

**WAC 516-21-115 Discrimination and discriminatory harassment.**

Discrimination or discriminatory harassment is prohibited on the basis of race; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity/expression; religion; age; color; creed; national or ethnic origin; physical, mental, or sensory disability (including disability requiring the use of a trained service animal); marital status; genetic information; and/or veteran status; and as defined in Western Washington University policy POL-U1600.02 and POL-U1600.04, which prohibit discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct. Anyone complaining or involved in a complaint of discrimination is protected against retaliation.

(1) Sexual harassment is a violation of the code. Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, nonverbal, electronic, or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when:

(a) It has a tangible impact on a student's education including, but not limited to, classroom experiences, academic grades, living environment, participation in a university activity; or

(b) It is sufficiently severe and/or pervasive to interfere with a member of the university community's ability to work, study, or participate in their regular activities, or benefit from the university's programs or activities and creates a hostile environment.

(2) Gender-based harassment includes nonsexual acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on a person's gender or nonconformity with gender stereotypes, and is a violation of the code. Gender-based harassment violates this code when it is sufficiently severe and/or pervasive, such that it denies or limits another's ability to work, study, participate in, or benefit from the university's programs or activities.

(3) Sexual violence includes sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking or any other type of sexual misconduct or gender-based discrimination.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.35.120, chapter 34.05 RCW, and 20 U.S.C. 1681-1688. WSR 17-05-100, § 516-21-115, filed 2/15/17, effective 3/18/17.]