problems.
- 21) Serving as the liaison between Texas A&M University-San Antonio and enforcement agencies.
- 22) Serving as the liaison between Texas A&M University-San Antonio and organizations and community action groups for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities.
- 23) Keeping management informed of the latest developments in the equal employment opportunity area.
- 24) Reviewing, reporting on, and updating the AAP annually in accordance with stated policy. Informing employees and applicants of significant changes.
- 25) Working closely with department managers and supervisors in coordinating the effective implementation of all affirmative action programs.
- 26) Assisting in the review and revision of all policies, procedures, and rules to ensure they are not in violation of federal or state equal opportunity laws and regulations.
- 27) Responsible for ensuring overall compliance with the AAP.

Managers and Supervisors

In their direct day-to-day contact with, managers and supervisors have assumed certain responsibilities to help Texas A&M University-San Antonio ensure compliance with equal employment opportunity programs and effective implementation of the AAP. These include, but are not limited to the following:

- 1) Adhering to the equal employment opportunity policy.

- 2) Supporting and assisting the Chief Human Resources Officer, in developing, maintaining, and successfully implementing the AAP.
- 3) Taking action to prevent harassment of employees who are protected veterans or who have disabilities.
- 4) Ensuring that all interviews, offers of employment and/or wage commitments are consistent with the AAP.
- 5) Implementing the internal promotion and transfer of all employees under their supervision consistent with AAP goals and objectives.
- 6) Assisting in identifying problem areas and providing needed information for establishing and meeting department affirmative action goals and objectives.

CHAPTER J: TRAINING
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(J); 60-741.44(J)

Texas A&M University-San Antonio trains all employees involved with the recruitment, selection, promotion, discipline, training, and related personnel processes of individuals with disabilities or protected veterans to ensure compliance with affirmative action goals.

CHAPTER K: DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.44(K); 60-741.44(K)

Texas A&M University-San Antonio has adopted the current national percentage of veterans in the civilian labor force of 5.7% as its hiring benchmark for protected veterans. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will update its hiring benchmark as new data is published and updated via the OFCCP's website. The 5.7% hiring benchmark is applied to each job group within Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio also adopted the current national utilization goal of 7.0% for qualified individuals with disabilities. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will update its utilization goal as new data becomes available, updated and published. The 7.0% utilization goal is applied to each job group within Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

Goals and/or benchmarks do not require that Texas A&M University-San Antonio hire, promote, train, and/or retain a specified number of individuals with disabilities and/or protected veterans. These goals/benchmarks are not rigid and inflexible quotas which must be met, but are instead targets reasonably attainable by means of applying every good faith effort to make all aspects of the entire AAP work. A goal is a guidepost against which Texas A&M University-San Antonio, a community group, or a compliance agency can measure progress in remedying identified deficiencies in Texas A&M University-San Antonio's workforce.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio has collected the required data and conducted studies to identify areas of opportunities in the employment of protected veterans and individuals with disabilities. Texas A&M University-San Antonio will continue to monitor and update these studies periodically during each AAP year. In each case where the hiring benchmark for protected veterans and/or the utilization goal for individuals with disabilities are not met, affirmative actions, as appropriate, will be taken consistent with the activities mentioned in Chapter F (External Dissemination of Policy and Outreach and Positive Recruitment) and measures described in Chapter H (Internal Audit and Reporting) of this AAP.

See the *Hiring Benchmark and Utilization Goals Analyses*.

CHAPTER L: COMPENSATION
41 C.F.R. §§ 60-300.21(I); 60-741.21(I)

It is the policy of Texas A&M University-San Antonio that when offering employment or promotion to protected veterans or individuals with disabilities, the amount of compensation offered will not be reduced because of any disability income, pension, or other benefit the applicant or employee receives from another source.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is also committed to abiding with the Pay Transparency Nondiscrimination Provisions. Employees or applicants who have inquired about, discussed, or disclosed their own pay or the pay of another employee or applicant will not be discharged or in any other manner be discriminated. Employees who have access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as part of their essential job functions are informed and trained to not disclose the pay of other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to compensation information, unless the disclosure is (a) a response to a formal complaint or charge; (b) in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or (c) consistent with Texas A&M University-San Antonio's legal duty to furnish the information.