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

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

RMA examined MD-175 Table B4-1 and noted the total workforce for PWD in grades GS-1-10 and GS-11 to SES is 11.74%.

*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

RMA reviewed MD-715 Table B4-1 and noted the total workforce for PWTD in grades GS-1 to GS-10 and from GS-11 to SES is 4.13%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level Cluster (GS or Alternate Pay Plan)</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Reportable Disability</th>
<th>Targeted Disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numerical Goal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades GS-1 to GS-10 (PWD)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades GS-11 to SES (PWD)</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>10.86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

EEO specialists and special emphasis program managers review quarterly barrier analysis reports and provide relevant information to management on hiring goals and recruitment resources.

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

   This is accomplished through an Inter-Agency Agreement with the USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) Human Resources Division (HRD).

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability Program Task</th>
<th># of FTE Staff By Employment Status</th>
<th>Responsible Official (Name, Title, Office Email)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>Part Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing applications from PWD and PWTD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answering questions from the public about hiring authorities that take disability into account</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing reasonable accommodation requests from applicants and employees</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 508 Compliance</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architectural Barriers Act Compliance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Emphasis Program for PWD and PWTD</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Agency personnel completed the following training during the FY 2018 reporting period: EEOC Presentation on Developing Section 501 Affirmative Action Plan; Barrier Analysis Training; Basic Management Directive 715; Disability Program Management Training Basics; and Reasonable Accommodation training.

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
This is accomplished through an inter-Agency Agreement with the USDA’s FSA HRD.

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.

RMA opens positions to Schedule A applicants and hires from Schedule A lists. Through an Inter-Agency Agreement with USDA’s FSA HRD, RMA is represented at career fairs for targeted populations.

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

RMA routinely hires from Schedule A lists through an Inter-Agency Agreement with USDA’s FSA HRD.

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.

Through an Inter-Agency Agreement with USDA’s FSA HRD, Schedule A candidates are evaluated on their experience, education, and other qualifications. FSA’s HRD then forwards the certification list to the relevant hiring official(s) for consideration.

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

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.

This is accomplished through an Inter-Agency Agreement with the USDA’s FSA HRD.

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”, please describe the triggers below.

   a. New Hires for Permanent Workforce (PWD) Answer Yes
   b. New Hires for Permanent Workforce (PWTD) Answer No

PWD is 11.74% while the goal is 12%

| New Hires | Total (#) | Reportable Disability | | Targeted Disability | |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| % of Total Applicants | 0 | | | |
| % of Qualified Applicants | 0 | | | |
| % of New Hires | 0 | | | |

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 (#) | Reportable Disability | | Targetable Disability | |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Numerical Goal | -- | 12% | | 2% |
| 0110ECONOMIST | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 0340PROGRAM MANAGEMENT | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 0510ACCOUNTING | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1101GENERAL BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1801GENERAL INSPECTION, INVESTIGATION AND COMPLIANCE | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2210INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

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.
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.

PWD and PWTD can participate in the RMA Career Development Program and OPM career development classes to include the LEAD program.

B. CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

Eligible employees can participate in the RMA Career Development Program. All employees can attend OPM training and career development classes or programs. All employees are also offered a mentor.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Development Opportunities</th>
<th>Total Participants</th>
<th>PWD</th>
<th>PWTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Applicants (#)</td>
<td>Selectees (%)</td>
<td>Applicants (#)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowship Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentoring Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coaching Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detail Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Career Development Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Due to a pending Departmental reorganization that reassign approximately 70 RMA employees into the USDA’s newly created Farm and Production Business Center, the agency did not hold any formal career development programs during FY18. The reorganization was effective with the start of FY19.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time-Off Awards</th>
<th>Total (#)</th>
<th>Reportable Disability %</th>
<th>Without Reportable Disability %</th>
<th>Targeted Disability %</th>
<th>Without Targeted Disability %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time-Off Awards: 1-9 hours : Total Time-Off Awards Given</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>7.69</td>
<td>88.46</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>3.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-Off Awards: 9+ hours : Total Time-Off Awards Given</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>9.91</td>
<td>87.39</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>5.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash Awards</th>
<th>Total (#)</th>
<th>Reportable Disability %</th>
<th>Without Reportable Disability %</th>
<th>Targeted Disability %</th>
<th>Without Targeted Disability %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash Awards: $100 - $500: Total Cash Awards Given</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>5.88</td>
<td>94.12</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>5.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Awards: $501+: Total Cash Awards Given</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>8.96</td>
<td>91.04</td>
<td>3.88</td>
<td>5.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD and/or PWTD for quality step increases or performance- based pay increases? If “yes”, please describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

a. Pay Increases (PWD) Answer No
b. Pay Increases (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 (PWD) Answer No
      ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer No

   b. Grade GS-15
      
      i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer No
      ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer No

   c. Grade GS-14
      
      i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer No
      ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer No

   d. Grade GS-13
      
      i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer No
      ii. Internal Selections (PWD) 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

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Awards</th>
<th>Total (#)</th>
<th>Reportable Disability %</th>
<th>Without Reportable Disability %</th>
<th>Targeted Disability %</th>
<th>Without Targeted Disability %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality Step Increases (QSI): Total QSIs Awarded</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6.25</td>
<td>93.75</td>
<td>6.25</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Based Pay Increase</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 Yes

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

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 below.

   a. Voluntary Separations (PWTD) Answer No
   b. Involuntary Separations (PWTD) Answer No

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.

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.


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.


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.

RMA works to ensure access to all offices. Assessments to physical barriers are made during compliance reviews. All RMA offices are ADA compliant and provide access to those with physical disabilities.

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.)

This is done through an Inter-Agency Agreement with the USDA’s FSA. The average time for processing requests is 30 days.

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.

RMA management officials receive training on reasonable accommodations and work with the reasonable accommodations program manager to address employee needs in a timely fashion by reviewing the request, gathering necessary documentation and implementing the agreed-on accommodation.

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.

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.
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.
   Not Applicable.

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.
   Not Applicable.

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  No

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

Not Applicable.

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.

Not Applicable.