Affirmative Action Plan for the Recruitment, Hiring, Advancement, and Retention of Persons with Disabilities

To capture agencies' affirmative action plan for persons with disabilities (PWD) and persons with targeted disabilities (PWTD), EEOC regulations (29 C.F.R. § 1614.203(e)) and MD-715 require agencies to describe how their affirmative action plan will improve the recruitment, hiring, advancement, and retention of applicants and employees with disabilities.

Section I: Efforts to Reach Regulatory Goals

EEOC regulations (29 CFR §1614.203(d)(7)) require agencies to establish specific numerical goals for increasing the participation of persons with disabilities and persons with targeted disabilities in the federal government

1. Using the goal of 12% as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD by grade level cluster in the permanent workforce? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

a. Cluster GS-1 to GS-10 (PWD)

Answer No

b. Cluster GS-11 to SES (PWD)

Answer Yes

CIGIE does not have any employees in Cluster GS-1 to GS-10. For Cluster GS-11 to SES (PWD), the trigger would be falling below the 12% target. Currently CIGIE is at 33%.

*For GS employees, please use two clusters: GS-1 to GS-10 and GS-11 to SES, as set forth in 29 C.F.R. § 1614.203(d)(7). For all other pay plans, please use the approximate grade clusters that are above or below GS-11 Step 1 in the Washington, DC metropolitan region.

2. Using the goal of 2% as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD by grade level cluster in the permanent workforce? If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

a. Cluster GS-1 to GS-10 (PWTD)

Answer No

b. Cluster GS-11 to SES (PWTD)

Answer Yes

CIGIE does not have any employees in Cluster GS-1 to GS-10. For Cluster GS-11 to SES (PWTD), the trigger would be falling below the 2% target. Currently CIGIE is at 14%.

Grade Level Cluster(GS or Alternate Pay	Total	Reportable	e Disability	Targeted	Disability
Planb)	#	#	%	#	%
Numarical Goal		12	2%	2	%
Grades GS-1 to GS-10					
Grades GS-11 to SES					

3. Describe how the agency has communicated the numerical goals to the hiring managers and/or recruiters.

Agency-wide email.

Section II: Model Disability Program

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. § 1614.203(d)(1), agencies must ensure sufficient staff, training and resources to recruit and hire persons with disabilities and persons with targeted disabilities, administer the reasonable accommodation program and special emphasis program, and oversee any other disability hiring and advancement program the agency has in place.

A. PLAN TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT & COMPETENT STAFFING FOR THE DISABILITY PROGRAM

1. Has the agency designated sufficient qualified personnel to implement its disability program during the reporting period? If "no", describe the agency's plan to improve the staffing for the upcoming year.

Answer Yes

2. Identify all staff responsible for implementing the agency's disability employment program by the office, staff employment status, and responsible official.

Distability Decrease Tools	# of FTE	Staff By Employm	ent Status	Responsible Official
Disability Program Task	Full Time	Part Time	Collateral Duty	(Name, Title, Office Email)
Processing applications from PWD and PWTD	0	0	1	Alan F. Boehm, Executive Director Executive Director
Section 508 Compliance	0	0	0	
Architectural Barriers Act Compliance	0	0	1	Douglas Holt Executive Director, Training Institute
Answering questions from the public about hiring authorities that take disability into account	0	0	1	Alan F. Boehm, Executive Director
Processing reasonable accommodation requests from applicants and employees	0	0	1	Alan F. Boehm, Executive Director
Special Emphasis Program for PWD and PWTD	0	0	0	

3. Has the agency provided disability program staff with sufficient training to carry out their responsibilities during the reporting period? If "yes", describe the training that disability program staff have received. If "no", describe the training planned for the upcoming year.

Answer Yes

Barrier Analysis training has been completed. EEO for Managers (2 day course) was scheduled but cancelled by the EEOC due to COVID-19. It has been rescheduled and will be completed by the end of the reporting period.

B. PLAN TO ENSURE SUFFICIENT FUNDING FOR THE DISABILITY PROGRAM

Has the agency provided sufficient funding and other resources to successfully implement the disability program during the reporting period? If "no", describe the agency's plan to ensure all aspects of the disability program have sufficient funding and other resources.

Answer Yes

Deficiency

Section III: Program Deficiencies In The Disability Program

Brief Description of Program Deficiency	A.2.b.3. Reasonable accommodation procedures? [see 29 CFR § 1614.203(d)(3)(i)] If so, please provide the internet address in the comments column.
Brief Description of Program Deficiency	C.2.c.1. Does the agency post its procedures for processing requests for Personal Assistance Services on its public website? [see 29 CFR §1614.203(d)(5)(v)] If "yes", please provide the internet address in the comments column.
Brief Description of Program Deficiency	D.1.c. Does the agency conduct exit interviews or surveys that include questions on how the agency could improve the recruitment, hiring, inclusion, retention and advancement of individuals with disabilities? [see 29 CFR §1614.203(d)(1) (iii)(C)]
Brief Description of Program Deficiency	D.4.a. Does the agency post its affirmative action plan on its public website? [see 29 CFR §1614.203(d)(4)] If yes, please provide the internet address in the comments.
<u> </u>	
Brief Description of Program	D.4.b. Does the agency take specific steps to ensure qualified people with disabilities are aware of and encouraged to

Section IV: Plan to Recruit and Hire Individuals with Disabilities

apply for job vacancies? [see 29 CFR §1614.203(d)(1)(i)]

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. §1614.203(d)(1)(i) and (ii), agencies must establish a plan to increase the recruitment and hiring of individuals with disabilities. The questions below are designed to identify outcomes of the agency's recruitment program plan for PWD and PWTD

A. PLAN TO IDENTIFY JOB APPLICATIONS WITH DISABILITIES

1. Describe the programs and resources the agency uses to identify job applicants with disabilities, including individuals with targeted disabilities.

CIGIE's use of the standard hiring processes has yielded a relatively high percentage of hires with disabilities, including individuals with targeted disabilities. As a result, the organization has not needed to leverage programs and resources that exist for this purpose.

2. Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. §1614.203(a)(3), describe the agency's use of hiring authorities that take disability into account (e.g., Schedule A) to recruit PWD and PWTD for positions in the permanent workforce

CIGIE has an agreement in place with GSACABS to provide HR Service. We rely on their expertise in this area.

3. When individuals apply for a position under a hiring authority that takes disability into account (e.g., Schedule A), explain how the agency (1) determines if the individual is eligible for appointment under such authority; and, (2) forwards the individual's application to the relevant hiring officials with an explanation of how and when the individual may be appointed.

CIGIE has an agreement in place with GSACABS to provide HR Service. We rely on their expertise in this area.

4. Has the agency provided training to all hiring managers on the use of hiring authorities that take disability into account (e.g., Schedule A)? If "yes", describe the type(s) of training and frequency. If "no", describe the agency's plan to provide

this training.

Answer No

EEO for Managers (2 day course) was scheduled but cancelled by the EEOC due to COVID-19. It has been rescheduled and will be completed by the end of the reporting period.

B. PLAN TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Describe the agency's efforts to establish and maintain contacts with organizations that assist PWD, including PWTD, in securing and maintaining employment.

CIGIE's use of the standard hiring processes has yielded a relatively high percentage of hires with disabilities, including individuals with targeted disabilities. As a result, the organization has not needed to leverage programs and resources that exist for this purpose.

C. PROGRESSION TOWARDS GOALS (RECRUITMENT AND HIRING)

1. Using the goals of 12% for PWD and 2% for PWTD as the benchmarks, do triggers exist for PWD and/or PWTD among the new hires in the permanent workforce? If "yes", please describe the triggers below.

a. New Hires for Permanent Workforce (PWD)

Answer Yes

b. New Hires for Permanent Workforce (PWTD)

Answer Yes

For PWD the trigger would be falling below the 12% target. for PWTD the trigger would be falling below 2%. Currently CIGIE is at 33% and 14%, respectively, and 50% of the new permanent workforce hires during this reporting period were PWD.

		Reportable	Disability	Targeted Disability		
New Hires	Total	Permanent Workforce	Temporary Workforce	Permanent Workforce	Temporary Workforce	
	(#)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
% of Total Applicants	0					
% of Qualified Applicants	0					
% of New Hires	0					

2. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, do triggers exist for PWD and/or PWTD among the new hires for any of the mission- critical occupations (MCO)? If "yes", please describe the triggers below. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. New Hires for MCO (PWD)

Answer No

b. New Hires for MCO (PWTD)

Answer No

CIGIE has not assigned the MCO designation to any positions.

New Hires to		Reportable	e Disability	Targetable Disability	
Mission-Critical Occupations	Total	Qualified Applicants	New Hires	Qualified Applicants	New Hires
	(#)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Numerical Goal		12%		29	%

3. Using the relevant applicant pool as the benchmark, do triggers exist for PWD and/or PWTD among the qualified internal applicants for any of the mission-critical occupations (MCO)? If "yes", please describe the triggers below. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. Qualified Applicants for MCO (PWD)

Answer No

b. Qualified Applicants for MCO (PWTD)

Answer No

CIGIE has not assigned the MCO designation to any positions.

4. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, do triggers exist for PWD and/or PWTD among employees promoted to any of the mission- critical occupations (MCO)? If "yes", please describe the triggers below. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. Promotions for MCO (PWD)

Answer No

b. Promotions for MCO (PWTD)

Answer No

CIGIE has not assigned the MCO designation to any positions.

Section V: Plan to Ensure Advancement Opportunities for Employees with Disabilities

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. §1614.203(d)(1)(iii), agencies are required to provide sufficient advancement opportunities for employees with disabilities. Such activities might include specialized training and mentoring programs, career development opportunities, awards programs, promotions, and similar programs that address advancement. In this section, agencies should identify, and provide data on programs designed to ensure advancement opportunities for employees with disabilities.

A. ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM PLAN

Describe the agency's plan to ensure PWD, including PWTD, have sufficient opportunities for advancement.

CIGIE is establishing career ladders for position as they are vacated and can be restructured. This will help all employees, including those identified as PWD/PWTD, in terms of sufficient opportunities for advancement.

B. CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITES

1. Please describe the career development opportunities that the agency provides to its employees.

CIGIE does not offer a program of structured career development opportunities. Employees are encouraged to complete Individual Development Plans and those plans are supported to the greatest extent possible.

2. In the table below, please provide the data for career development opportunities that require competition and/or supervisory recommendation/ approval to participate.

Carran Davidament	Total Participants		PWD		PWTD	
Career Development Opportunities	Applicants (#)	Selectees (#)	Applicants (%)	Selectees (%)	Applicants (%)	Selectees (%)
Internship Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coaching Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Career Development Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0

Canada Davida musant	Total Participants		PWD		PWTD	
Career Development Opportunities	Applicants (#)	Selectees (#)	Applicants (%)	Selectees (%)	Applicants (%)	Selectees (%)
Fellowship Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Training Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mentoring Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Detail Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0

3. Do triggers exist for PWD among the applicants and/or selectees for any of the career development programs? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for the applicants and the applicant pool for selectees.) If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. Applicants (PWD)

Answer N/A

b. Selections (PWD)

Answer N/A

CIGIE does not offer a program of structured career development opportunities. Employees are encouraged to complete Individual Development Plans and those plans are supported to the greatest extent possible.

4. Do triggers exist for PWTD among the applicants and/or selectees for any of the career development programs? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for the applicants and the applicant pool for selectees.) If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. Applicants (PWTD)

Answer N/A

b. Selections (PWTD)

Answer N/A

CIGIE does not offer a program of structured career development opportunities. Employees are encouraged to complete Individual Development Plans and those plans are supported to the greatest extent possible.

C. AWARDS

1. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD and/or PWTD for any level of the time-off awards, bonuses, or other incentives? If "yes", please describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

a. Awards, Bonuses, & Incentives (PWD)

Answer No

b. Awards, Bonuses, & Incentives (PWTD)

Answer No

Time-Off Awards	Total (#)	Reportable Disability %	Without Reportable Disability %	Targeted Disability %	Without Targeted Disability %
Cash Awards	Total (#)	Reportable Disability %	Without Reportable Disability %	Targeted Disability %	Without Targeted Disability %

2. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD and/or PWTD for quality step increases or performance- based pay increases? If "yes", please describe the trigger(s) in the text box.

a. Pay Increases (PWD)

Answer No

b. Pay Increases (PWTD)

Answer No

Other Awards	Total (#)	Reportable Disability %	Without Reportable Disability %	Targeted Disability %	Without Targeted Disability %
Performance Based Pay Increase	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

3. If the agency has other types of employee recognition programs, are PWD and/or PWTD recognized disproportionately less than employees without disabilities? (The appropriate benchmark is the inclusion rate.) If "yes", describe the employee recognition program and relevant data in the text box.

a. Other Types of Recognition (PWD)

Answer N/A

b. Other Types of Recognition (PWTD)

Answer N/A

D. PROMOTIONS

1. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWD among the qualified internal applicants and/or selectees for promotions to the senior grade levels? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for qualified internal applicants and the qualified applicant pool for selectees.) For non-GS pay plans, please use the approximate senior grade levels. If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. SES

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD)

Answer No

ii. Internal Selections (PWD)

Answer N

b. Grade GS-15

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD)

Answer

No

No

No

No

ii. Internal Selections (PWD)

Answer

c. Grade GS-14

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD)

Answer

ii. Internal Selections (PWD)

Answer No

d. Grade GS-13

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD)

Answer

ii. Internal Selections (PWD)

Answer No

2. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the qualified internal applicants and/or selectees for promotions to the senior grade levels? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for qualified internal applicants and the qualified applicant pool for selectees.) For non-GS pay plans, please use the approximate senior grade levels. If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. SES

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD)

Answer No

supervisory positions? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevant applicant pool for qualified internal applicants and the qualified

applicant pool for selectees.) If "yes", describe the trigger(s) in the text box. Select "n/a" if the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the data in the text box.

a. Executives

i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD)

Answer No

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ii. Internal Selections (PWD)	Answer N	o
b. Managers		
i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD)	Answer N	O
ii. Internal Selections (PWD)	Answer N	O
c. Supervisors		
i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD)	Answer N	O
ii. Internal Selections (PWD)	Answer N	o o
6. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the qualifie to supervisory positions? (The appropriate benchmarks are the relevar the qualified applicant pool for selectees.) If "yes", describe the trigge is not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the a. Executives	nt applicant pool for qua er(s) in the text box. Selo	dified internal applicants and
i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD)	Answer N	<u></u>
ii. Internal Selections (PWTD)	Answer N	
b. Managers	Allswei	O
i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD)	Answer N	<u></u>
ii. Internal Selections (PWTD)	Answer N	
c. Supervisors	7 Hiswei 14	O .
i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD)	Answer N	.
••		
ii. Internal Selections (PWTD)	Answer N	0
7. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency for new hires to supervisory positions? If "yes", describe the trigger(s not available for your agency, and describe your plan to provide the describe your plan to provide your plan to provide the describe your plan to provide your plan) in the text box. Select	
a. New Hires for Executives (PWD)	Answer N	O
b. New Hires for Managers (PWD)	Answer N	O
c. New Hires for Supervisors (PWD)	Answer N	0
8. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency selectees for new hires to supervisory positions? If "yes", describe the applicant data is not available for your agency, and describe your plant.	e trigger(s) in the text be to provide the data in t	x. Select "n/a" if the he text box.
a. New Hires for Executives (PWTD)	Answer N	0

b. New Hires for Managers (PWTD)

Answer No

c. New Hires for Supervisors (PWTD)

Answer No

Section VI: Plan to Improve Retention of Persons with Disabilities

To be model employer for persons with disabilities, agencies must have policies and programs in place to retain employees with disabilities. In this section, agencies should: (1) analyze workforce separation data to identify barriers retaining employees with disabilities; (2) describe efforts to ensure accessibility of technology and facilities; and (3) provide information on the reasonable accommodation program and workplace assistance services.

A. VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY SEPARATIONS

1.	In this reporting period, did the agency convert all eligible Schedule A employees with a disability into the competitive
	service after two years of satisfactory service (5 C.F.R. § 213.3102(u)(6)(i))? If "no", please explain why the agency did
	not convert all eligible Schedule A employees.

Answer N/A

2. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, did the percentage of PWD among voluntary and involuntary separations exceed that of persons without disabilities? If "yes", describe the trigger below.

a. Voluntary Separations (PWD)

Answer No

b.Involuntary Separations (PWD)

Answer No

			Without Reportable
Seperations	Total #	Reportable Disabilities %	Disabilities %

3. Using the inclusion rate as the benchmark, did the percentage of PWTD among voluntary and involuntary separations exceed that of persons without targeted disabilities? If "yes", describe the trigger below.

a. Voluntary Separations (PWTD)

Answer No

b.Involuntary Separations (PWTD)

Answer No

			Without Targeted Disabilities
Seperations	Total #	Targeted Disabilities %	%

4. If a trigger exists involving the separation rate of PWD and/or PWTD, please explain why they left the agency using exit interview results and other data sources.

N/A

B. ACCESSIBILITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND FACILITIES

Pursuant to 29 CFR §1614.203(d)(4), federal agencies are required to inform applicants and employees of their rights under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794(b), concerning the accessibility of agency technology, and the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 4151-4157), concerning the accessibility of agency facilities. In addition, agencies are required to inform individuals where to file complaints if other agencies are responsible for a violation.

1. Please provide the internet address on the agency's public website for its notice explaining employees' and applicants' rights under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, including a description of how to file a complaint.

CIGIE maintains two website, IGnet.gov and Oversight.gov. Both websites include this notice. For IGnet.gov the notice is located at https://www.ignet.gov//content/accessibility-information; and Oversight.gov the notice is located at https://oversight.gov/content/accessbility-information.

2. Please provide the internet address on the agency's public website for its notice explaining employees' and applicants' rights under the Architectural Barriers Act, including a description of how to file a complaint.

CIGIE leases space through a GSA occupancy agreement, and relies upon GSA to address compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act. Therefor, CIGIE does not have this information published on its website.

3. Describe any programs, policies, or practices that the agency has undertaken, or plans on undertaking over the next fiscal year, designed to improve accessibility of agency facilities and/or technology.

CIGIE does not have any plans at this time.

C. REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION PROGRAM

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. § 1614.203(d)(3), agencies must adopt, post on their public website, and make available to all job applicants and employees, reasonable accommodation procedures.

1. Please provide the average time frame for processing initial requests for reasonable accommodations during the reporting period. (Please do not include previously approved requests with repetitive accommodations, such as interpreting services.)

CIGIE processing time is 1 to 2 weeks.

2. Describe the effectiveness of the policies, procedures, or practices to implement the agency's reasonable accommodation program. Some examples of an effective program include timely processing requests, timely providing approved accommodations, conducting training for managers and supervisors, and monitoring accommodation requests for trends.

Timely processing of requests.

D. PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES ALLOWING EMPLOYEES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORKPLACE

Pursuant to 29 CFR §1614.203(d)(5), federal agencies, as an aspect of affirmative action, are required to provide personal assistance services (PAS) to employees who need them because of a targeted disability, unless doing so would impose an undue hardship on the agency.

Describe the effectiveness of the policies, procedures, or practices to implement the PAS requirement. Some examples of an effective program include timely processing requests for PAS, timely providing approved services, conducting training for managers and supervisors, and monitoring PAS requests for trends.

CIGIE's updated policy is currently under review by EEOC.

Section VII: EEO Complaint and Findings Data

A. EEO COMPLAINT DATA INVOLVING HARASSMENT

1. During the last fiscal year, did a higher percentage of PWD file a formal EEO complaint alleging harassment, as compared to the governmentwide average?

Answer N/A

2. During the last fiscal year, did any complaints alleging harassment based on disability status result in a finding of discrimination or a settlement agreement?

Answer N/A

3. If the agency had one or more findings of discrimination alleging harassment based on disability status during the last fiscal year, please describe the corrective measures taken by the agency.

B. EEO COMPLAINT DATA INVOLVING REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

1. During the last fiscal year, did a higher percentage of PWD file a formal EEO complaint alleging failure to provide a reasonable

accommodation, as compared to the government-wide average?

Answer N/A

2. During the last fiscal year, did any complaints alleging failure to provide reasonable accommodation result in a finding of discrimination or a settlement agreement?

Answer N/A

3. If the agency had one or more findings of discrimination involving the failure to provide a reasonable accommodation during the last fiscal year, please describe the corrective measures taken by the agency.

Section VIII: Identification and Removal of Barriers

Element D of MD-715 requires agencies to conduct a barrier analysis when a trigger suggests that a policy, procedure, or practice may be impeding the employment opportunities of a protected EEO group.

1. Has the agency identified any barriers (policies, procedures, and/or practices) that affect employment opportunities for PWD and/or PWTD?

Answer No

2. Has the agency established a plan to correct the barrier(s) involving PWD and/or PWTD?

Answer N/A

- 3. Identify each trigger and plan to remove the barrier(s), including the identified barrier(s), objective(s), responsible official(s), planned activities, and, where applicable, accomplishments
- 4. Please explain the factor(s) that prevented the agency from timely completing any of the planned activities.

The planned activity is completion of a Barrier Analysis. As noted elsewhere in this report, training in the Barrier Analysis has been completed and work is being initiated.

5. For the planned activities that were completed, please describe the actual impact of those activities toward eliminating the barrier(s).

N/A

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6. If the planned activities did not correct the trigger(s) and/or barrier(s), please describe how the agency intends to improve the plan for the next fiscal year.

N/A