

# Your Rights Under Title VI and Related Statutes

## What is Title VI?

Title VI is a statute provision of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Section 601 provides:

*"No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance". (42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000d)*

Additionally, Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations 1994, provides:

*"Each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations".*

Related statutes provide protection against discrimination on the basis of sex, age, or disability by programs receiving federal financial assistance.

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## What does this mean?

This means that the County of San Diego strives to ensure that access to and use of all programs, services, or benefits derived from any County program will be administered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or socioeconomic status.

The County will not tolerate discrimination by a County employee or recipients of federal funds such as contractors, consultants, suppliers, or any other recipient of federal funds received through the County.

The County prohibits all discriminatory practices, which may result in:

- Denial to any individual of any service, financial aid, or benefit provided under the program to which he or she may be otherwise entitled;
- Different standards or requirements for participation;
- Segregation or separate treatment in any part of the program;
- Distinctions in quality, quantity, or manner in which the benefit is provided.

To ensure compliance with Title VI, related statutes, and the Presidential Executive Order on Environmental Justice, the County will:

- Prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations;
- Avoid or reduce harmful human health and environmental effects on minority and low-income populations;
- Ensure the full and fair participation by all communities including low-income and minority populations in the transportation decision-making process.

Additionally, any recipient, including, but not limited to, contractors, consultants and vendors who receives federal financial aid bears a responsibility to administer its program and activities without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or socioeconomic status.

## Are your rights being violated?

If you believe that you have been discriminated against because of your race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, you may file a written complaint with the Office of Ethics & Compliance.