Old Capitol Building PO Box 47200 Olympia, WA 98504-7200



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October 7, 2021 (X) Action Required

Due date: November 17, 2021

(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 070-21 LEGAL AFFAIRS

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents

School District Superintendents School District Business Managers

School District Civil Rights Compliance Coordinators

Public Charter Schools

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Equity Assurance Report Required of All School Districts and

Public Charter Schools

CONTACT: Sarah Albertson, Managing Attorney of Equity and Civil Rights

360-725-6162, equity@k12.wa.us.

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

The Equity and Civil Rights Office at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) works to ensure each student has equal access to public education without discrimination by providing technical assistance and monitoring school districts' and public charter schools' compliance with state and federal nondiscrimination laws.

This bulletin provides information for school districts and charter schools to complete the annual Equity Assurance Report through iGrants Form Package 447.

REQUIRED ACTION

Each school district and charter school must submit an annual Equity Assurance Report. This report is due **November 17**, via iGrants Form Package 447.

The Equity Assurance Report is used to annually report the school district or charter school is complying with the requirements of chapters <u>28A.640</u> and <u>28A.642</u> RCW and <u>392-190</u> WAC regarding nondiscrimination in schools on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. It

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also assures the district or charter school is complying with federal civil rights requirements, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.

The 2021–22 Equity Assurance Report includes a one-time data collection on family language information required by ESSB 5092 (2020) Sec. 501 (3)(g). OSPI must report to the Legislature information regarding the different languages in which students' families prefer to communicate by school district. This report does not require a resurvey of students and families. The school district or charter school should report the information as it is currently collected and stored, using the templates included in the form package. This data will be submitted to the Legislature by December 1, 2021, and will inform recommendations on future data collections.

The **Equity Assurance Report** can be accessed from OSPI's website.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact the Equity and Civil Rights Office at 360-725-6162 or e-mail equity@k12.wa.us. OSPI's TTY line is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the **Bulletins** page of the OSPI website.

Tennille Jeffries-Simmons Chief of Staff

Matt Schultz Chief Legal and Civil Rights Officer Legal Affairs

Sarah Albertson Managing Attorney Equity and Civil Rights

CR:js

OSPI provides equal access to all programs and services without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at (360) 725-6162 or P.O. Box 47200 Olympia, WA 98504-7200.