

REQUIREMENTS OF THE NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CODE

INTRODUCTION

The Sacramento Non-Discrimination In Employee Benefits Code (the "Ordinance"), codified as Sacramento City Code Chapter 3.54, prohibits City contractors from discriminating in the provision of employee benefits between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners, and between the spouses and domestic partners of employees.

APPLICATION

The provisions of the Ordinance apply to any contract or agreement (as defined below), between a Contractor and the City of Sacramento, in an amount exceeding \$25,000.00. The Ordinance applies to that portion of a contractor's operations that occur: (i) within the City of Sacramento; (ii) on real property outside the City of Sacramento if the property is owned by the City or if the City has a right to occupy the property; or (iii) at any location where a significant amount of work related to a City contract is being performed.

The Ordinance does not apply: to subcontractors or subcontracts of any Contractor or contractors; to transactions entered into pursuant to cooperative purchasing agreements approved by the Sacramento City Council; to legal contracts of other governmental jurisdictions or public agencies without separate competitive bidding by the City; where the requirements of the ordinance will violate or are inconsistent with the terms or conditions of a grant, subvention or agreement with a public agency or the instructions of an authorized representative of any such agency with respect to any such grant, subvention or agreement; to permits for excavation or street construction; or to agreements for the use of City right-of-way where a contracting utility has the power of eminent domain.

DEFINITIONS

As set forth in the Ordinance, the following definitions apply:

"Contract" means an agreement for public works or improvements to be performed, or for goods or services to be purchased or grants to be provided, at the expense of the City or to be paid out of moneys deposited in the treasury or out of the trust money under the control or collected by the City. "Contract" also means a written agreement for the exclusive use ("exclusive use" means the right to use or occupy real property to the exclusion of others, other than the right reserved by the fee owner) or occupancy of real property for a term exceeding 29 days in any calendar year, whether by singular or cumulative instrument, (i) for the operation or use by others of real property owned or controlled by the City for the operation of a business, social, or other establishment or organization, including leases, concessions, franchises and easements, or (ii) for the City's use or occupancy of real property owned by others, including leases, concessions, franchises and easements.

"Contract" shall not include: a revocable at-will use or encroachment permit for the use of or encroachment on City property regardless of the ultimate duration of such permit; excavation, street construction or street use permits; agreements for the use of City right-of-way where a contracting utility has the power of eminent domain; or agreements governing the use of City property that constitute a public forum for activities that are primarily for the purpose of espousing or advocating causes or ideas and that are generally protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or that are primarily recreational in nature.

“Contractor” means any person or persons, firm partnership or corporation, company, or combination thereof, that enters into a Contract with the City. “Contractor” does not include a public entity.

“Domestic Partner” means any person who has a currently registered domestic partnership with a governmental entity pursuant to state or local law authorizing the registration.

“Employee Benefits” means bereavement leave; disability, life, and other types of insurance; family medical leave; health benefits; membership or membership discounts; moving expenses; pension and retirement benefits; vacation; travel benefits; and any other benefit given to employees. “Employee benefits” shall not include benefits to the extent that the application of the requirements of this chapter to such benefits may be preempted by federal or state.

CONTRACTOR’S OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE THE CITY WITH DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION

Contractor shall provide the City with documentation and information verifying its compliance with the requirements of the Ordinance within ten (10) days of receipt of a request from the City. Contractors shall keep accurate payroll records, showing, for each City Contract, the employee’s name, address, Social Security number, work classification, straight time pay rate, overtime pay rate, overtime hours worked, status and exemptions, and benefits for each day and pay period that the employee works on the City Contract. Each request for payroll records shall be accompanied by an affidavit to be completed and returned by the Contractor, as stated, attesting that the information contained in the payroll records is true and correct, and that the Contractor has complied with the requirements of the Ordinance. A violation of the Ordinance or noncompliance with the requirements of the Ordinance shall constitute a breach of contract.

EMPLOYER COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

(a) All contractors seeking a Contract subject to the Ordinance shall submit a completed Declaration of Compliance Form (attachment “A”), signed by an authorized representative, with each proposal, bid or application. The Declaration of Compliance shall be made a part of the executed contract, and will be made available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

(b) The Contractor shall give each existing employee working directing on a City contract, and (at the time of hire), each new employee, a copy of the notification provided as attachment “B.”

(c) Contractor shall post, in a place visible to all employees, a copy of the notice provided as attachment “C.”

**DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE
Equal Benefits Ordinance**

Name of Contractor

Address

The above named contractor ("Contractor") hereby declares and agrees as follows:

1. I have read and understand the Requirements of the Non-Discrimination In Employee Benefits Code (the "Requirements") provided to me by the City of Sacramento

("City") in connection with the City's request for proposals or other solicitations for the performance of services, or for the provision of commodities, under a City contract or agreement ("Contract").

2. As a condition of receiving the City Contract, I agree to fully comply with the Requirements, as well as any additional requirements that may be specified in the City's Non-Discrimination in Employee Benefits Code codified at Chapter 3. 54 of the Sacramento City Code (the "Ordinance").

3. I understand, to the extent that such benefits are not preempted or prohibited by federal or state law, employee benefits covered by the Ordinance, are any of the following:

- a. Bereavement Leave
- b. Disability, life, and other types of insurance
- c. Family medical leave
- d. Health benefits
- e. Membership or membership discounts
- f. Moving expenses
- g. Pension and retirement benefits
- h. Vacation
- i. Travel benefits
- j. Any other benefit offered to employees

I agree that should I offer any of the above listed employee benefits, that I will offer those benefits, without discrimination between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners, and without discrimination between the spouses and domestic partners of such employees.

4. I understand that I will not be considered to be discriminating in the provision or application of employee benefits under the following conditions or circumstances:

DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE
Equal Benefits Ordinance

- a. In the event that the actual cost of providing a benefit to a domestic partner or spouse, exceeds the cost of providing the same benefit to a spouse or domestic partner of an employee, I will not be required to provide the benefit, nor shall it be deemed discriminatory, if I require the employee to pay the monetary difference in order to provide the benefit to the domestic partner or to the spouse.
- b. In the event I am unable to provide a certain benefit, despite taking reasonable measures to do so, if I provide the employee with a cash equivalent, I will not be deemed to be discriminating in the application of that benefit.
- c. If I provide employee benefits neither to employee's spouses nor to employee's domestic partners.
- d. If I provide employee benefits to employees on a basis unrelated to marital or domestic partner status.
- e. If I submit, to the Program Coordinator, written evidence of making reasonable efforts to end discrimination in employee benefits by implementing policies which are to be enacted before the first effective date after the first open enrollment process following the date the Contract is executed with the City.

I understand that any delay in the implementation of such policies may not exceed one (1) year from the date the Contract is executed with the City, and applies only to those employee benefits for which an open enrollment process is applicable.

- f. Until administrative steps can be taken to incorporate, in the infrastructure, nondiscrimination in employee benefits

The time allotted for these administrative steps will apply only to those employee benefits for which administrative steps are necessary and may not exceed three (3) months from the date the Contract is executed with the City.

- g. Until the expiration of a current collective bargaining agreement(s) where, in fact, employee benefits are governed by a collective bargaining agreement(s).
- h. I take all reasonable measures to end discrimination in employee benefits by either requesting the union(s) involved agree to reopen the agreement(s) in order for me to take whatever steps are necessary to end discrimination in employee benefits or by my ending discrimination in employee benefits without reopening the collective bargaining agreement(s).

DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE
Equal Benefits Ordinance

- i. In the event I cannot end discrimination in employee benefits despite taking all reasonable measures to do so, I provide a cash equivalent to eligible employees for whom employee benefits (as listed previously), are not available.

Unless otherwise authorized in writing by the City Manager, I understand this cash equivalent must begin at the time the union(s) refuse to allow the collective bargaining agreement(s) to be reopened or no longer than three (3) months from the date the Contract is executed with the City.

5. I understand that failure to comply with the provisions of Section 4. (a) through 4. (i), above, will subject me to possible suspension and/or termination of this Contract for cause; repayment of any or all of the Contract amount disbursed by the City; debarment for future contracts until all penalties and restitution have been paid in full; deemed ineligible for future contracts for up to two (2) years; the imposition of a penalty, payable to the City, in the sum of \$50.00 for each employee, for each calendar day during which the employee was discriminated against in violation of the provisions of the Ordinance.
6. I understand and do hereby agree to provide each current employee and, within ten (10) days of hire, each new employee, of their rights under the Ordinance. I further agree to maintain a copy of each such letter provided, in an appropriate file for possible inspection by an authorized representative of the City. I also agree to prominently display a poster informing each employee of these rights.
7. I understand that I have the right to request an exemption to the benefit provisions of the Ordinance when such a request is submitted to the Procurement Services Division, in writing with sufficient justification for resolution, prior to contract award.

I further understand that the City may request a waiver or exemption to the provisions or requirements of the Ordinance, when only one contractor is available to enter into a contract or agreement to occupy and use City property on terms and conditions established by the City; when sole source conditions exist for goods, services, public project or improvements and related construction services; when there are no responsive bidders to the Ordinance requirements and the contract is for essential goods or services; when emergency conditions with public health and safety implications exist; or when the contract is for specialized legal services if in the best interest of the City.

8. In consideration of the foregoing, I shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless, the City, its officers and employees, against any claims, actions, damages, costs (including reasonable attorney fees), or other liabilities of any kind arising from any violation of the Requirements or of the Ordinance by me.

**DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE
Equal Benefits Ordinance**

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that I am authorized to bind the Contractor to the provisions of this Declaration.

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date

Print Name

Title



**YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO'S
NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BY CITY CONTRACTORS
ORDINANCE**

On (date), your employer (the "Employer") entered into a contract with the City of Sacramento (the "City") for (contract details), and as a condition of that contract, agreed to abide by the requirements of the City's Non-Discrimination In Employee Benefits By City Contractors Ordinance (Sacramento City Code Section 3.54).

The Ordinance does not require the Employer to provide employee benefits. The Ordinance does require that if certain employee benefits are provided by the Employer, that those benefits be provided without discrimination between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners, and without discrimination between the spouse or domestic partner of employees.

The Ordinance covers any employee working on the specific contract referenced above, but only for the period of time while those employees are actually working on this specific contract.

The included employee benefits are:

- Bereavement leave
- Disability, life and other types of insurance
- Family medical leave
- Health benefits
- Membership or membership discounts
- Moving expenses
- Pension and retirement benefits
- Vacation
- Travel benefits
- Any other benefits given to employees

(Employee Benefits does not include benefits that may be preempted by federal or state law.)

If you feel you have been discriminated or retaliated against by your employer in the terms and conditions of your application for employment, or in your employment, or in the application of these employee benefits, because of your status as an applicant or as an employee protected by the Ordinance, or because you reported a violation of the Ordinance, and after having exhausted all remedies with your employer,

You May . . .

- Submit a written complaint to the City of Sacramento, Contract Services Unit, containing the details of the alleged violation. The address is:

City of Sacramento
Contract Services Unit
915 I St., 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

- Bring an action in the appropriate division of the Superior Court of the State of California against the Employer and obtain the following remedies:
 - Reinstatement, injunctive relief, compensatory damages and punitive damages
 - Reasonable attorney's fees and costs



YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO'S NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BY CITY CONTRACTORS ORDINANCE

If your employer provides employee benefits, they must be provided to those employees working on a City of Sacramento contract without discriminating between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners.

The included employee benefits are:

- Bereavement leave
- Disability, life and other types of insurance
- Family medical leave
- Health benefits
- Membership or membership discounts
- Moving expenses
- Pension and retirement benefits
- Vacation
- Travel benefits
- Any other benefits given to employees

If you feel you have been discriminated against by your employer . . .

You May . . .

- Submit a written complaint to the City of Sacramento, Contract Services Unit, containing the details of the alleged violation. The address is:

City of Sacramento
Contract Services Unit
915 I St., 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
- Bring an action in the appropriate division of the Superior Court of the State of California against the employer and obtain reinstatement, injunctive relief, compensatory damages, punitive damages and reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

Discrimination and Retaliation Prohibited.

If you feel you have been discriminated or retaliated against by your employer in the terms and conditions of your application for employment, or in your employment, because of your status as an applicant or as an employee protected by the Ordinance, or because you reported a violation of this Ordinance . . .

You May Also . . .

Submit a written complaint to the City of Sacramento, Contract Services Unit, at the same address, containing the details of the alleged violation.