

## 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 |

The percentage of PWD in the GS-11 to SES cluster was 9.95% in FY2019, which falls below the 12% goal.

\*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 No |

Grade Level Cluster(GS or Alternate Pay Planb)	Total	Reportable Disability		Targeted Disability	
	#	#	%	#	%
Numerical Goal	--	12%		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.

The Disability Program Office/Reasonable Accommodations Branch provides monthly manager/supervisor training which includes communicating the numerical goals and plans.

### 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.

Disability Program Task	# of FTE Staff By Employment Status			Responsible Official (Name, Title, Office Email)
	Full Time	Part Time	Collateral Duty	
Processing applications from PWD and PWTD	4	0	0	
Architectural Barriers Act Compliance	1	0	0	john.blanchard@census.gov
Answering questions from the public about hiring authorities that take disability into account	2	0	0	
Special Emphasis Program for PWD and PWTD	1	0	0	jõseph.e.hairston@census.g
Processing reasonable accommodation requests from applicants and employees	10	0	0	stephanie.r.watson@census
Section 508 Compliance	1	0	0	joy.s.choudhury@census.gc

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

The employees attend weekly staff meetings where best practices are discussed by the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinators (RACs) regarding the unique aspects of their cases and current laws, regulations and EEOC court rulings the pertain to them. The staff take on-line and teleconference trainings on related topics as recommended by the DOC EEO office such as the following webinars: "The ADA: Employment Rights and Protections for People with Developmental Disabilities", "The Rehab Act & Psychiatric Disabilities" and the webcast: "Hiring & Keeping the Best: Creating Effective Talent Acquisition Retention Processes." Staff also attend trainings such as the National Employment Law Institutes "Employment Law Conference" and RAC trainings

offered by DOC

## 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

Yes, the Reasonable Accommodations Branch has received adequate funding and resources. \*\*Note: The Disability Program Office was dismantled into several different branches and changed the name to the Reasonable Accommodations Branch.

## Section III: Program Deficiencies In The Disability Program

## Section IV: Plan to Recruit and Hire Individuals with Disabilities

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.

The agency continues to expand the list of Veteran Service Organizations. These organizations provide services to communities with disabled persons, Community and Faith Based Organizations, Employment Centers and other agencies that provide services to veterans in order to generate an immediate response to vacancy announcements with pre-screened applicants. Census also recruits individuals from the Workforce Recruitment Program.

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

Sponsor upcoming recruitment events at Census Headquarters for candidates who are Veteran/Schedule A job seekers. Attendees have the opportunity to participate in visiting career booths, speak with hiring managers, interview, and potentially be hired on the spot.

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.

The Special Placement Coordinator reviews each application/resume to determine suitability for all positions for which applications are received. Applicants and their skill sets are entered into a database, which is kept current and updated regularly. Managers are strongly encouraged to request lists of available Schedule A applicants.

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 Yes

The training titled: “Selective Placement and Special Hiring Authorities for Managers” includes information on hiring People with Disabilities under Schedule A(u) and is available to all agency hiring managers.

**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.

Relationships are established with Veteran Service Organizations, organizations that provide services to disability communities, Community Based Organizations, Faith Based Organizations, Employment Centers and other agencies that provide services to veterans in order to generate an immediate response to vacancy announcements with pre-screened applicants. Disability Program managers at colleges, universities and organizations that provide job assistance for people with disabilities and targeted disabilities are also contacted.

**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 No
- b. New Hires for Permanent Workforce (PWTD) Answer No

Due to multiple data issues resulting from changes in the EEOC’s FY19 workforce data tables, The U.S. Bureau is unable to conduct applicant flow data analysis for FY19. The data tables contain multiple inconsistencies when analyzing internal selections, interviewed applicants, internal applications, and others. DOC/OCR is working with relevant stakeholders (Data Analytics, Monster, and NFC) to address these issues.

New Hires	Total (#)	Reportable Disability		Targeted Disability	
		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 N/A
- b. New Hires for MCO (PWTD) Answer N/A

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New Hires to Mission-Critical Occupations	Total (#)	Reportable Disability		Targetable Disability	
		Qualified Applicants (%)	New Hires (%)	Qualified Applicants (%)	New Hires (%)
Numerical Goal	--	12%		2%	

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 N/A
- b. Qualified Applicants for MCO (PWTD) Answer N/A

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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 N/A
- b. Promotions for MCO (PWTD) Answer N/A

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## 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.

Awaiting information from Human Resources Division.

### B. CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITES

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

Awaiting information from Human Resources Division for Section IV, B1 and B2.

- 2. In the table below, please provide the data for career development opportunities that require competition and/or

supervisory recommendation/ approval to participate.

Career Development Opportunities	Total Participants		PWD		PWTD	
	Applicants (#)	Selectees (#)	Applicants (%)	Selectees (%)	Applicants (%)	Selectees (%)
Internship Programs						
Training Programs						
Fellowship Programs						
Detail Programs						
Mentoring Programs						
Other Career Development Programs						
Coaching Programs						

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

Due to multiple data issues resulting from changes in the EEOC’s FY19 workforce data tables, The U.S. Bureau is unable to conduct applicant flow data analysis for FY19. The data tables contain multiple inconsistencies when analyzing internal selections, interviewed applicants, internal applications, and others. DOC/OCR is working with relevant stakeholders (Data Analytics, Monster, and NFC) to address these issues.

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

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**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 %
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Cash Awards	Total (#)	Reportable Disability %	Without Reportable Disability %	Targeted Disability %	Without Targeted Disability %
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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 N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer N/A
- b. Grade GS-15
  - i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer N/A
- c. Grade GS-14
  - i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer N/A
- d. Grade GS-13
  - i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer N/A

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interviewed applicants, internal applications, and others. DOC/OCR is working with relevant stakeholders (Data Analytics, Monster, and NFC) to address these issues.

2. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWTB 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 (PWTB) Answer N/A
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTB) Answer N/A

b. Grade GS-15

- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTB) Answer N/A
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTB) Answer N/A

c. Grade GS-14

- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTB) Answer N/A
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTB) Answer N/A

d. Grade GS-13

- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTB) Answer N/A
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTB) Answer N/A

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3. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD among the new hires to the senior grade levels? 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. New Hires to SES (PWD) Answer N/A
- b. New Hires to GS-15 (PWD) Answer N/A
- c. New Hires to GS-14 (PWD) Answer N/A
- d. New Hires to GS-13 (PWD) Answer N/A

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4.

Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the new hires to the senior grade levels? 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. New Hires to SES (PWTD) Answer N/A
- b. New Hires to GS-15 (PWTD) Answer N/A
- c. New Hires to GS-14 (PWTD) Answer N/A
- d. New Hires to GS-13 (PWTD) Answer N/A

Due to multiple data issues resulting from changes in the EEOC’s FY19 workforce data tables, The U.S. Bureau is unable to conduct applicant flow data analysis for FY19. The data tables contain multiple inconsistencies when analyzing internal selections, interviewed applicants, internal applications, and others. DOC/OCR is working with relevant stakeholders (Data Analytics, Monster, and NFC) to address these issues.

5. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWD among the qualified internal applicants and/or selectees for promotions to 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 N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer N/A
- b. Managers
  - i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer N/A
- c. Supervisors
  - i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWD) Answer N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWD) Answer N/A

Due to multiple data issues resulting from changes in the EEOC’s FY19 workforce data tables, The U.S. Bureau is unable to conduct applicant flow data analysis for FY19. The data tables contain multiple inconsistencies when analyzing internal selections, interviewed applicants, internal applications, and others. DOC/OCR is working with relevant stakeholders (Data Analytics, Monster, and NFC) to address these issues.

6. Does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the qualified internal applicants and/or selectees for promotions to 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 (PWTD) Answer N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer N/A
- b. Managers

- i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer N/A
- ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer N/A
- c. Supervisors
  - i. Qualified Internal Applicants (PWTD) Answer N/A
  - ii. Internal Selections (PWTD) Answer N/A

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- 7. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWD among the selectees for new hires to supervisory positions? 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. New Hires for Executives (PWD) Answer N/A
  - b. New Hires for Managers (PWD) Answer N/A
  - c. New Hires for Supervisors (PWD) Answer N/A

Due to multiple data issues resulting from changes in the EEOC’s FY19 workforce data tables, The U.S. Bureau is unable to conduct applicant flow data analysis for FY19. The data tables contain multiple inconsistencies when analyzing internal selections, interviewed applicants, internal applications, and others. DOC/OCR is working with relevant stakeholders (Data Analytics, Monster, and NFC) to address these issues.

- 8. Using the qualified applicant pool as the benchmark, does your agency have a trigger involving PWTD among the selectees for new hires to supervisory positions? 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. New Hires for Executives (PWTD) Answer N/A
  - b. New Hires for Managers (PWTD) Answer N/A
  - c. New Hires for Supervisors (PWTD) Answer N/A

Due to multiple data issues resulting from changes in the EEOC’s FY19 workforce data tables, The U.S. Bureau is unable to conduct applicant flow data analysis for FY19. The data tables contain multiple inconsistencies when analyzing internal selections, interviewed applicants, internal applications, and others. DOC/OCR is working with relevant stakeholders (Data Analytics, Monster, and NFC) to address these issues.

## 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

Awaiting information from Human Resources Division for Section V, A1. regarding the effectiveness of monitoring the status of Schedule A employees with disabilities since the implementation of "Shared Services" during FY2019.

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 Yes

b. Involuntary Separations (PWD) Answer Yes

Voluntary PWD=26% greater separation rate than PWOD. Involuntary PWD=27% greater separation rate than PWOD.

Seperations	Total #	Reportable Disabilities %	Without Reportable Disabilities %
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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 Yes

b. Involuntary Separations (PWTD) Answer Yes

Voluntary PWTD=45% greater separation rate than PWOD. Involuntary PWTD=53% greater separation rate than PWOD.

Seperations	Total #	Targeted Disabilities %	Without Targeted Disabilities %
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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.

Exit interview summary data is available. There were 65 exit interviews completed from the 94 employees that exited the Census Bureau. Only one employee answered a question regarding disability concerns and the response was positive. (no concerns regarding disability).

**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.

<https://www.census.gov/about/policies/privacy/privacy-policy.html#accessibility> Section VI. Accessibility

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.

<https://www.census.gov/about/policies/privacy/privacy-policy.html#accessibility> Section VI. Accessibility

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.

The Administrative and Customer Service Division (ACSD), Facilities Management Branch, and Health and Safety Branch (HSB) coordinates all building remodeling with the Reasonable Accommodation (RA) staff to ensure that new layouts are accessible and safe for persons with disabilities. HSB advocates for automatic door openers for spaces such as agency Health Unit and restrooms. HSB monitors maintenance of ADA emergency evacuation compliant ramps and ensures that emergency exit doors comply with maximum effort limits for opening.

### 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.)

Initial requests for reasonable accommodations during FY19 were processed in 11.5 days.

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.

The Reasonable Accommodations Branch conducts monthly manager/supervisor training in the subject area of providing Reasonable Accommodation. This has been instrumental in working towards more timely approval of accommodation requests and understanding on the part of managers.

### 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.

In March 2019, the Census Reasonable Accommodations Branch was the first agency under the Department of Commerce to develop and implement a contract to provide PAS. In doing so, the branch was able to provide guidance to other agencies under DOC in developing their own PAS. The current contract not only provides PAS to any Census employees needing these services while working at HQ, but service provision is also extended to employee's homes when they are teleworking. The Contracting Office Representative for PAS contract as well as interpreting and captioning services contracts is a RAB staff member, so oversight of all three contracts is within the branch and very responsive to the needs of the programs.

## 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 No

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 No

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 No

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 Yes

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

<p><b>STATEMENT OF CONDITION THAT WAS A TRIGGER FOR A POTENTIAL BARRIER:</b></p> <p>Provide a brief narrative describing the condition at issue.</p> <p>How was the condition recognized as a potential barrier?</p>	<p>Disability Goal of 12%, not met for PWD in GS11-SES Cluster.</p>							
<p><b>STATEMENT OF BARRIER GROUPS:</b></p>	<p><i>Barrier Group</i></p> <p>People with Disabilities</p>							
<p><b>BARRIER ANALYSIS:</b></p> <p>Provide a description of the steps taken and data analyzed to determine cause of the condition.</p>								
<p><b>STATEMENT OF IDENTIFIED BARRIER:</b></p> <p>Provide a succinct statement of the agency policy, procedure or practice that has been determined to be the barrier of the undesired condition.</p>	<p>Agency has not met the 12% goal for Persons with disabilities in the GS11-SES grade cluster.</p>							
<p><b>Objective</b></p>	<p>Increase recruiting for PWD in the GS11-SES grade cluster to reach the regulatory goal of 12%.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="483 926 1502 1066"> <tr> <td data-bbox="483 926 646 982"><b>Date Objective Initiated</b></td> <td data-bbox="646 926 1502 982">Oct 31, 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="483 982 646 1066"><b>Target Date For Completion Of Objective</b></td> <td data-bbox="646 982 1502 1066">Jan 20, 2021</td> </tr> </table>				<b>Date Objective Initiated</b>	Oct 31, 2019	<b>Target Date For Completion Of Objective</b>	Jan 20, 2021
<b>Date Objective Initiated</b>	Oct 31, 2019							
<b>Target Date For Completion Of Objective</b>	Jan 20, 2021							
<p><b>Responsible Officials</b></p>	<p>Catherine Butler Special Placement Program Coordinator (Individuals with Disabilities)</p>							
<p><b>Target Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</b></p>	<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Sufficient Staffing &amp; Funding (Yes or No)</b></p>	<p><b>Modified Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</b></p>	<p><b>Completion Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</b></p>				
<p>01/31/2021</p>	<p>Develop hiring practices/procedures to encourage recruiting PWD in the GS11-SES grade cluster.</p>	<p>Yes</p>						
<p><b>Fiscal Year</b></p>	<p><b>Accomplishments</b></p>							

4. Please explain the factor(s) that prevented the agency from timely completing any of the planned activities.

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

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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.

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