

# CALIFORNIA CONNECTIONS ACADEMY SCHOOLS

## TITLE IX NOTIFICATION

### NON DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Board of Trustees for California Connections Academy Schools desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities for each charter school's academic and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any California Connections Academy school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying of any student based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, nationality, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, age, religion, **marital or parental status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression** or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

### TITLE IX COORDINATOR INFORMATION

Title IX of the federal education laws prohibits discrimination for any educational program, services or activities on the basis of gender (and related gender issues). This includes equal access for any student who is pregnant, recovering from childbirth or pregnancy related medical issues, or who is parenting.

The law requires that the school appoint a Title IX Coordinator (also known as a gender equity coordinator), who coordinates compliance with the federal law, including implementing a process to address complaints related to Title IX. The Title IX Coordinator also monitors the organization to be sure gender equity and to insure staff training regarding the requirements of Title IX

The Lead Title IX Coordinator for California Connections Academy Schools is Dr. Richard Savage, Executive Director. He can be reached directly at [rsavage@calca.connectionsacademy.org](mailto:rsavage@calca.connectionsacademy.org) or by phone at 949-461-1667 X3013. If the Title IX Coordinator is unable to resolve the issue, then any formal complaints related to California Connections Academy Schools' compliance with Title IX, gender or any gender related issues can be submitted to the school via the Uniform Complaint Procedure. Click here for a link to the UCP.

Capistrano Connections Academy

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/Portals/13/ca-schools/calca/documents/pdfs/legal/17-18/Capo-Uniform-Complaint-Procedure-APPROVED-8-22-17.pdf>

California Connections Academy @ Ripon

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/Portals/13/ca-schools/calca/documents/pdfs/legal/17-18/Ripon-Uniform-Complaint-Procedure-APPROVED-8-22-17.pdf>

California Connections Academy @ Central

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/Portals/13/ca-schools/calca/documents/pdfs/legal/17-18/Central-Uniform-Complaint-Procedure-APPROVED-8-22-17.pdf>

California Connections Academy @ North Bay

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/Portals/13/ca-schools/calca/documents/pdfs/legal/17-18/North-Bay-Uniform-Complaint-Procedure-APPROVED-8-22-17.pdf>

## **RIGHTS UNDER TITLE IX**

All California Connections Academy students have the following rights under Title IX:

- (a) You have the right to fair and equitable treatment and you shall not be discriminated against based on your sex.
- (b) You have the right to be provided with an equitable opportunity to participate in all academic extracurricular activities.
- (c) You have the right to receive equitable treatment and benefits in the provision of any equipment and supplies needed for the school program.
- (d) You have the right to have access to a gender equity coordinator to answer questions regarding gender equity laws.
- (e) You have the right to contact the State Department of Education to access information on gender equity laws.
- (f) You have the right to file a confidential discrimination complaint with the United States Office of Civil Rights or the State Department of Education if you believe you have been discriminated against or if you believe you have received unequal treatment on the basis of your sex. See below for the link.
- (g) You have the right to pursue civil remedies if you have been discriminated against.
- (h) You have the right to be protected against retaliation if you file a discrimination complaint.

As a network on online charter schools, California Connections Academy does not provide any organized sports, athletic scholarships or after school activities. The following rights apply to all students and parents under Title IX of federal law for any organization receiving federal funds, however, these items are not available due the nature of the online charter school program. These rights are provided for your information.

- (a) You have the right to be provided with an equitable opportunity to participate in all academic extracurricular activities, including athletics.
- (b) You have the right to inquire of the athletic director of your school as to the athletic opportunities offered by the school.
- (c) You have the right to apply for athletic scholarships.
- (d) You have the right to receive equitable treatment and benefits in the provision of all of the following:
  - (1) Sports equipment and supplies.
  - (2) Scheduling of games and practices.
  - (3) Transportation and daily allowances for athletic events.
  - (4) Access to tutoring.
  - (5) Coaching.
  - (6) Locker rooms.
  - (7) Practice and competitive facilities.
  - (8) Medical and training facilities and services.
  - (9) Publicity.
- (e) You have the right to contact the State Department of Education and the California Interscholastic Federation to access information on gender equity laws.

## RESOURCES

Additional information about Title IX and gender equity can be found through the following resources:

California Department of Education Office of Equal Opportunity:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/oeo.asp>

[oeoinfo@cde.ca.gov](mailto:oeoinfo@cde.ca.gov)

916-445-9174

California Department of Education Title IX information:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/eo/genequitytitleix.asp>

[California Education Code 221.5-231.5](#)

United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights (OCR) information:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/aboutocr.html>

Information about how to file a complaint with OCR, including a link to the complaint form:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>

OCR complaint form:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintform.pdf>

## **FILING A COMPLAINT**

The first step if you have a concern about possible discrimination based on gender or gender related issues is to contact the Title IX Coordinator directly. If the issue is not resolved then a formal complaint can be filed under the school's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A link to the UCP can be found here:

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According to the US Department of Education Office of Civil Rights, complaints must generally be filed within 180 days after the most recent alleged incident of discrimination occurred. The statute of limitations for complaints is therefore 6 months. If a complaint is filed with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) beyond the statute of limitations, then you will be asked to file a waiver and give sufficient reasons as to why the complaint was not filed earlier. If the complaint is being filed with the school, and the 180 day period has already expired, then upon receipt of a

written request for an extension of time to file a complaint, including an outline of the reasons for an extension of time to file, the Title IX Coordinator may, upon showing of good cause, extend the time to file a complaint up to a period of time not to exceed 90 days following the expiration of the six month period of time to file a complaint. If a formal complaint is filed under the school's UCP, it will be investigated in accordance with the procedures and timelines laid out in the UCP. If the issue is not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, a complaint may then be filed with the OCR. This should be done within 60 days of the resolution of the complaint under the school's UCP. Forms and information for OCR can be found here <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html> . The OCR can also be reached at:

Telephone: 800-421-3481

FAX: 202-453-6012; TDD: 800-877-8339

Email: [OCR@ed.gov](mailto:OCR@ed.gov)

You may also locate a local OCR office through this website:

<https://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm>