

<p style="text-align: center;">CHAPTER 17- NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY and ADA GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE</p>

17.1 POLICY

Skamania County does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, disability or veteran status in the provision of services, in programs or activities or employment opportunities and benefits. Skamania County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the programs and activities that it operates pursuant to the requirements of the Americans With Disability Act of 1990, P. L. 101-336, or as hereafter amended. This policy extends to both employment by and admission to and participation in the programs, services and activities of Skamania County.

17.2 PURPOSE:

Skamania County establishes a grievance procedure for employees and citizens who allege discrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, disability or veteran status in the provision of services, in programs or activities or employment opportunities and benefits.

17.3 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

17.3.1 Submit complaints regarding access or discrimination in writing to the Skamania County Auditor, P. O. Box 790, Stevenson, Washington 98548, (509-427-3730) for resolution. A record of the complaints and action taken will be maintained. The Board of County Commissioners shall maintain two ADA Coordinators. A written decision by a designated Skamania County ADA Coordinator(s) will be rendered within 10 working days.

17.3.2 If the complaint cannot be resolved to your satisfaction by the ADA Coordinator(s), it will be forwarded to the Skamania County Disabled Resident Access Committee composed of elected officials, the disabled, health/medical representation and representatives at large. The Board of Commissioners will appoint the Committee. The Committee should be directed to hear such complaints in public, after adequate public notice, in an unbiased, objective manner, and to make a written decision within 30 days. Proceedings of the committee should be recorded and maintained.

17.3.3 If the complaint cannot be resolved to your satisfaction by the Committee, the complaint will be heard by the Board of Commissioners and discussed at an open, public meeting of the Board. A determination must be made within 30 days.

17.3.4 A record of action taken on each request or complaint must be maintained as a part of the records or minutes at each level of the grievance process.

17.3.5 A person's right to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint must not be impaired by pursuit of other remedies, such as the filing of a complaint with the Department of Justice or other appropriate federal agency, or the filing of a suit in state or federal court. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.